



Picture 1 - Highway 16, Near Kitwanga

Pacific Northwest Division of Family Practice

Website: divisionsbc.ca/pacificnorthwest

Twitter: @PNWdivision

Twitter: @PNWLocumNetwork

Facebook: @PNWDivision

LinkedIn: PNW Division of Family Practice



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A NOTE FROM OUR PRESIDENT, DR. HUFF



Picture 2 - Diana Lake Provincial Park, Prince Rupert

Welcome to the Pacific Northwest Division of Family Practice's Annual Report 2019-2020

We hope you enjoy learning more about the exciting initiatives underway through the Pacific Northwest Division in support Family Physicians as the provide community and patient centered primary care in the Pacific Northwest.

We want to give a very warm welcome to our new physicians. In the last year, we have had 24 new physicians join us in the Pacific Northwest.

In the last year, the Division has continued existing work and has expanded our reach to include CHANGE BC, the Pacific Northwest Psychiatry Steering Committee, Pacific Northwest FETCH, and Pacific Northwest Pathways.

We are delighted to continuing working in partnership with on a number of projects, including BC Shared Care and Primary Care Network development across the Pacific Northwest.

Thank you for your interest and support as we aim to strengthen the voice and perspective of our local Family Physicians in the development and innovation of primary care programs and services for our communities across the Pacific Northwest.

Sincerely,

Dr. Brenda Huff
 President, Board of Directors
 Pacific Northwest Division of Family Practice



WELCOME TO THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST DIVISION OF FAMILY PRACTICE

The Pacific Northwest Division of Family Practice represents family physicians in Dease Lake, Haida Gwaii (Charlotte City and Masset), Houston, Kitimat, Gitlaxt'aamiks, Prince Rupert, Smithers, Stewart, and Terrace.

Together, the members work to improve patient access to local primary care, increase local physician's influence on health care delivery and policy, and provide professional support for physicians.

The Division gives local physicians an opportunity to work collaboratively with Health Authorities, the GPSC, and the Ministry of Health to identify health care needs in the local community and develop solutions to meet those needs.



Picture 3 - Call Lake Provincial Park, Smithers

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2018 -2019

- Dr. Brenda Huff, President
- Dr. Geoff Appleton, Past-President
- Dr. Karin Blouw, Chair
- Dr. Greg Linton, Vice Chair
- Dr. Jaco Strydom, Vice Chair
- Dr. Onuora Odoh, Secretary
- Dr. Wouter Morkel, Treasurer
- Dr. Jan 'Alwyn' Fourie
- Dr. David Beaulieu
- Dr. Gillaume Coetzee
- Dr. Xander Van Der Poll
- Dr. Caroline Walker
- Dr. Gordon Horner
- Dr. Linton's Resident

Pacific Northwest Division of Family Practice - Staff

- Nicole Halbauer, Interim Executive Director nhalbauer@pnwdivisionbc.ca
- Tanya Kutenics, Project Manager tkutenics@pnwdivisionbc.ca
- Bryanne Haskins, Project Coordinator bhaskins@pnwdivisionbc.ca



Picture 4 - Cronin Pass, Babine Mountains

The Divisions of Family Practice Initiative is sponsored by the General Practice Services Committee; a joint committee of the British Columbia Ministry of Health and Doctors of BC.



WELCOME TO OUR NEW PHYSICIANS

The Pacific Northwest Division of Family Practice was very excited to welcome many new members to our Division this past year. We had over 24 new Physicians join us! We are looking forward to working collaboratively with all our local physicians, Northern Health, the First Nations Health Authority, the GPSC, and the Ministry of Health to identify health care needs together, in all our PNW communities, and develop solutions to meet those needs. We really appreciate your input & support!

We would also like to congratulate all the new Primary Care Medical Clinics in our PNW communities that opened in 2018-2019. Terrace saw two new clinics open last year, the Spruce Medical Centre and the HG Health Centre. Northern Roots Primary Care clinic also opened and is serving patients in Smithers.

Welcome to our new Physician members!

