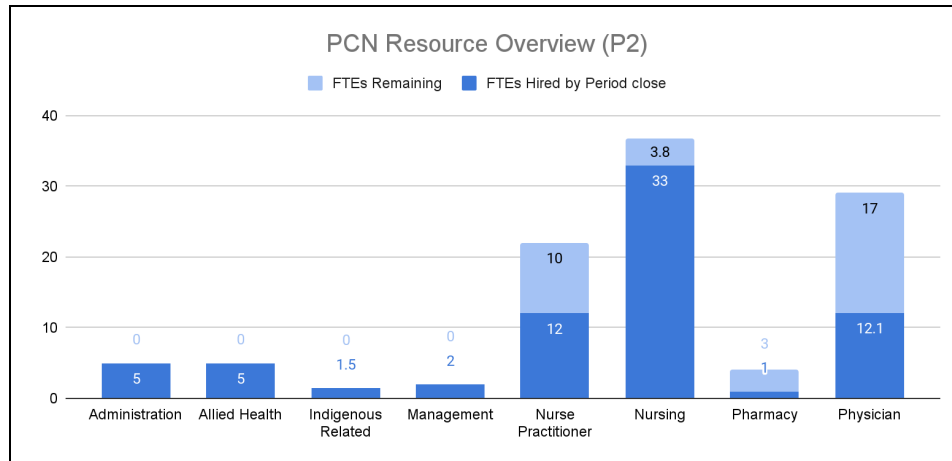


# Fraser Northwest Primary Care Network

## Period 2 Addendum Report



### Patient Medical Home Snapshot

Provider Types	# in FNW
FFS Longitudinal Family Physician	153
PCN funded FP	12
PCN funded NP	12
Community NP	23

PMH Types	# in FNW
Family Practice	29
Hybrid (FP/Walk-in)	21
Walk-in	2
Community Services	4
U&PCC	1

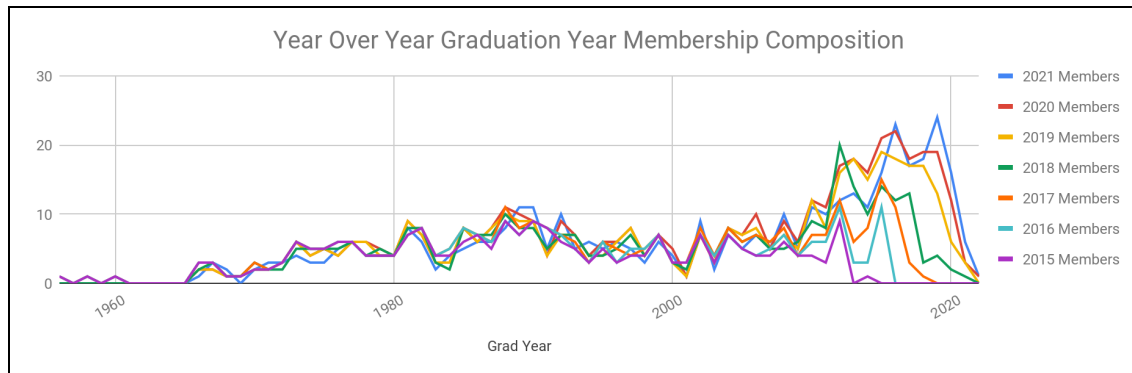
The FNW population surpasses 327,000 people. With 153 primary care providers currently working in these communities, for all people to become attached, that would result in an average panel size of 2153 people/provider



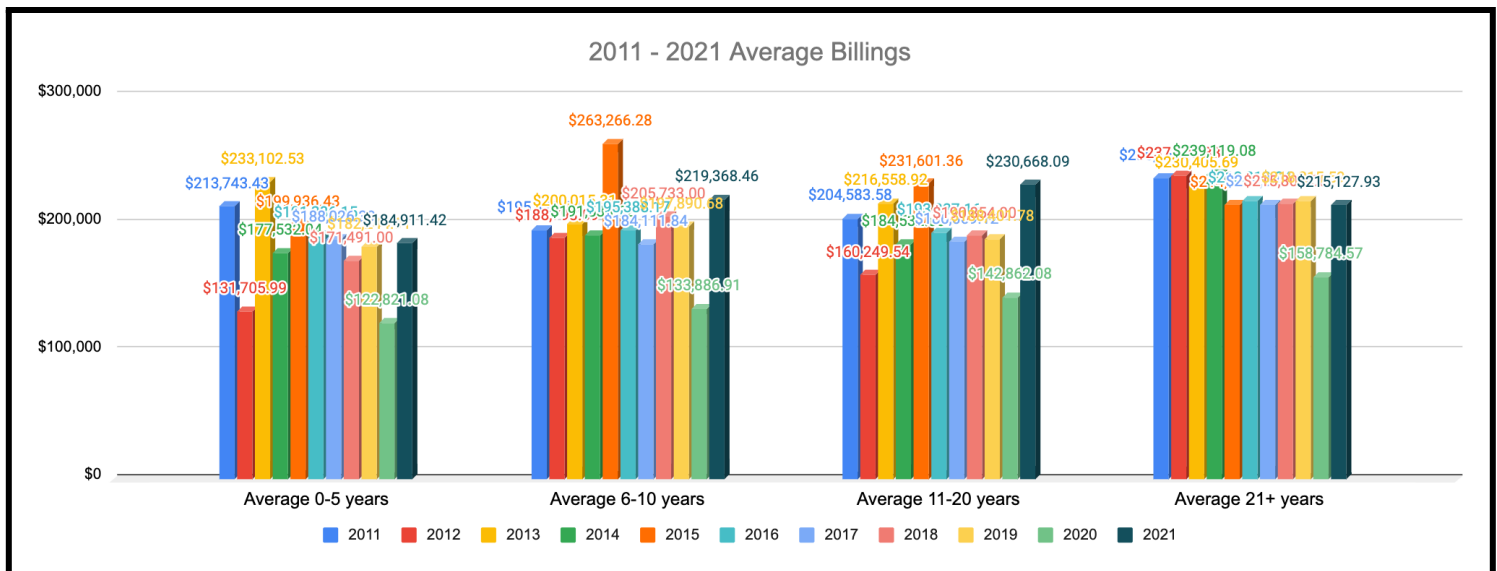
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## FNW Community Overview

FNW Division membership comprises approximately 500 physician and provider members. Although this number is large, almost 40% of FNW members have been in practice for 20+ years, making up a significant portion of the membership of FNW. Membership is, not surprisingly, largely made up of community Family Physicians with a similar number of locums and hospitalists comprising the bulk of the members. Year over year membership composition continues to show strong numbers for Physicians in their first 10 years of practice, the graph below represents the year over year membership composition based on members' graduation year:



The average Blue Book Listings for Physicians in the FNW from 2011-2021 are represented in the chart below. It's important to note that these numbers reflect Physicians in a variety of roles and providing primary care services in a number of different practice types - i.e. Family Practice, Walk-In Clinic, Hybrid, Locum, Long Term Care, Hospitalist, Maternity, Addictions and a number of others practice types.



The number of primary care providers (including both Family Physicians and Nurse Practitioners) providing longitudinal primary care in the New Westminster and Tri-Cities communities comprises approximately 33.4% of the total FNW membership.

Members of the FNW Board reflected on how much primary care has shifted and evolved over the past 5 years and how the support of the Divisions continue to enable a strengthened system of primary care. **Clicking on the visual below will redirect to a short video** of the board members sharing their experiences.



#### Overview: Primary Care Provider Community Adds & Losses

Since the inception of the FNW PCN in April 2019, there continue to be primary care providers joining and leaving the community. The table below denotes the addition of primary care providers (including both Family Physicians and Nurse Practitioners) to the FNW communities; the leaves of primary care providers (including retirements and other leaves); and the correlating attachment based on data collected from the FNW Attachment Hub.

	2019	2020	2021	2022	Total
Provider Adds	12	18	18	4	<b>-15 providers since PCN inception</b>
Provider Losses	27	13	16	11	
Net Loss/Gain	-15	+5	+2	-7	
# of Patients attached through <i>FNW Attachment Hub</i>	856	2792	6783	1356	
# of Patients registered through the FNW Attachment Hub	NA	5564	8677	5581	
MoH \$0 Fee Code Attachment	NA*	73,742	6980	3762	

\*MoH Data not available for 2019

There are approximately 10 longitudinal Primary Care Providers set to retire or leave Family Practice in 2022. Family Physicians in the area recognize the impact of retaining and recruiting primary care providers to the FNW communities. Recently, one FP reached out and expressed concern and interest in getting involved in recruiting potential providers to the area. This provider identified the impacts of losing these providers and that *“it's beginning to feel a bit hopeless being a youngish doc in this area and seeing/hearing all the docs retiring or planning to soon. It's causing me some panic too about the state of things moving forward. Although I already feel overwhelmed and overworked, I feel like I need to find a way to be part of the solution to this. If you could let me know who I could speak with about finding a way to be involved, I'd appreciate it.”*

An anecdote from a community family physician noted the deflated feeling in continuing to support community primary care when the larger public system is funded at a higher cost to support less patients, and ultimately not having the same obstacles that community Family Physicians have in struggling to pay rent, staff, office costs, etc.

Another provider, retired for 2 years, shared *"I am very happy in retirement. I was ready to retire from practice. It wasn't as much fun as it used to be, and I found being on-call stressful; I never knew when the phone would ring. I miss working with people skilled in their jobs, discussions about patients and treatments, and the sense of community. I was so lucky to work with amazing colleagues my whole career.*

*I didn't find anyone to take over my office practice, but my patients got absorbed by colleagues. I don't think that would happen today. There are so many reasons for the situation we are in, mostly systemic and governmental, and no simple solutions. The existence of Divisions has provided a central hub in each area, and a province-wide structure for communication. It is probably frustrating at times, but we all appreciate you all. Keep up the good work!"*

A quote emerged from a recent dialogue between two Physicians in which identified sentiments causing concern in the FNW:

*"Dr 1: If we practice medicine to have zero liability, no one will get anything done (as we see in FHA).*

*Dr 2: I agree with you; it's these small things that show no one cares about our valued time and our expertise. As long as the health authority and gov't treats us as a dumping ground, we will all leave practice -- I myself am looking to move out of practice, there was recently a RCMP job posting that I am now exploring.*

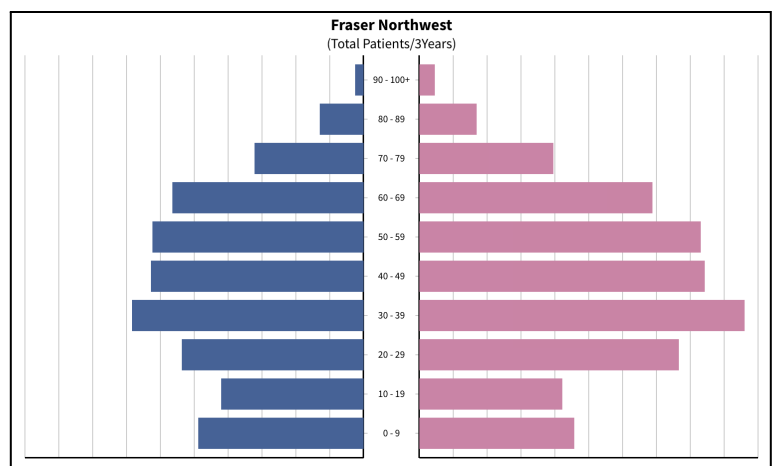
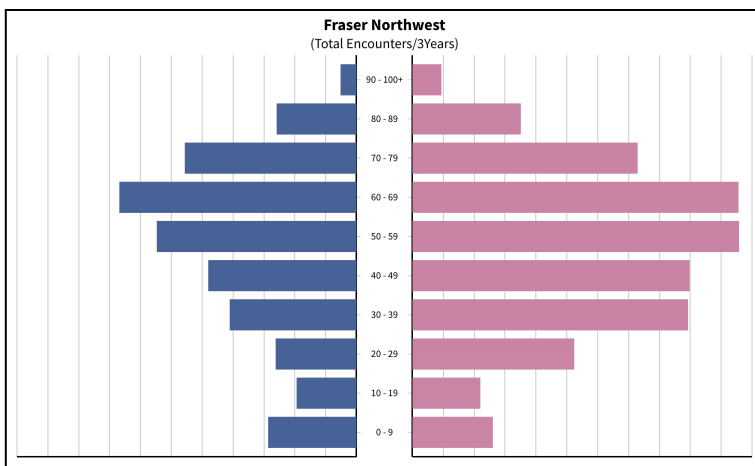
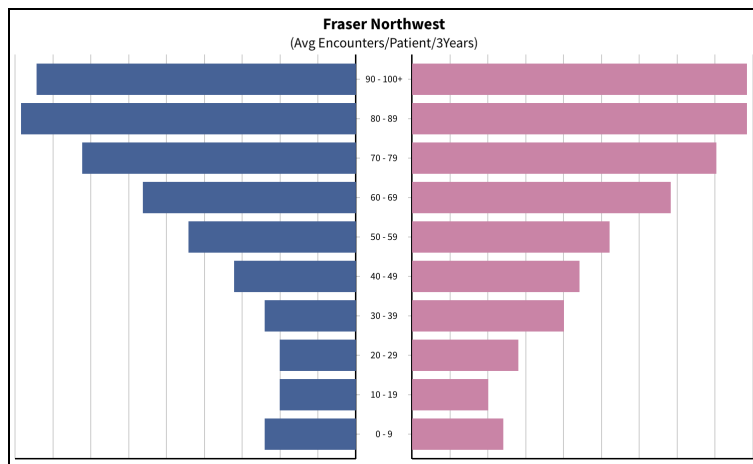
*I will also write my concerns to DofBC as well (if THEY even care...)"*

Since April 2022, 4 FNW PMHs and 1 specialized clinic have come forward and identified that they are in a critical state of closure. With primary care provider resources moving out of clinics or retiring, and no new providers joining the clinics, this has a profound impact on the remaining providers' ability to provide the same level of overhead support to the clinic. ***The Primary Care Providers at these PMHs support approximately 55,000 people and to suffer this significant loss in clinics would have a dramatic impact on the FNW communities' access to primary care.***

Despite high demand, Locum availability is limited in the community. In February 2022, data was collected to document the number of locum opportunities currently available in the community, including vacancies and filled vacancies and unfilled positions. In Period 2, vacancies grew to 31 by period close.

Overview: FNW Population Summary

The population in the New Westminster and Tri-Cities communities has steadily been growing over the past few years with a high increase in young families moving to these communities. The [Health Data Coalition](#) (HDC) provides population based summaries based on the panels of PMHs who use HDC in their practice. Below is a visual representation of the population in the FNW and average encounters/patient/3 years, total encounters/3 years, and total patients/3 years:



## Attachment

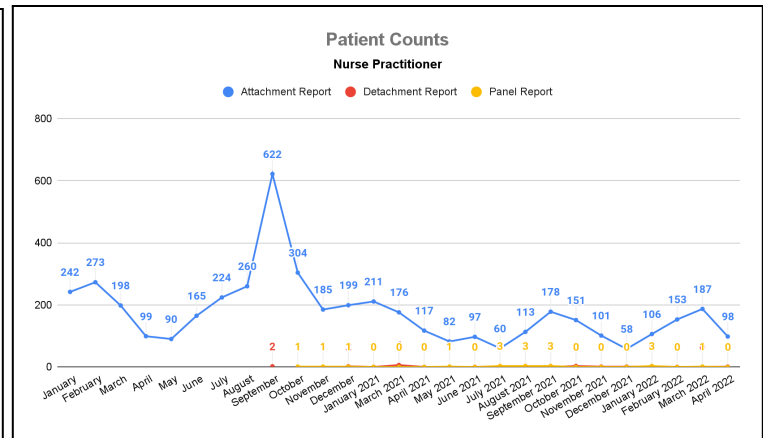
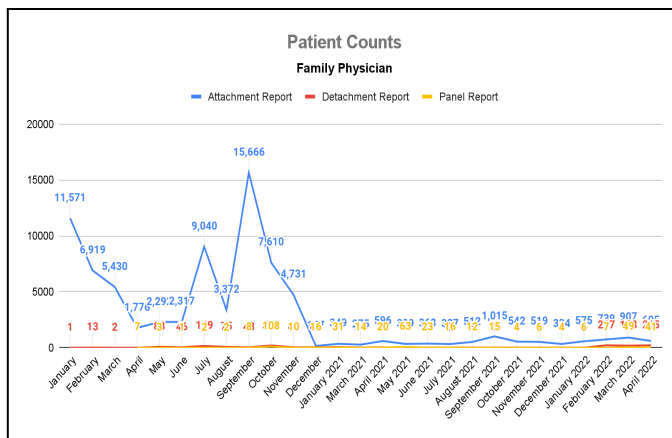
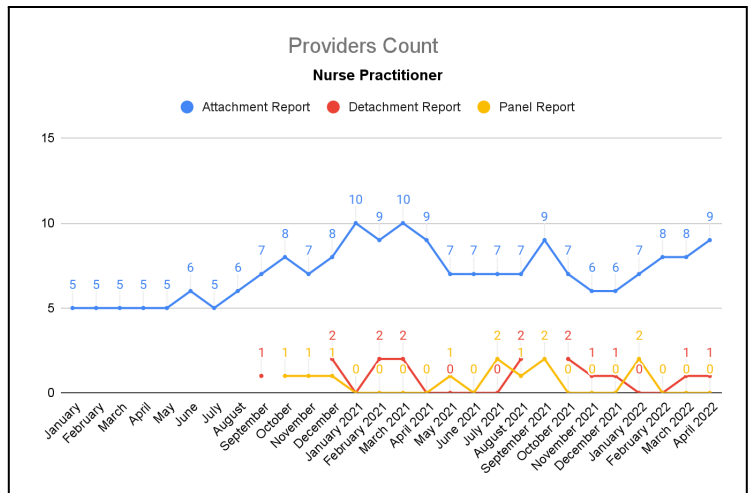
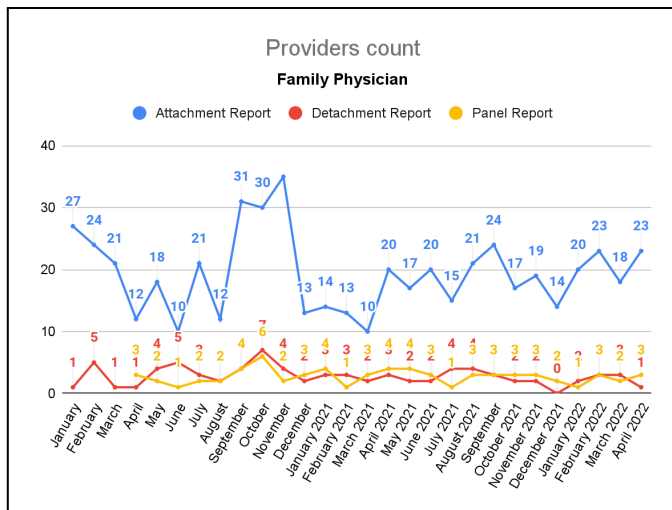
Measuring true attachment continues to be a conversation at all stakeholder and partner organization levels. Attachment level data through the use of the O\$ fee code provides a distinction between types of providers and patient counts. A challenge with implementing support for all PMHs to incorporate the use of these codes has been consistency in education across a variety of PMHs who utilize differing EMRs. An overestimation of attachment in the FNW is reflected in the data from 2020 whereas the 2021 data may reflect a more accurate representation of attachment in the community. This data is shared by the MoH out to FNW PCN partner organizations.

In tandem with the O\$ fee code, the FNW Division has an internal Attachment Hub mechanism which supports patients in the FNW seeking a primary care provider to be attached to primary care providers accepting new patients in the FNW communities.