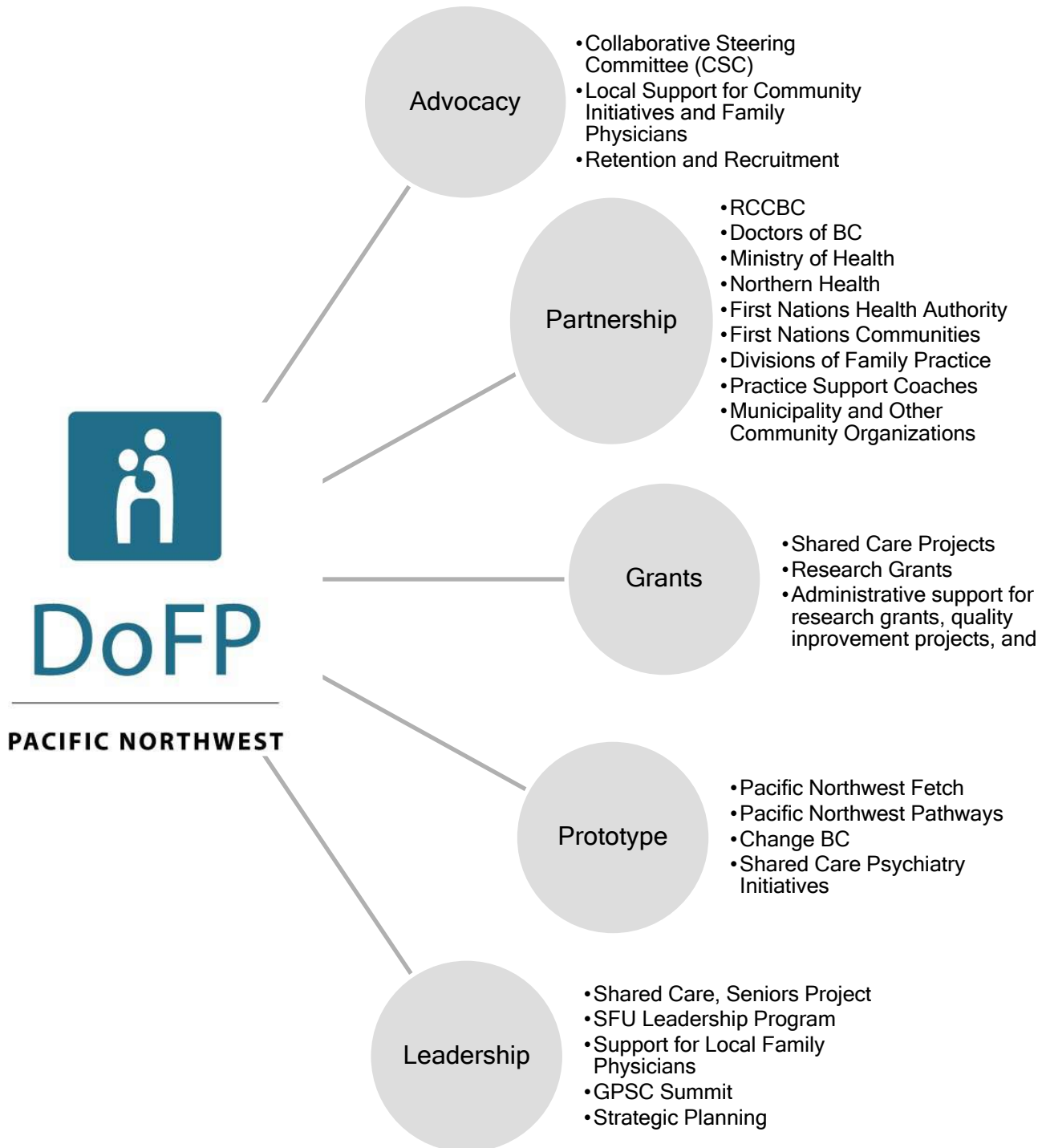
- Dr. Robyn Penney - Terrace
- Dr. Elhadi Mohammed - Terrace
- Dr. Abdulhafid Abusnina - Terrace
- Dr. Catherine Wong - Haida Gwaii
- Dr. Rose Lee - Nisga'a Valley
- Dr. Aaron Heroux - Nisga'a Valley
- Dr. Laura Eustace - Smithers
- Dr. Skylar Van Osch - Haida Gwaii
- Dr. Alfred Laskowski - Smithers
- Dr. Andries Van Schalkwyk - Kitimat
- Dr. Tasha-Rachelle Maheu - Haida Gwaii
- Dr. Jordan Hynd - Terrace
- Dr. Mohammed Bukhres - Terrace
- Dr. Sasha Langille-Rowe - Terrace
- Dr. Nicola Beck - Terrace
- Dr. Flora Barnard - Smithers
- Dr. Nicholas Mooney - Terrace
- Dr. Jessical McCann - Res - Terrace
- Dr. Mallory Quinn - Smithers
- Dr. Emma Dowds - Res - Terrace
- Dr. John Fawell - Prince Rupert
- Dr. Kate Niethammer - Smithers
- Dr. Roberts Ugbekile - Terrace
- Dr. Hesh Said - Terrace/Nisga'a Valley/Hazelton

We would like to acknowledge and thank Nicole Halbauer for taking on the role of the interim executive director



Picture 5 - Hudson Bay Mountain, Smithers

PACIFIC NORTHWEST DIVISION OF FAMILY PRACTICE



The Pacific Northwest Division of Family Practice Supports 123 Family Physicians in the Pacific Northwest.

The Division supports our family physicians with innovative changes, research, and projects within their practices and communities.

PHYSICIAN RECRUITMENT

The Pacific Northwest Division of Family Practice and the PNW Locum Network attended two conferences this year with the focus and goal aimed at Physician Recruitment. In April, we flew across the country to Halifax, Nova Scotia for the 2019 Society of Rural Practitioners of Canada - Rural & Remote Medical Conference. We had the opportunity there to directly engage with over 300 Physicians, Locums, Residents, and Medical Students from across Canada and beyond. In May, we attended the 2019 BC Rural Health Conference & Rural Locum Forum in Nanaimo, BC. This experience allowed us to connect with over 250 BC Physicians, Residents, and Students, as well as add some valuable Locum contacts to our Network. The PNW Division of Family Practice recognizes the importance of attending such conferences in order to build relationships, trust and confidence in our local Division, and especially to network for future recruitment opportunities.



Picture 9 - Rural and Remote Medicine 2019, Halifax



Picture 6 - Rural Health Conference 2019, Nanaimo



Picture 7 - Rural Health Conference 2019, Nanaimo



Picture 8 - Rural and Remote Medicine 2019, Halifax

TERRACE PHYSICIAN HONoured WITH THE COLLEGE COIN

PRAISE FOR A JOB WELL DONE!

Dr. Gregory Linton is one of the recent recipients of the College Coin, a new way for the BC College of Family Physicians to honour family physicians who deserve recognition for their work.

Modelled on the coins used by the Canadian Military to recognize special achievements, the College Coin is designed to honour some of the unsung heroes in Family Medicine - the family physicians we admire for carrying out "good work." Nominations for the College Coin reflect the wide-ranging value that family physicians bring to practice, teaching, mentorship and health care improvement, all which Linton's career reflects thus far.



Dedicated to and serving the rural community of Terrace for over 25 years, Dr. Linton is a highly skilled and well-established Family Physician in the area. He has proven himself to be a great leader, role model, and primary care innovator in our community, our region, and throughout the Province. He has been a teacher, mentor, trusted advisor, as well as friend and confidante to so many in the medical community.

Leading activities outside of his clinical practice that supports family medicine, Linton serves as a role model for Residents and Medical Students alike, in his position as Site Director for the Rural Northwest Terrace UBC Family Medicine Residency program. He was a key player in getting the program started in our community back in 2009. During this time, Dr. Linton remained diligent to his position as Chief of Staff at Mills Memorial Hospital for five years.

A founding Board Director of the Pacific Northwest Division of Family Practice, Dr. Greg Linton is involved in ChangeBC, pioneering an initiative that supports patients through a team-based care model that includes GP's, a Dietician, and a Kinesiologist. Dr. Linton was part of the team awarded the 2018 RCCBC Award of Excellence in Rural Medicine: Effective & Efficient Healthcare Partnerships in Rural BC, and the 2018 BCCFP Innovations in Primary Care Award for ChangeBC.



An exemplary leader in BC's Primary Care evolution, Dr. Linton has graduated from the GPSC Leadership and Management Program. His leadership continues to be instrumental in bringing the physician community and patient voice to primary health care transformation in the region.

The College Coin is a true acknowledgement to his dedication, service, and contribution to Family Medicine in Terrace, the PNW, and in British Columbia. Congratulations to Dr. Gregory Linton!

PHYSICIAN MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

The Pacific Northwest Division of Family Practice supports member physicians enrolled in the GPSC Simon Fraser University Physician Management and Leadership Program.

Congratulations to our 2018-2019 Family Physician Graduates:

- Dr. Gillaume Coetzee, Prince Rupert
- Dr. Amor Kloppers, Prince Rupert

The program is designed to support the GPSC in building leadership and capacity among Divisions of Family Practice Leads and other stakeholders of the Primary Care Initiative.

The program is delivered in five modules:

1. Building Support: Peer, Governance and Multi-Stakeholder Leadership
2. Strategic Leadership and the Responsibility of Governance
3. Ensuring Quality: Roles, Responsibilities and Accountability
4. Leading Innovation and Resource Allocation
5. Building Sustainable Partnerships and Collaborations

Congratulations to Dr. Stefanie Steel for being accepted into the 2019-2020 Cohort. If any other physicians are interested in this program, please contact the Division.

For more information on the program: <http://www.gpsc.bc.ca/what-we-do/professional-development/leadership-and-management-program>



Picture 10 - Prince Rupert Harbour



FETCH – FOR EVERYTHING THAT'S COMMUNITY HEALTH




Fetch is a directory of existing community resources that are available across the Pacific Northwest. Resources can be filtered by community and service type.