### Attachment Coding (MoH)

Attachment data from the MoH is available and provides an analysis of the breakdown of attachments and detachments based on provider type and the associated patient counts. Data was shared starting from January 2020 reflecting the trends of provider counts and patient counts - broken down by type of provider and # of times that the specific encounter code was used. The visuals below reflect the month over month trends for both

distinct providers (Family Physicians and Nurse Practitioners) and distinct patients (that are attached/unattached to a Family Physician or a Nurse Practitioner):

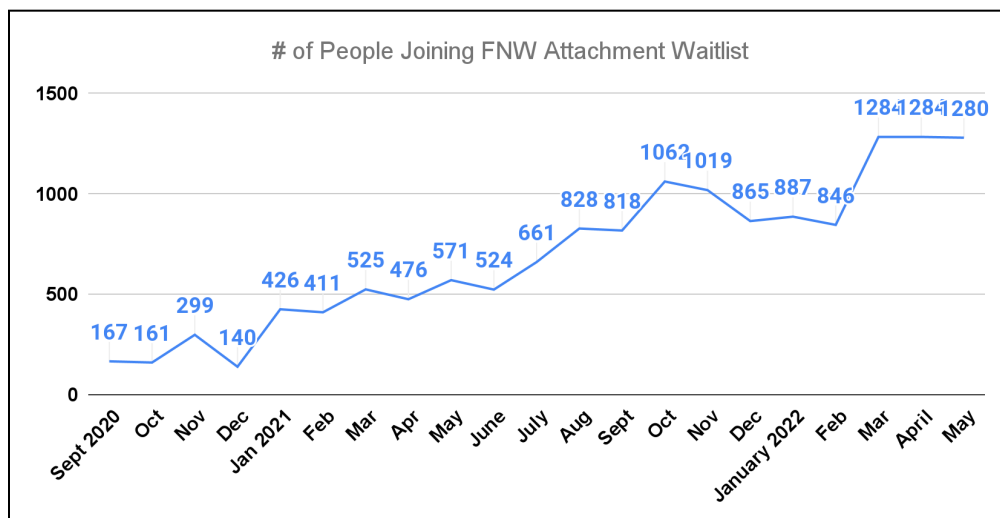


### FNW Attachment Hub Waitlist

The FNW Division Attachment Coordinator continues to support the attachment between the public seeking primary care providers accepting new patients. It is important to note that these numbers do not capture the full scope of the community attachment taking place as there are primary care providers attaching patients without connecting with the Attachment Hub. True attachment data may be reflected in the O\$ MSP fee codes; however, work to implement those across the region is an ongoing process between partners. Since the inception of this dedicated resource to the community in Summer 2019, the waitlist for patients continues to grow and recent data provides an indication of the average wait time of those who have been attached broken down by community:

Community	Average Wait Time (days)
New Westminster	191
Port Moody	244
Coquitlam	174
Port Coquitlam	103

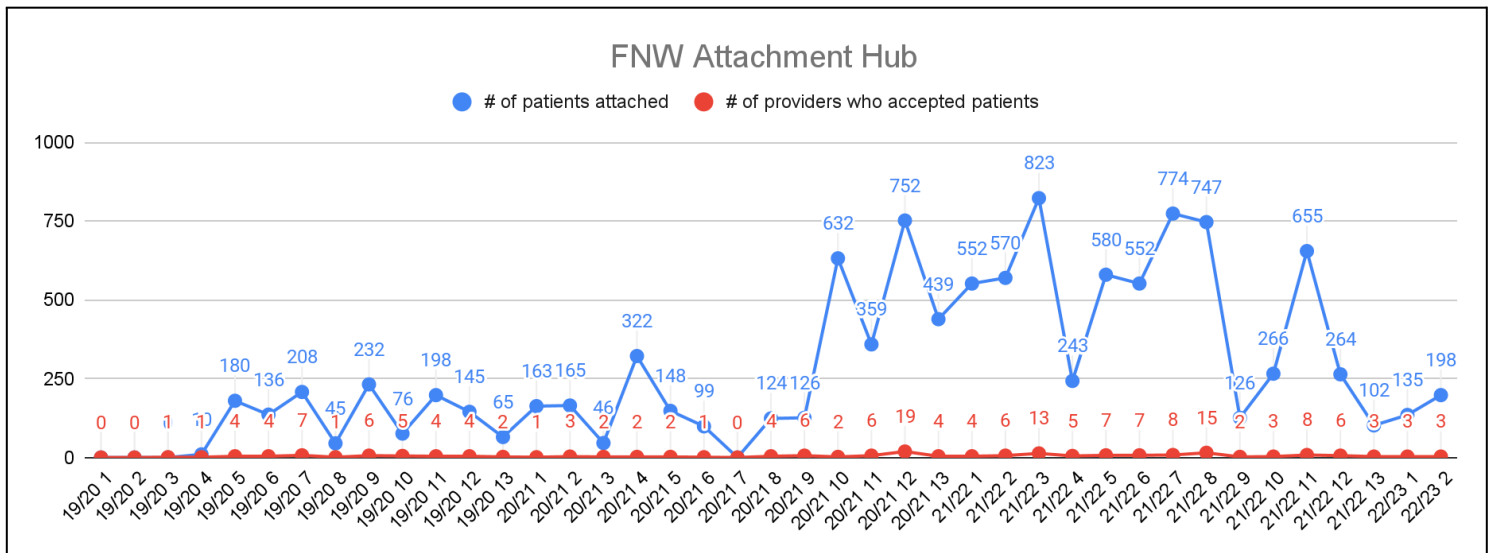
Month over month, the demand to find a longitudinal primary care provider by members of the FNW communities continues to grow. Since Fall 2020, data has been collected to reflect the month over month increase in attachment requests. The table below reflects the ongoing need and high demand for primary care providers:



During this reporting period, the table below details a breakdown of the attachment work that took place by the Attachment Hub:

	New Westminster	South Coquitlam	Port Coquitlam	Port Moody, Anmore, Belcarra, North Coquitlam
# of providers who accepted patients	1	1	0	1
# of patients attached	185	9	0	4
Total Attachments to date	<b>11,020</b>			
# of people waitlisted	2872 <i>6% ↑ from P1</i>	3914 <i>11% ↑ from P1</i>	598 <i>35% ↑ from P1</i>	2331 <i>6% ↑ from P1</i>
Total people waiting to be attached	<b>9715</b>			





### Patient Impacts: Impact of Unattachment

Knowing the depth of the unattachment rates in the communities is one thing; however, understanding the impacts of this for those people and their families truly reflect the importance and huge need of attachment and access to a primary care provider. Through mechanisms such as the Division's Attachment Hub, stories are shared from community members reflecting the impacts of not having access to a longitudinal primary care provider. [Wait time data](#) such as the table shared in an earlier section reflect the length of time - on average - it take for attachment to occur after signing up for the waitlist.

*A patient and their family were recently attached to a primary care provider. After being attached, they experienced difficulty booking an appointment and were informed that the primary care provider is no longer accepting new patients. Due to this delay in accessing care, this family had to be placed on the waitlist.*

*Upon receiving a call from a clinic regarding attachment, a patient noted delays and unsatisfactory communication. The patient mentioned the importance of being attached, as they have not had access to a primary care provider for a number of years.*

*An attached patient is seeking an alternative primary care provider, as they are not satisfied with the care they are currently receiving. This reflects the importance in finding a primary care provider that patients feel comfortable and safe accessing care from.*

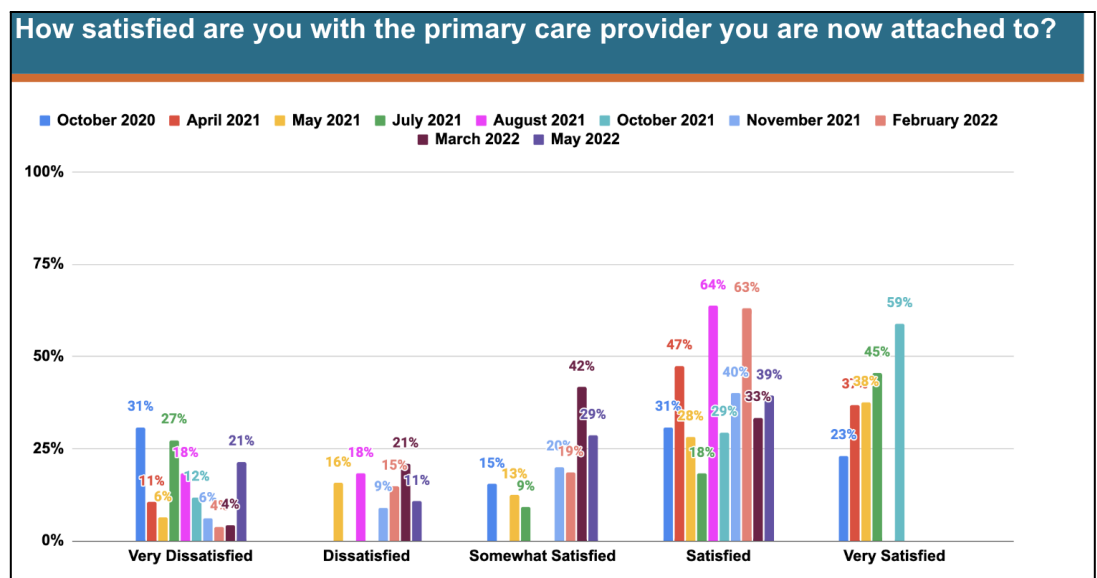
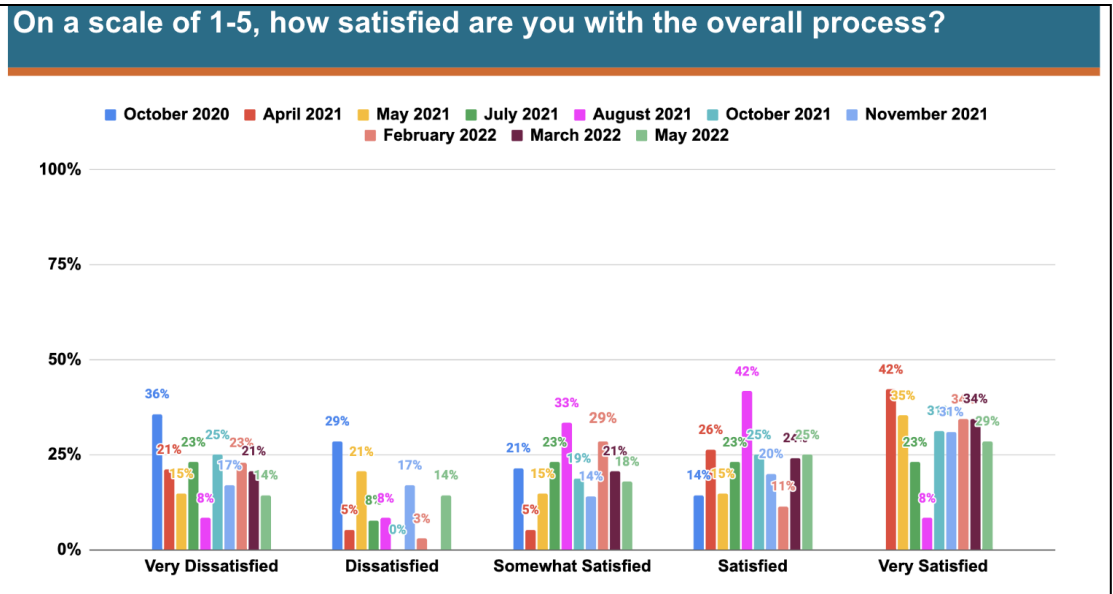
Patients who previously had a primary care provider and are now unattached also may have ongoing health concerns and needs which may be complex to support through alternative means of access such as walk-in clinics, the U&PCC and telehealth. Examples of these include patients who have chronic pain needs where medication for these needs is not easily available through these alternative primary care services.