On the website, there is also link to register for the family doctor patient referral list. This resource is managed by the Division.

The Community Services Navigators are available on the website in a PDF format, printed copies can be requested.

Website: <http://pacificnorthwest.fetchbc.ca>



Looking for Information on
How to Find a Family Doctor
in your
Pacific Northwest *Community*?



Register today for the family
doctor patient referral list.

Please note: this Patient Registry is for
Pacific Northwest residents only.



PRIMARY CARE NETWORK'S

In 2018, the communities of Smithers, Prince Rupert, Terrace and Haida Gwaii submitted Expression's of Interest to the Ministry of Health that were approved. Planning funding was transferred to support Primary Care Network (PCN) Service Planning across the Pacific Northwest.



Picture 11 - Iskut

The service planning process has been ongoing in partership with Local First Nations, Northern Health Authority, First Nations Health Authority, Pacific Northwest Division of Family Practice, and local communities. PCN partners are developing an innovative legal entity governance model across the Pacific Northwest. We invite all interested physicians to contact our staff to engage with this work as it has been an involved process for our lead physicians.



Picture 12 - Stikine River, On route to Telegraph Creek



Picture 14 - View from Tow Hill, Haida Gwa



Picture 13 - The Road to Telegraph Creek



Picture 12 - Skeena River, enroute to Prince Rupert

THE MEDICINE OF ART

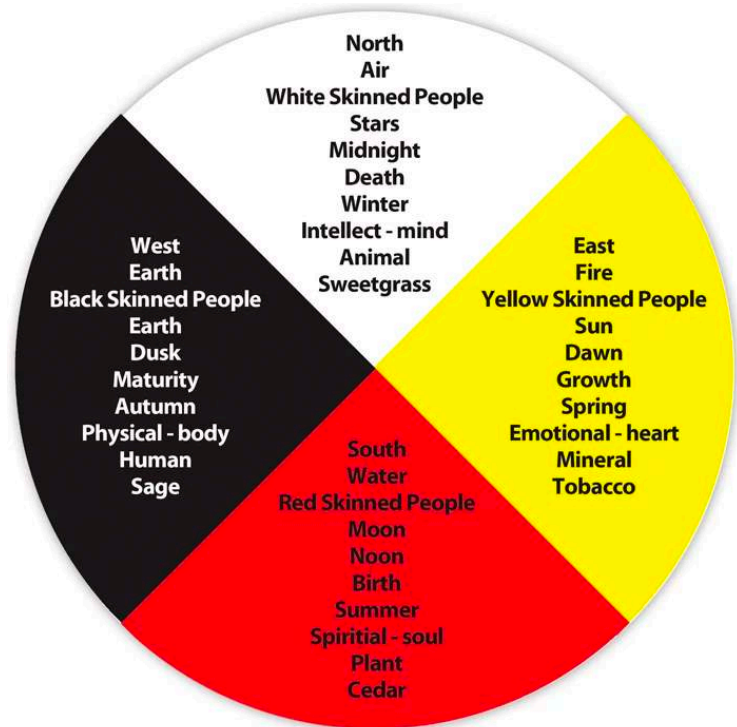
THE MEDICINE OF ART

- a film about social coherence -



Project Objectives:

1. To promote evidence and solicit support for a true holistic approach of the Bio-psycho-social-spiritual model of healthcare (The structure of the Native American Medicine Wheel).
2. To find an impactful way to demonstrate the need for Western trained physicians to understand and support the spiritual component of wellbeing. What has started as an attempt to construct creative educational material for the importance of a functioning Medicine wheel for Indigenous health, has expanded to a core component in wellbeing for all.



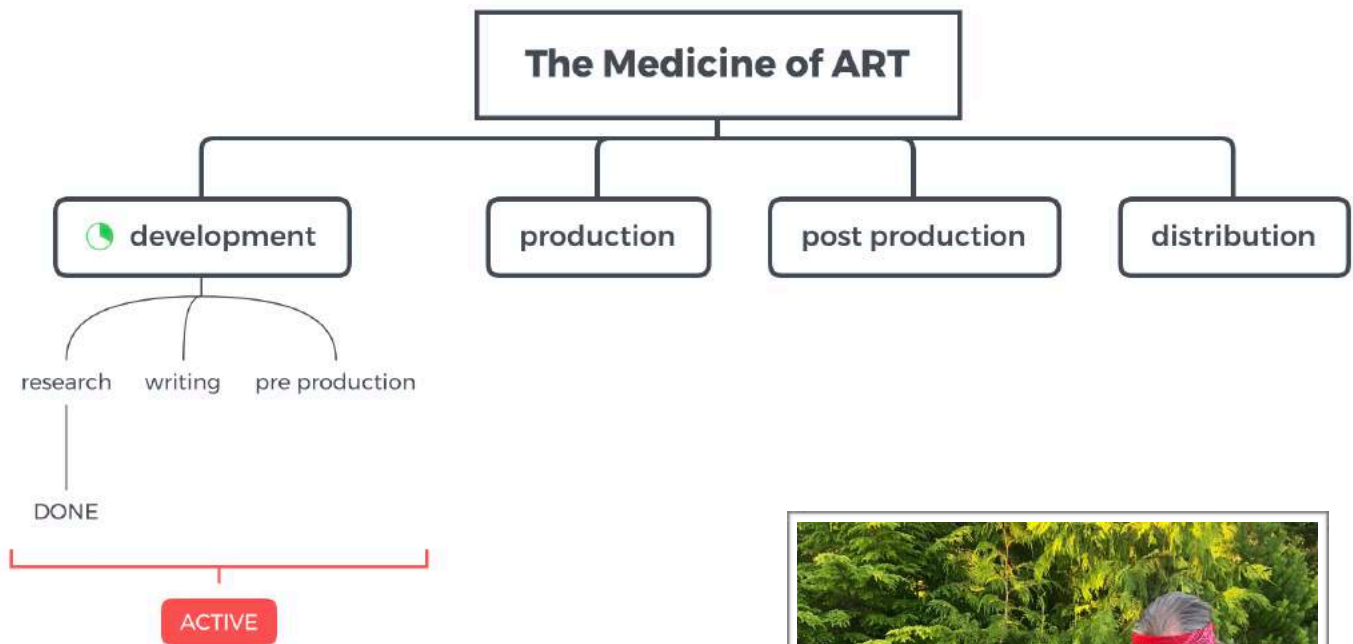
Project Support:

- The Pacific Northwest Division of Family Practice
- Doctors of BC
- General Practices Services Committee (GPSC)
- Firegrass films Ltd
- Dalla Lana School of Global Journalism
- Four Winds Consulting
- Heartmath Institute

Consultants and Interviews conducted:

- Robert Woollard, Professor Family Medicine UBC, Vancouver
- Earl Wallace Henderson, Elder, Indigenous Medicine Consultant, Prince George
- Mary Wesley, First Nations Patient Liason, Prince Rupert
- Elizabeth Hartney, Professor, Director Center for Health Leadership and Research, Victoria
- Susan Gladstone, Elder, Wellness Counsellor, Skidegate
- Vern Williams, Elder, Indigenous Healer, Masset
- Donald Cole, Professor of Clinical public health, Dalla Lana School of public health, Toronto.
- Royson James, Bureau chief Dalla Lana School of public health, Toronto.

- Deborah Rozman, PhD. CEO Hearthmath institute



The process of the project:

I thank you for your ongoing support and look forward to provide more information at a project briefing during the AGM. No funding has been accessed up to date.

Dr. Riaan Van der Wart
docriaan@gmail.com



Picture 15 - Seven Sisters Provincial Park

CANADIAN HEALTH ADVANCED BY NUTRITION AND GRADED EXERCISE



National and Provincial Award Winning Primary Care Lifestyle Innovation

2017-2018 saw the GP led rollout of CHANGE BC, developed through a grant received by the Pacific Northwest Division from Metabolic Syndrome Canada. Dr. Jocelyn Black, Dr. Brenda Huff, Dr. Greg Linton, Dr. Matthew Menard, Dr. Wouter Morkel, and Dr. Onuora Odoh have received **three awards** for their cutting edge leadership and partnership work to optimize primary care supports for PNW Division Patients:

-  **College of Family Physicians of Canada - 2018 Advancing Family Medicine Award of Excellence**
-  **BC College of Family Physicians - 2018 Innovations in Primary Care Award**
-  **Rural Coordinating Committee of BC - 2018 Award of Excellence in Effective and Efficient Healthcare Partnerships in Rural BC**



Dr. Jocelyn Black



Dr. Brenda Huff



Dr. Greg Linton



Dr. Matthew Menard



Dr. Wouter Morkel



Dr. Onuora Odoh

COMMUNITY RESEARCH

Our physicians in the Pacific Northwest continue to seek innovative research and programs to improve primary care.

Dr. Onuora Odoh in Houston will be studying CHANGE BC participants and program outcomes, following the program last year.

Dr. Brenda Huff will be researching Physical and Nutritional Literacy Primary Care Network programs for children and adolescents in the Pacific Northwest.



Picture 16 - Smithers



Picture 17 - Cronin Pass, Babine Mountains

PHARMANET

The Division currently has users at 16 private clinics in the PNW accessing Pharmanet (this does not include users that are in a NHA facility; Haida Gwaii, Dease Lake, Stewart, and Houston, as this access is paid for by the HA. There are over 65 Physician members and 35 support staff currently using Pharmanet supported by the PNW Division.