Unfortunately, stories such as these that reflect the need for longitudinal attachment are not unheard of and to ensure an ongoing understanding of these impacts, the Division has launched a Patient Attachment Survey that is distributed to patients 6 weeks after matching with a primary care provider in the community. This survey has run for a number of cycles and the visual below reflects the diversity in satisfaction levels. Themes from this scaling question noted:

- Patients weren't contacted by the providers
- The wait time to be attached was extensive
- Patients found their own provider by calling clinics or through friends
- Patients requesting a specific type of doctor - i.e. male, female.

Once attachment was completed, satisfaction levels with the longitudinal provider certainly is weighted towards a higher and more positive satisfaction level; however, there continues to be diversity in patients satisfaction.

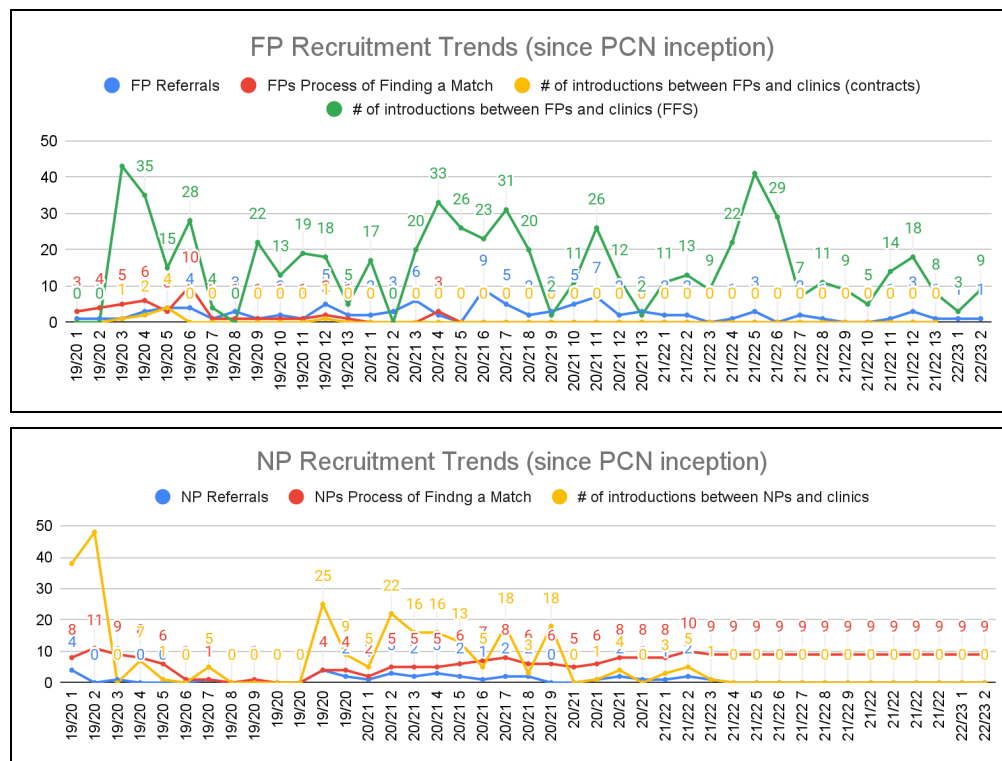
Patient feedback stories such as the ones shared above will continue to be collected and shared through this report as well as work is underway to establish a reporting metric on the number of patients who return for re-attachment.



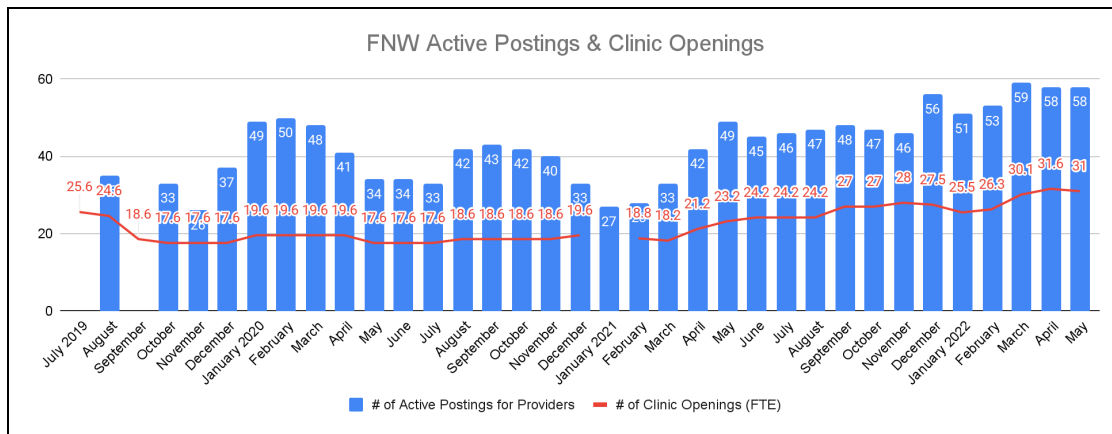
### Family Physician and Nurse Practitioner Contracts

Collaborative work between the FNW, FHA, HealthMatch and the Ministry of Health is vital in order to support increased FP and NP resources in the FNW communities. Table 1 below provides a status overview and update on the breakdown of the NP and FP contracts by PCN within the FNW:

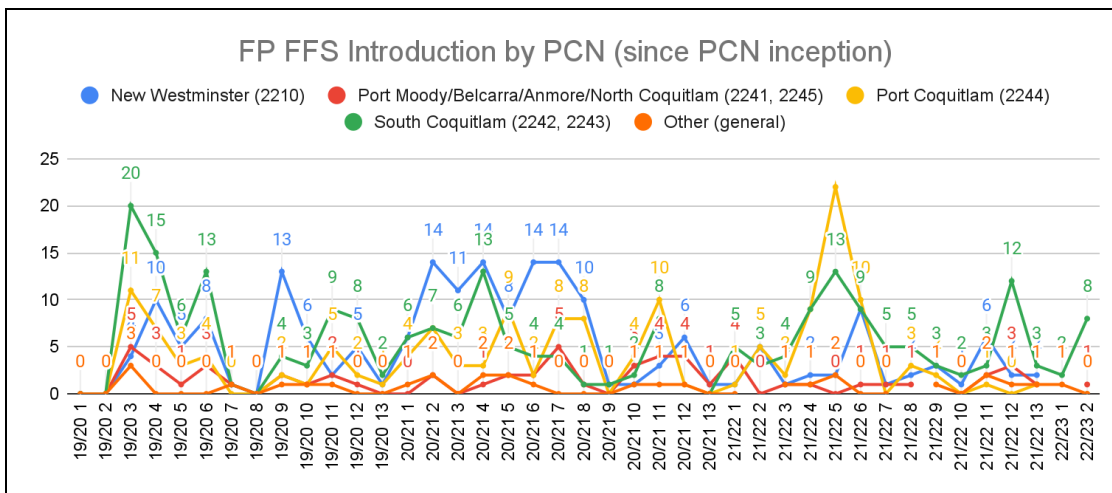
	Referrals		# of introductions between provider and clinics (FFS & Contract)	# of contracts signed
	# of New Referrals	Running Total of Referrals since PCN Launch		
Family Physician	1	106	9	1 Current PCN FPs on contract: 13
Nurse Practitioners	0	46	0	0 Current PCN NPs on contract: 12



The number of active postings on HealthMatch BC for FPs for both FFS or contract positions remained consistent at 58 active postings by period close. Opportunities for these postings include: locum and permanent part-time and permanent full-time in the FNW. The table below shows the overall number of active postings and clinic openings available in the FNW communities since data tracking began in July 2019.

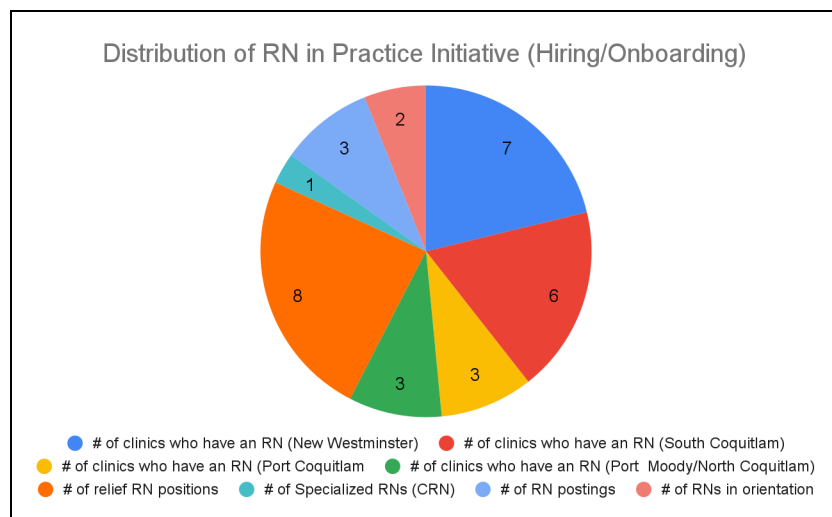


Fee For Service (FFS) opportunities and engagement efforts are underway on an ongoing basis and in this period, there were 3 new introductions between FPs and practices for FFS opportunities such as locum, permanent part-time and permanent full-time.