Website: <http://www.medi.net/pharmanet-home.htm>

PHYSICIAN RESOURCES



Pacific Northwest
Division of Family Practice
A GPSC Initiative

PHYSICIAN RESOURCES



FAMILY MEDICINE FORUM

The Pacific Northwest Division of Family Practice will be attending the 2019 Family Medicine Forum in Vancouver, on October 31 to November 2. Dr. Brenda Huff, Tanya Kunetics, and a few of our physician members will attend. The focus will be on recruitment for the Pacific Northwest. The Family Medicine Forum is the largest gathering of Family Physicians in Canada, with approximately 5000 attendees. We have selected the conference attendee gifts, which we believe are representative of our spectacular PNW. We are very excited to network with many Physicians, Residents, and Medical Students from across the country!



Picture 18 - Gifts for Physicians, Residents, and Students at the Family Medicine Forum 2019

PNW PATHWAYS METRICS

Pacific Northwest Pathways was launched to Physician members and staff in September 2017.

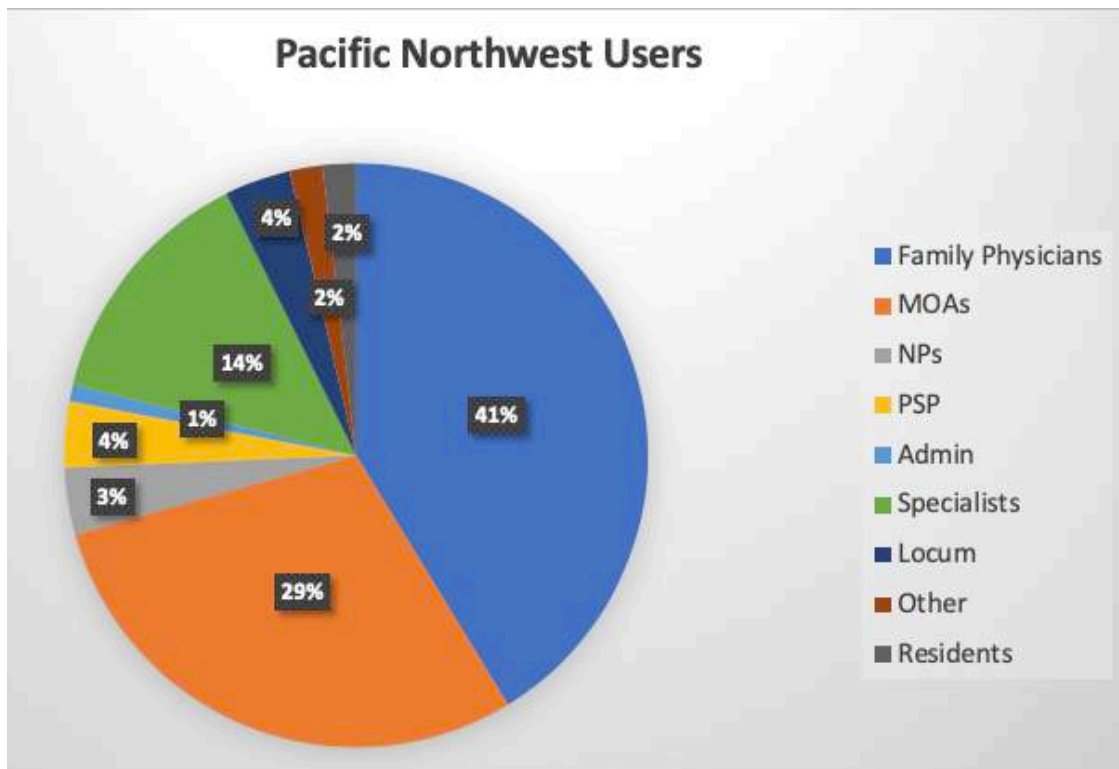
Pathways is an online resource that allows GPs and their office staff to quickly access current and accurate referral information, including wait times and areas of expertise or limitation, for specialists and specialty clinics. In addition, Pathways makes available hundreds of patient and physician resources that are categorized and searchable.



The key goals of Pathways include:

- Allowing GPs to identify the most appropriate specialist with the shortest wait time.
- Simplify the patient referral process by easily identifying specific areas of practice offered by each specialist and clinic.
- Providing GPs with the most up-to-date information possible to ensure appropriateness of referrals.
- Decreasing the incidence of re-referrals, thereby increasing the efficiency of patient care.

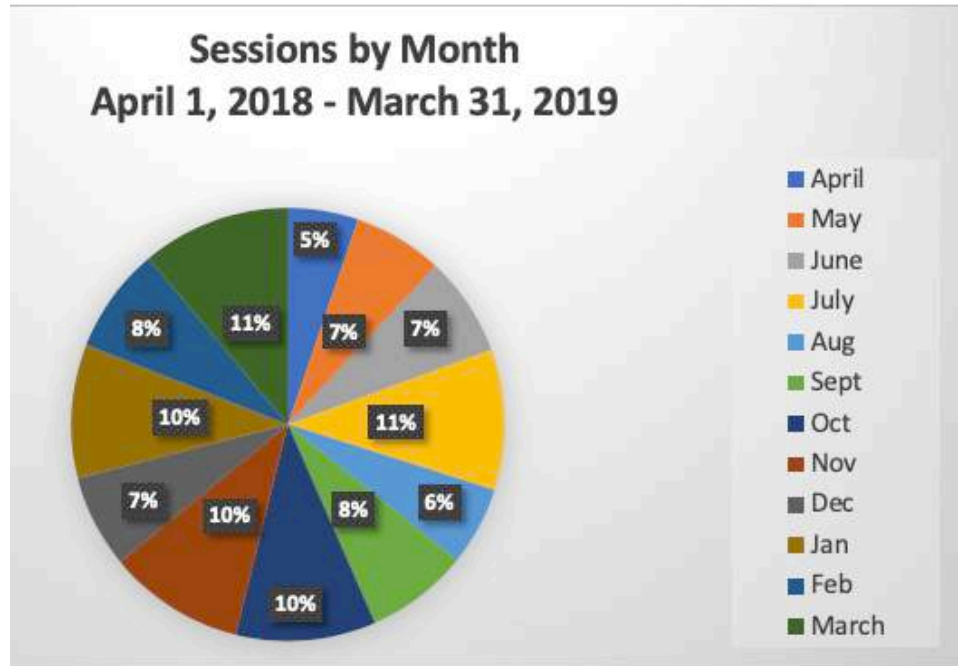
Users



We have 109 Users in the PNW Pathways including 1 Administrator, 45 Family Physicians, 32 Family Physician Staff members, 4 Locums, 2 Residents, 15 Specialists, 4 Nurse Practitioners, 4 PSPs, & 2 others (Division staff). Every community in our Division has users accessing PNW Pathways.

Specialists

We currently have 25 Specialists in 10 Specialties, covering 437 different Areas of Practice.

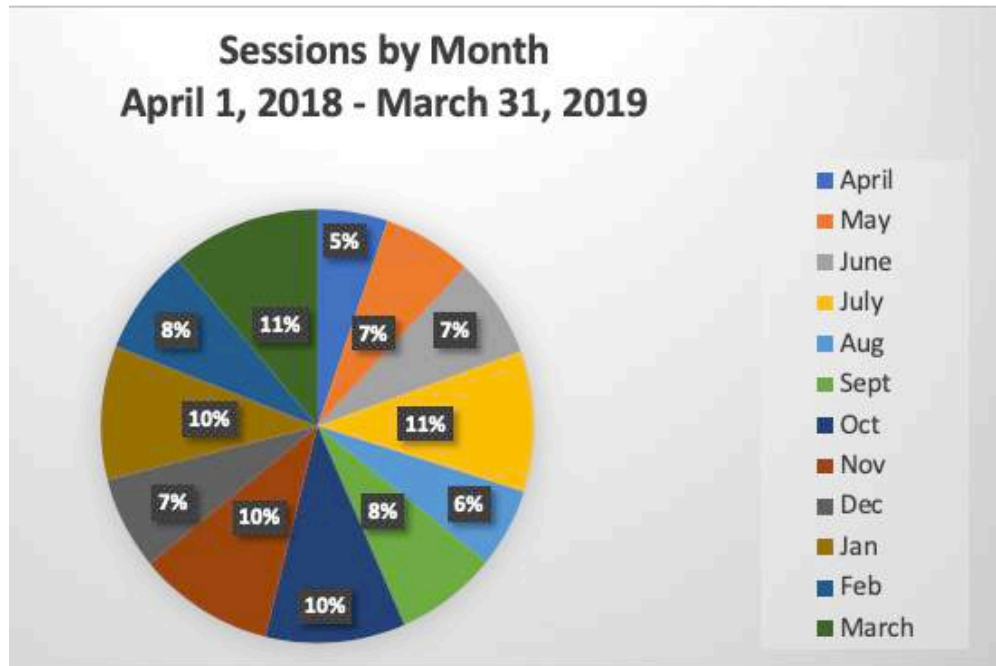


Specialty Clinics

There are 22 various Specialty Clinics listed in PNW Pathways that fall under various the Specialities including Cardiology, Endocrinology, Geriatrics, Home Health, Infectious Diseases, Internal Medicine, Laboratory/Pathology, Medical Imaging, Neurology, Obstetrics Gynecology, Pediatrics, and Speech & Language.