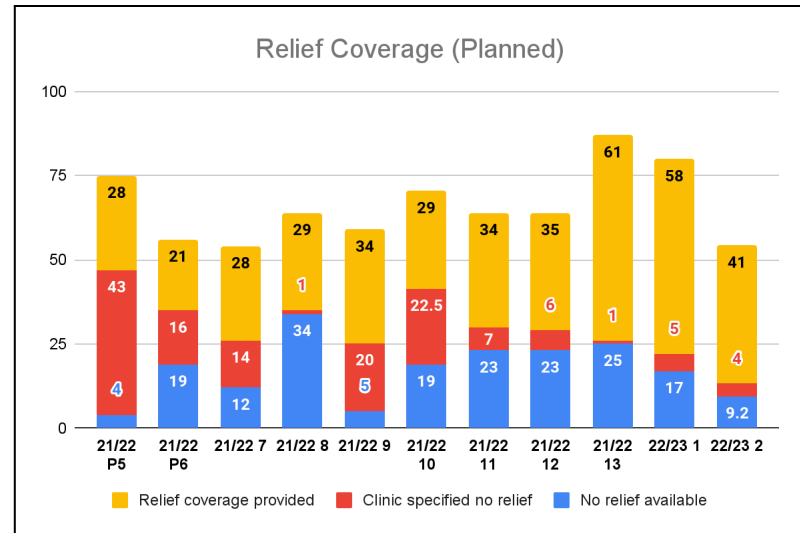
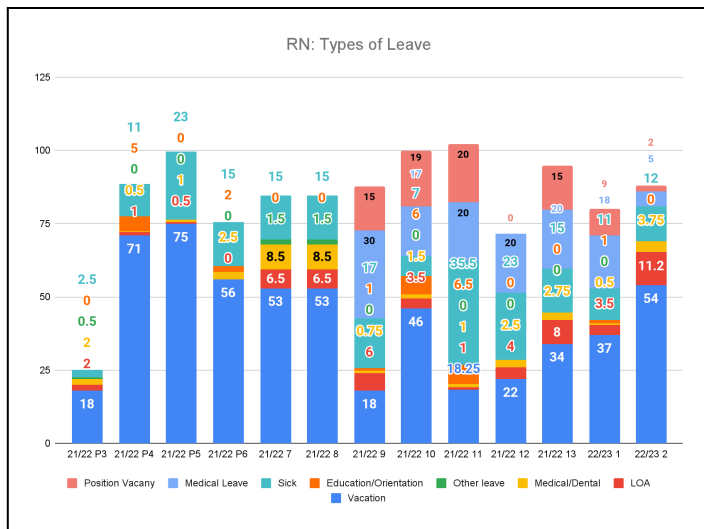


### Registered Nurse in Family Practices

At the end of this period, there 31 RN positions utilized - 8 of which are relief RNs, 1 is a Clinical Resource Nurse and the remaining are at 22 PMHs across the FNW. The period distribution across the PCN's are:



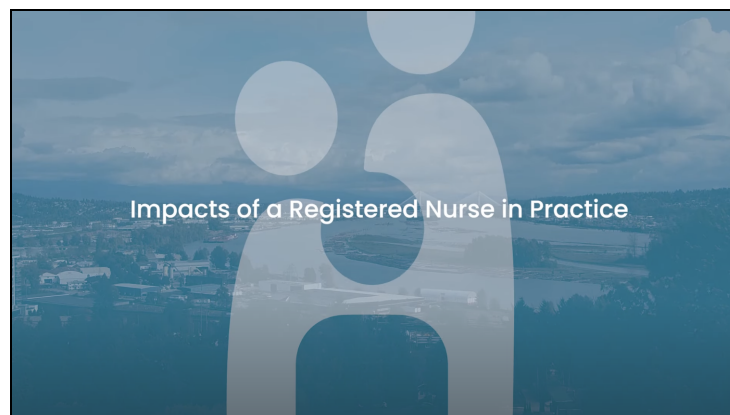
Reporting on the number of days that RNs are out of practice has begun and the Period over period distribution for the number of days away are included in the graph below alongside the breakdown of planned coverage:



Discussions are occurring at the local, regional and provincial level around the process for incorporating practice agreements into this initiative (and similar initiatives in other communities). Currently, these agreements are not signed at the local level and currently there are implications to signing and not signing that directly impacts patient access to care. FHA is not able to place new RNs into clinics without a clinic practice agreement being signed; however, anecdotal feedback from clinics indicates a level of risk to the private business if these agreements are signed. Work is underway between partner organizations and funders to develop a provincial agreement to support seamless placement and continued access to primary care resources within the PMH setting.

#### RN In Practice Impact Stories

A number of providers shared their experiences of having a RN in practice as an extension of team based care within the PMH. **The short video below** shares these firsthand experiences and benefits of having an RN working in clinics as an extension of primary care.



Recently, it was shared that a new Family Physician has started to practice at one of the FNW community maternity clinics. In citing reasons why they began to practice in maternity care - which traditionally in this community has seen challenges in recruitment and retention- they cited the capacity created by the RN in

practice working at this clinic. The extension of the team allows for an increased coordinated approach in providing care to patients.

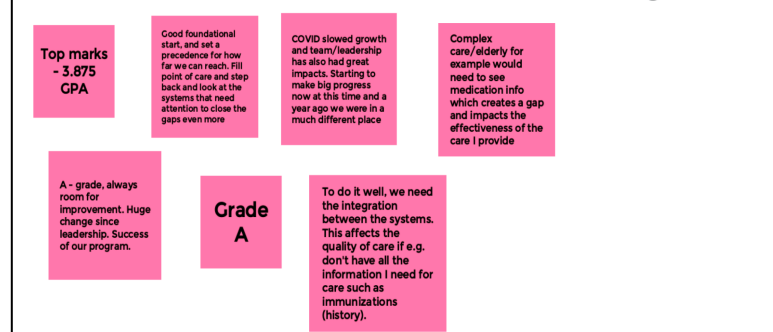
### Program Impacts: RN Team Feedback

A tool often used to generate discussion and collect feedback for the purposes of brainstorming challenges, successes and solutions is JamBoard. The RN in Practice team engaged in a discussion surrounding a thorough overview of their experiences in being a part of this PCN initiative and their feedback is shared below:

What have we accomplished? (Not just deploying the resource but in terms of impact on patients, providers, community, system, etc.)



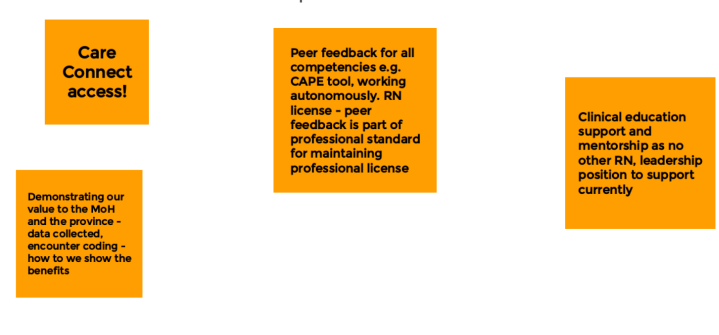
### Is it a success - what letter grade?



### what is the gap that is left? where do we go from here?



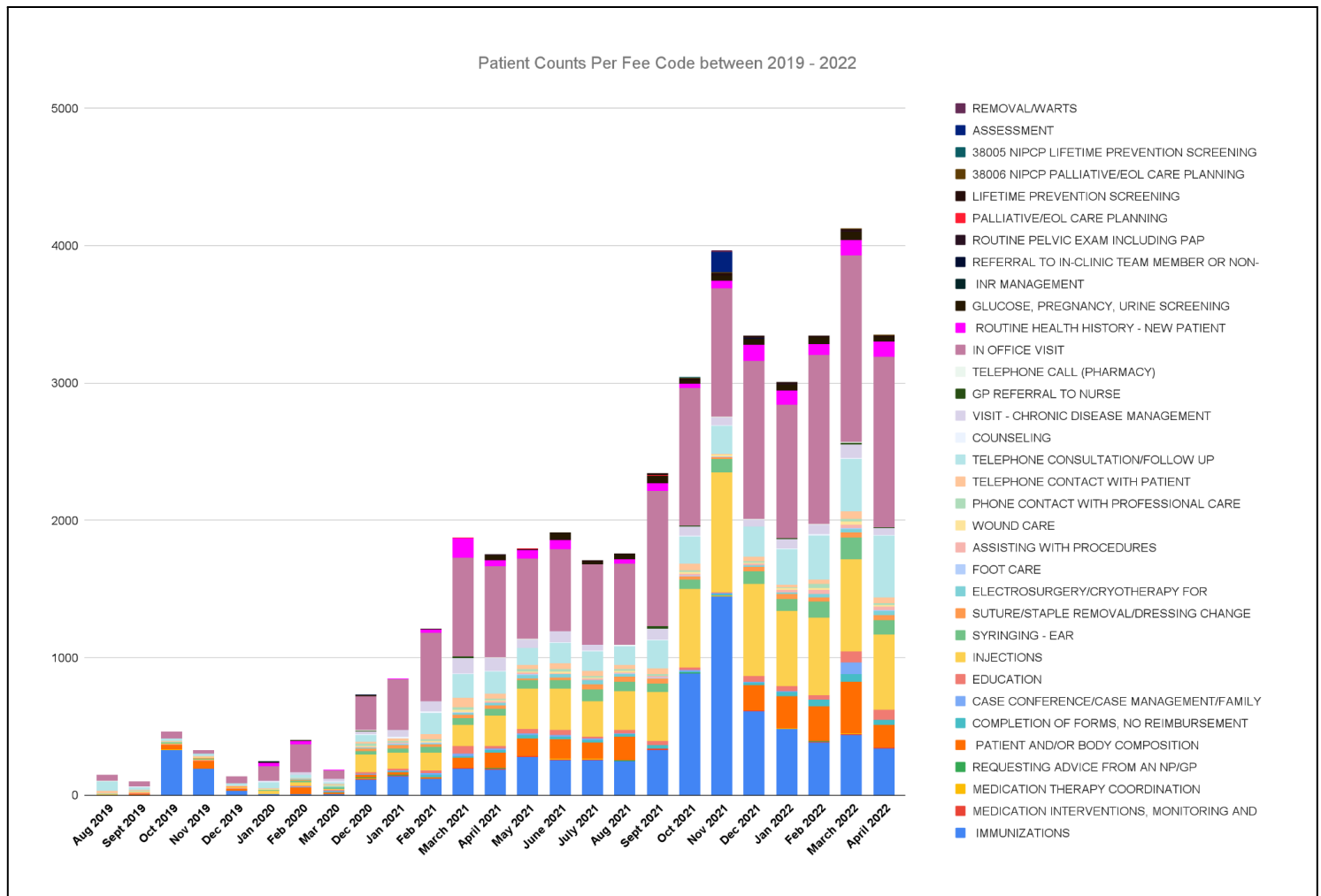
Beyond the FTE funding, what activities do we need to sustain to maintain what we've accomplished or move forward?



### RN Encounter Coding

Accurate encounter code data is vital to the ongoing implementation of the RN in Practice Initiative and it's important that PCN funded resources do not add to the workload, but reduce it. Clinics that receive billing rejections have noted that correcting these are increasing the overall workload as opposed to reducing it. The continued rejections have been affecting the Family Physicians, Nurse Practitioners, RNs and practice staff in these clinics and some rejections date back to the summer. Collaborative work is underway between the FNW Division, FHA, Doctors of BC, PSP and the MoH to provide support for the PMHs and providers who are encountering these rejections. MSP generated a monthly encounter code report which reflects the encounter codes that have been accepted, unfortunately the provider count was still low providing an indication that rejections are ongoing and this continues to be a burden on providers. A break in the available data between March 2020 and December 2020 indicates the time period where providers were advised to stop submitting

encounter coding as the rejections continued. This data will need to be submitted; however, hesitancy around submitting this is evident given the experience with rejections from practices.



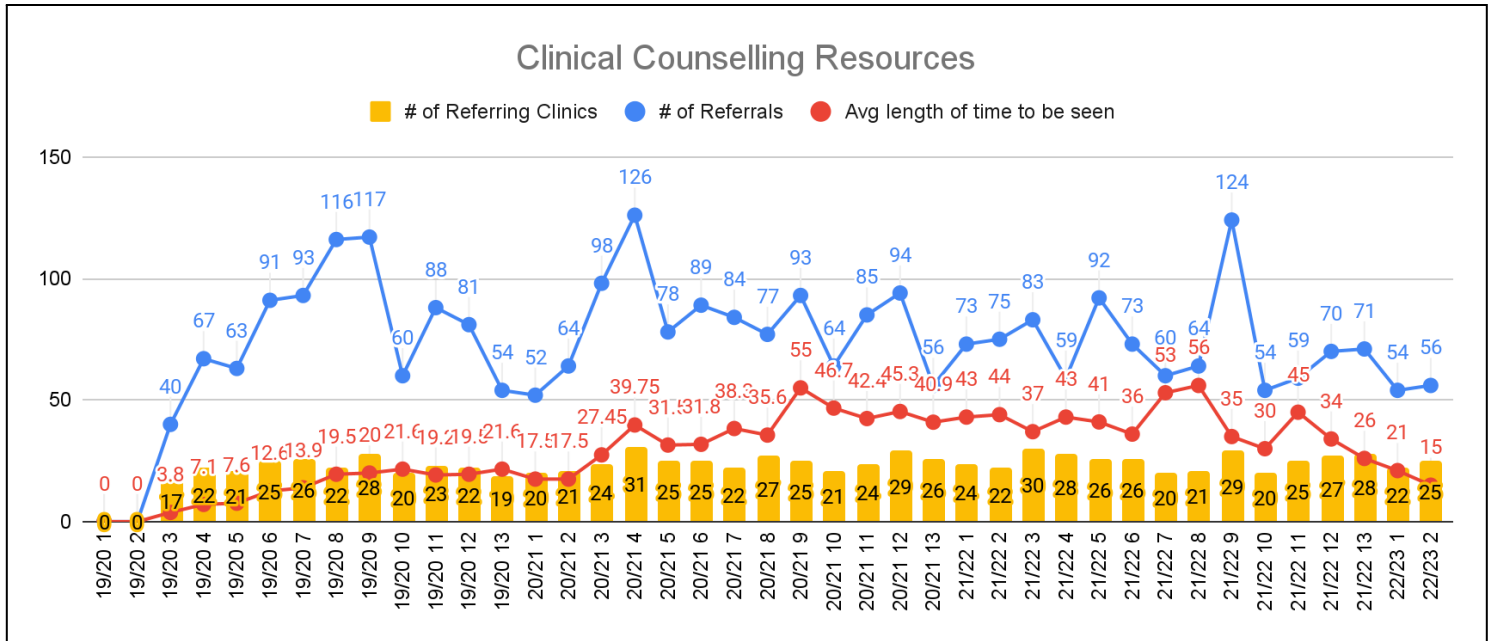
### Allied Health (Clinical Counsellors) Supports - Contracted Agency

In Period 2, the number of referrals and referring clinics increased, while all other metrics show a decrease in usage over the last period. The table below details the change over the last period to the current period:

	Previous Period (P1)	Current Period (P2)	Difference
# of Referrals	54	56	↑
# of Referring Clinics	22	25	↑
Average length of time for patients to be seen ( <i>days</i> )	21	15	↓
# of clients seen	153	151	↓
# of appointments scheduled	280	255	↓
# of cases open	253	250	↓



The chart below details the period over period trends for the # of referrals, # of referring clinics and the average length of time for patients to be seen after first contact since PCN inception.



### Allied Health (Clinical Counsellors) Supports - FHA MHSU

A FHA resource developed to support access to mental health and substance use supports for FNW community physicians launched where 4 FTE Mental Health Clinical Counsellors are available to FNW physicians to support providers and patients as part of the Primary Community Care team. Details on the number of referrals can be found in the table below:

	Previous Period (P1)	Current Period (P2)	Difference
# of Referrals	64	61	↓
# of Referring Clinics	22	25	↑
Avg. caseload/Clinician	32	30	↓
# of appointments scheduled	301	275	↓

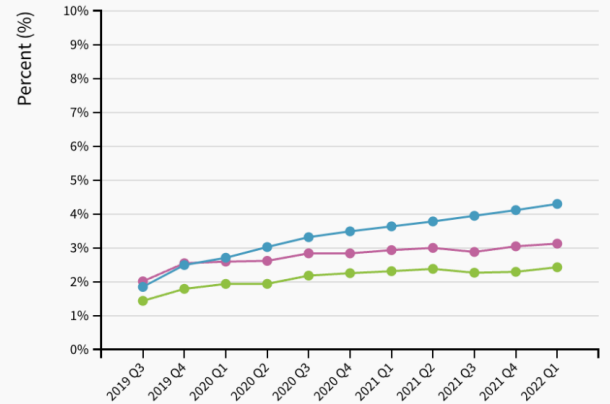
### Mental Health Program Impact: HDC

HDC offers demographic data based on aggregated patient data coded into the platform from participating PMHs EMRs. One coded measurement is the prevalence on patient with **anxiety and fear-related disorders** and compares quarterly data from 1 year, 3 year or 5 years across all FNW clinics, Fraser Health and BC. The visual below is a snapshot of the trending increase in prevalence for anxiety and fear-related disorders across FNW clinics. Data such as this reflects the ongoing, and growing, need for rapid access mental health supports for mild-moderate MH concerns.



The percentage of active patients with anxiety and fear-related disorders (including phobias) based on the problem list as recorded in the EMR.

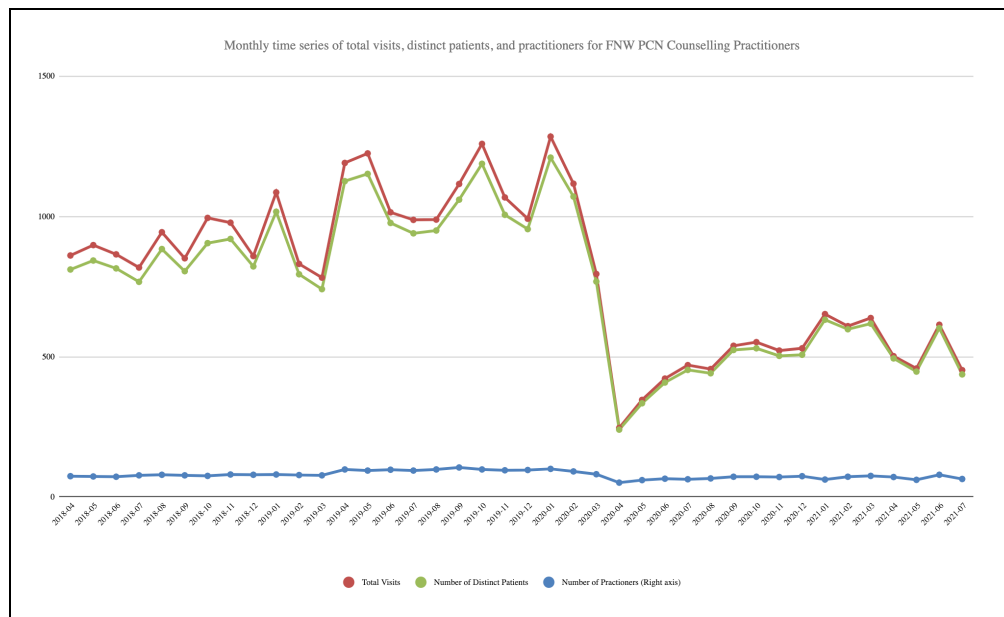
Legend	Data Source	Ratio	Data as of
<span style="color: blue;">■</span>	British Columbia	99286 / 2307078 (4.30%)	2022 Q1
<span style="color: magenta;">■</span>	Fraser Health	27351 / 873567 (3.13%)	2022 Q1
<span style="color: green;">■</span>	Fraser Northwest	4470 / 183677 (2.43%)	2022 Q1



### Mental Health Program Impact: MoH

Through the co-development of these programs, the intention was to increase patient and physician access to rapid counselling supports given the high waitlist for existing community supports. This intent in turn decreases the burden in caring for these patients that is placed on family physicians which then could create increased capacity. Year over year comparative data provided from the Ministry of Health which looked at the MSP billings for those physicians in the FNW who have referred to this program details that although there has been an increase in the number of physicians billing, the counselling fees, distinct patients and average counselling visits/provider have all decreased. This table looks at the data that was submitted pre PCN program (July 2019 and earlier) implementation and post-PCN program (august 2019 and later) implementation as well as the change in trends over time. The significant drop in March and April 2020 is likely due to the initial impacts that the Covid-19 pandemic had on access to primary care. As a note, the MSP data is not fully complete until after 90 days. The tables below shows the year over year comparison broken down by month for:

- The # of practitioners billing for counselling fees
- The # of patient visits from the counselling fees
- The # of distinct patients



## Indigenous Related Supports

As one of the partner organizations in the Fraser Northwest Primary Care Network, Kwikwetlem First Nation has worked to identify the resources needed in their First Nation Community. These resources will work to support increased attachment and access to primary care services for the Nation, as well as surrounding urban and away from home Indigenous population.

The Kwikwetlem Primary Care clinic opened mid-October for community members. The clinic is staffed with two doctors (52 FP Sessional), an MOA, a Nurse Practitioner, a Registered Nurse, elder home support worker (0.5 FTE) and an Aboriginal wellness advisor (1.0 FTE).

The members of the Kwikwetlem First Nation are accessing the services from the clinic. The soft opening has been a great success according to the team and the community members accessing services. The Physicians are in on Tuesdays. There is also a Nurse Practitioner in the clinic on alternate Fridays. The Community Health Nurse is in 2 days/week to do drop-in for Kwikwetlem First nations members for injections, medical assessments, referrals, wellness checks, blood pressure, blood glucose checks, wound care and assisting with the Physician of the day's phone calls.

The elder home support worker is serving three elders and has two elders waiting to be seen. Now, they are in 3 days/week and help the elders with meals, housework, shopping, medical appointment transport for specialist appointments, referral for specialists, and when it can be done safely planning activities for the elders in the community hall.

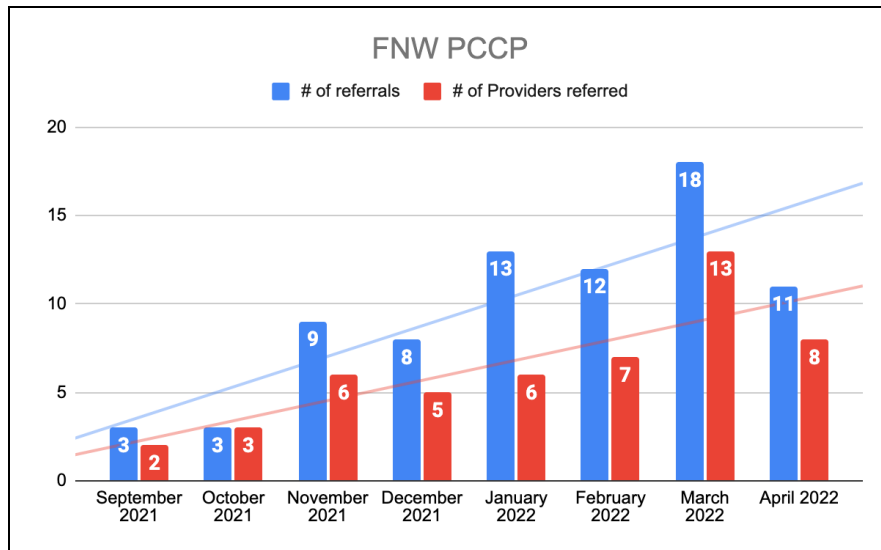
The Aboriginal wellness advisor has assisted the Director of health to assess the wellness needs of the community. They are currently working on meeting the needs of the community by seeking community partnerships with local organizations. In addition, the wellness team is actively seeking grants for wellness programs. Lastly, the Aboriginal wellness advisor worked with the Nurse to hand out food to the community members and provide lunch for the children, youth, and elders.

Feedback from the community identified "love[ing] the two new doctors and the elders are incredibly happy with the elder support person. They are seeking an increase in elder support due to increasing needs in the community." The doctors and community leaders have identified interest in having the doctors move towards doing outreach in the community. The health clinic continues to work on relationships with other partners in the Tri-Cities communities.

## Primary Care Clinical Pharmacists (PCCP)

As part of the funding for the FNW PCN, the New Westminster and Tri-Cities communities were allocated resources for 4 Clinical Pharmacists across the Fraser Northwest region. Work has been underway since the PCN inception around identifying strategies for incorporating these positions to support longitudinal primary care services. The first Pharmacist was hired in Period 5 and has been meeting with FNW clinics to set up clinic meet and greets and introductions to identify how best to support providers and their patients needs.

Work is currently underway to establish an ongoing discussion between UBC, FHA, FNW Primary Care Providers and Division staff to better understand the implementation plan of these resources as well as navigate and establish a collaborative and equitable reporting structure to share out the successes, challenges and lessons learned from this program. Referral data shared by the program reflects an upward trend of usage and referrals for the PCCP.

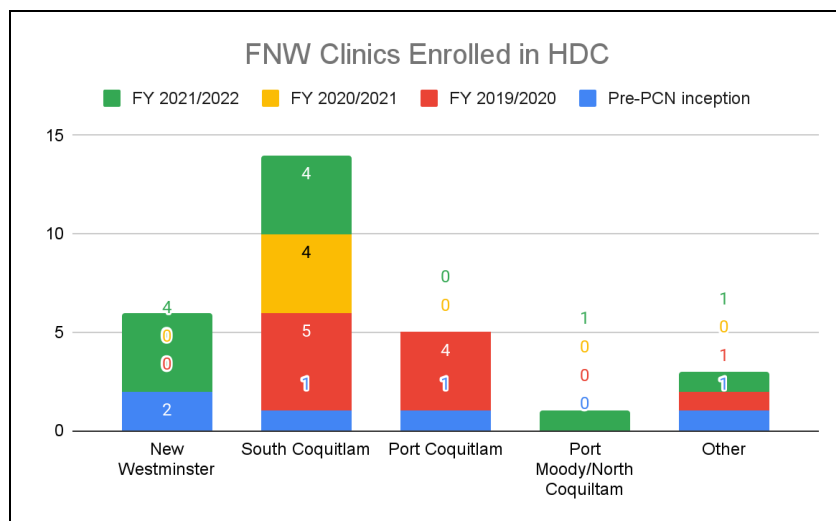


### Urgent & Primary Care Centre: Tri-Cities

In February 2021, the Tri-Cities Urgent and Primary Care Centre (UPCC) opened its temporary location at Eagle Ridge Hospital. The UPCC is meant to provide primary care access to patients in the community who are unattached or attached and potentially seeking care outside of regular clinic office hours. Data was not available at the time of writing this report and as of Period 1 FY 22/23 all UPCC reporting will take place on the MoH PCN web portal.

### Health Data Coalition (HDC)

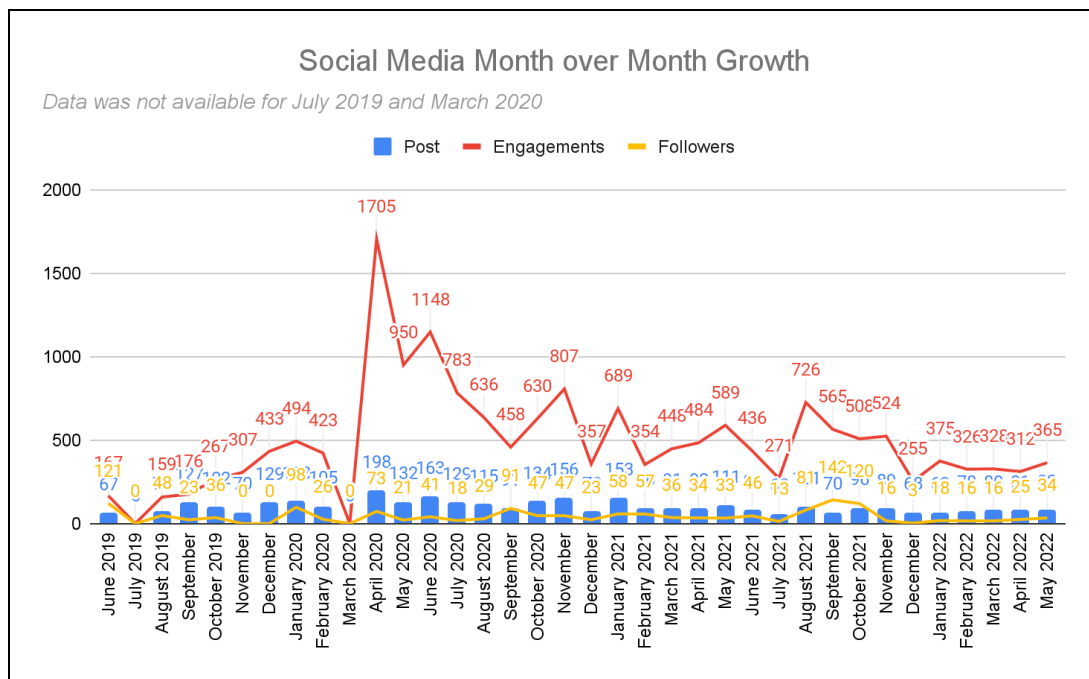
The [Health Data Coalition](#) is a non-profit organization funded by GPSC that “is a physician-led data sharing network that encourages self-reflect and practice improvement in patient care. HDC provides access to a secure, core set of anonymized aggregate data” for physicians and practices. HDC representatives are working alongside FNW Division staff and Physician leadership to identify opportunities for integration into FNW led engagement events for members. This tool will provide practical and tangible solutions to specific topic areas that events are centered around.



## Feedback from the Community

Resources have been launched related to public engagement through various FNW Division social media strategies where the division's communication team is utilizing multiple social media platforms. In April they've recorded the following changes in public engagement through the social media platforms:

Channel	# of Posts	Engagements	Followers (+/-)
All Channels (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, LinkedIn)	+82	365	+34



Each quarter, a newsletter is distributed to patients in the communities who have signed up or agreed to receive newsletters from the Division. When this resource launched in May 2020, there were a total of 170 subscribers, whereas in May 2022 the overall year end growth was 4143%. A breakdown of the # of subscribers, opens and % of opens is below:

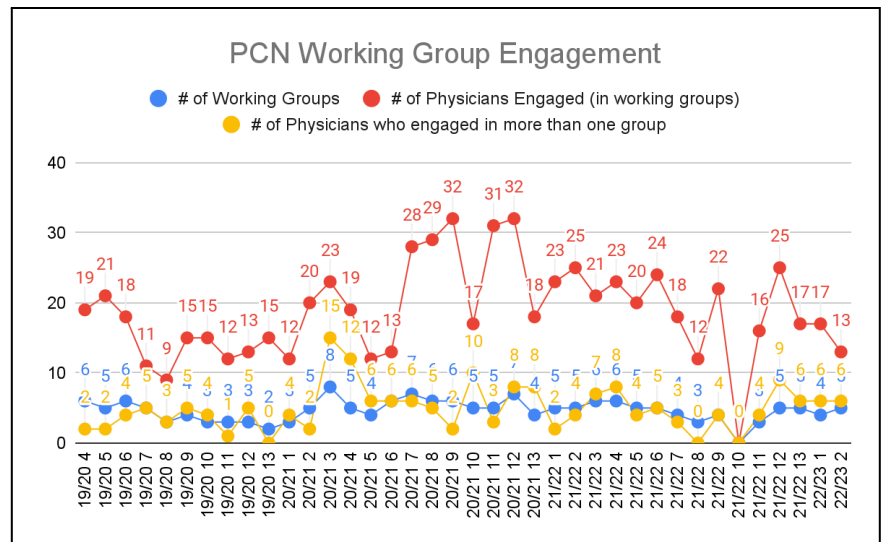
	# Subscribers	# Opens	% Opened
May 2020	170	63	38.20%
August 2020	573	279	49.60%
November 2020	1982	1447	73.60%
February 2021	3288	1364	41.70%
May 2021	3745	2203	59.10%
August 2021	3830	1012	28.3%

November 2021	3459	1474	42.6%
February 2022	3473	1942	56%
May 2022	7,213	4,135	57%

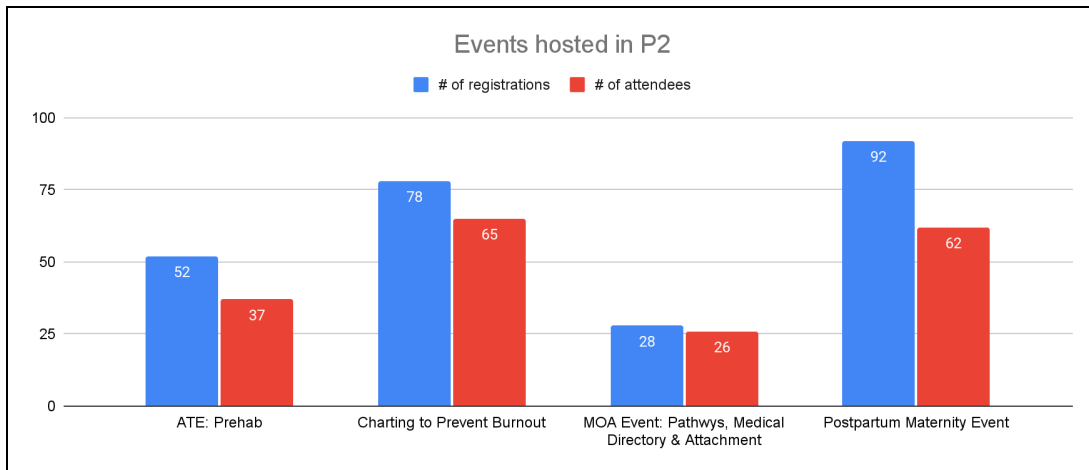
## Physician Feedback and Engagement

Physician engagement for this reporting period includes a breakdown of both the PCN Working group engagement as well as the PMH team engagement events. As part of the FNW PCN, Primary Care Provider engagement and leadership is integral to the successful development and delivery of community services and resources. This engagement is reflected through a number of provider working groups and advisory committees which include:

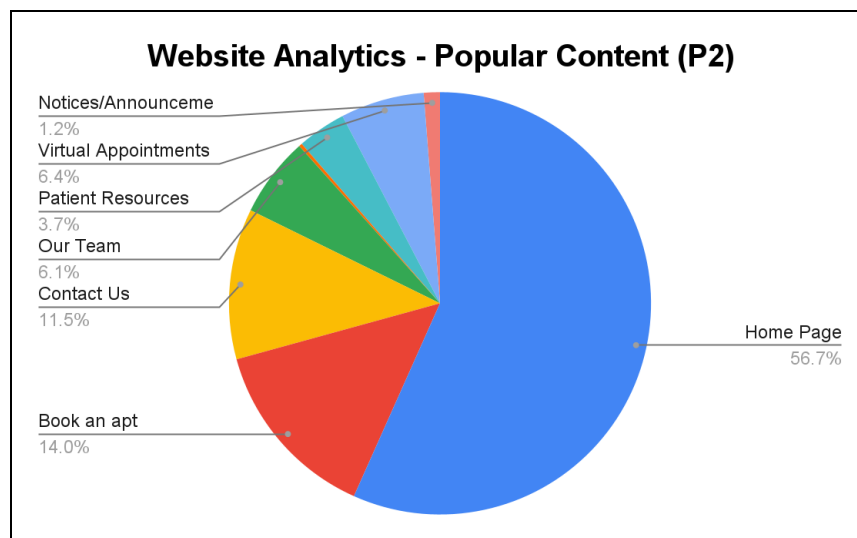
- PCN Steering Committee
  - *The purpose of the FNW PCN Steering Committee is to provide governance and leadership to the activities, working groups and strategic planning for the FNW PCNs.*
  - *Membership is comprised of PCN partner organizations, community family physicians, hospitalists, administrative program staff and non-profit and stakeholder groups*
- PCN/PMH Provider Advisory Committee
  - *The purpose of this committee is to advise the Division and FHA Leadership regarding the direction of the primary care improvement work underway in the FNW communities*
  - *Membership is comprised of FNW Family Physicians, Hospitalists, Nurse Practitioners, Maternity providers and Division program staff*
- RN in Practice Physician Leads group
  - *The purpose of this group is to provide a space for Physician leads at clinics where RNs are placed to come together, share learning, ask questions and support the ongoing development of the initiative within PMHs and the FNW PCN.*
  - *Membership is comprised of Physician Leads for clinics who have RNs in practice and Division program staff.*
- Community Health Focus Groups
  - Initially launched to support discussion and conversation between FHA Home Health and Family Physicians, these recurring monthly focus groups have evolved to encompass additional aspects of community care including medication management, and mental health supports.



The following events were hosted for members in this reporting period:

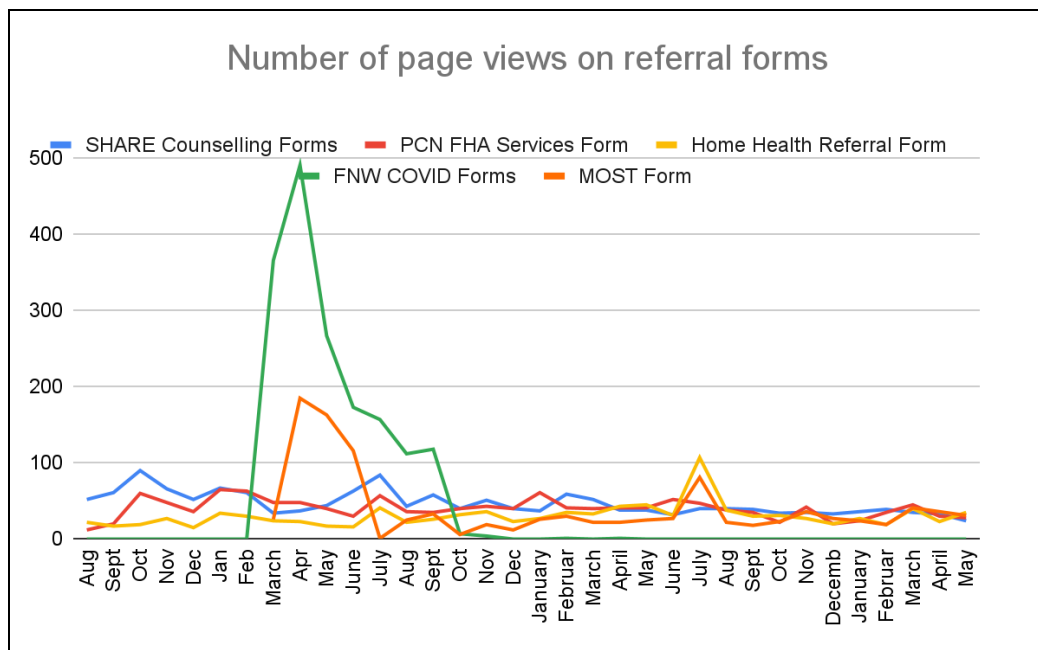


Additional engagement support provided to FNW physicians is the website development. The move to providing primary care services in a virtual setting continues to grow and expand. A full list of the clinics in the FNW and their associated websites can be found by [clicking here](#). Analytic data provided below from websites provides an overview of patient navigation based on popular content and searches for all clinic websites.



## Pathways

Pathways is a virtual directory that allows local Family Physicians and providers to identify and access resources, supports and services for their patients on a variety of healthcare related concerns. It is a tool used by Physicians and Specialists for referral resources, wait times, and has been proven to play an important role in the coordination of care between providers. Data pulled from the FNW Pathways site from August 2019 shows the page views of PCN related referral supports as well as details the rapid increase in Covid-19 supports since March 2020.



### PCN Lessons Learned

1. Identifying a process for transition and support related to contract terminations is needed to support the provider as well as how to support the panel of patients.
2. Coordination of care is a core attribute of both the PMH and PCN work. Recent experiences related to colposcopy referrals between primary care providers, provincial organizations and local hospitals highlighted differing processes for referral pathways which have a potential for impacts on patient care and safety.
3. The encounter coding system continues to be a struggle.
  - a. It's key to have a point person for Physicians to contact to reach out for adequate and clear support as encounter coding issues continue to impede upon these providers' providing patient care.
4. Attachment between priority populations and primary care providers emerged as an obstacle as some processes don't collect certain contact information making it difficult for seamless and expedited attachment between patients and primary care providers.
5. Designated overhead funds for Allied Health positions embedded within PMHs has emerged as a concern from both the PMHs and the HA. There is an unrecognized management role that the Physicians play in creating a workplace for these team members and currently that is covered under the existing overhead amount.
  - a. Additional overhead funds for PMHs include cyber insurance policies which noted a 22% increase for 2021. This reflects another cost for PMHs to successfully continue to provide longitudinal primary care services.
6. For FNW PMHs to be eligible for in-practice allied health support, all members of the PMH must be a member of the Division.