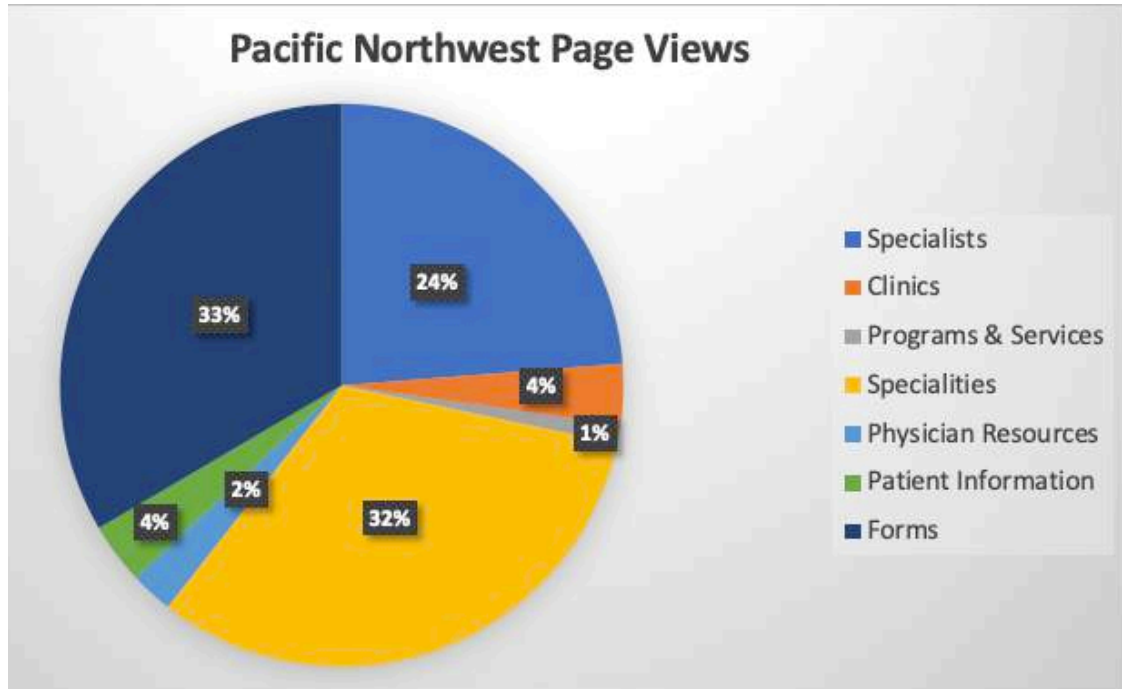
Sessions

PNW Users engaged in 1331 Sessions from April 1, 2018 to March 31, 2019 compared to only 428 Sessions from our launch in September 2017 to March 31, 2018. Our current sessions average about 150 sessions per month, or approximately 5 Medical users per day accessing PNW Pathways.



Page Views

There were 6835 Page Views in PNW Pathways from April 1, 2018 to March 31, 2019. During this time, the top two most viewed Specialists by users on PNW Pathways were Dr. M. Salem Alhalabi (Internal Medicine/Neurology in Prince George) and Dr. Paul Clarkson (Orthopedics in Vancouver). The most viewed Specialty Clinic by PNW Pathways users during this time frame was the Eye Care Centre in VGH.



Visiting Specialists

The PNW has many visiting specialists consulting with patients at 5 of the NHA Hospitals. Haida Gwaii has over 17 regular Visiting Specialists ranging in various specialties, 3 of these specialists being from the PNW. Prince Rupert has approximately 9 regular Visiting Specialists, with only 1 attending from the PNW. Terrace sees approximately 15 regular Visiting Specialists rotating throughout the year. Smithers has about 20 regular Visiting Specialists, with 6 of those being from the PNW. Kitimat has only about 4 regular Visiting Specialists with approximately 2 from the PNW.



Picture 19 - Naikoon Provincial Park, Haida Gwaii

LOCUM NETWORK

The Pacific Northwest Division of Family Practice [Locum Network](#) helps connect locums with matches in our region. PNW physicians can post upcoming locum opportunities; and locums can browse opportunities in our area, as well as provide their availability and specific community requests.

We currently have 111 Locums from across Canada subscribed to the PNW Locum Network. We follow and support the [Locums for Rural BC](#) physician opportunities through the RGPLP (Rural GP Locum Program), as well as [Health Match BC](#). PNW locum opportunities are also posted on the [Society of General Practitioners of BC](#) locum listing page.

The PNW Locum Network has also connected with numerous Resident Physicians and Medical Students. We believe that establishing these relationships and building trust is going to be key for future physician recruitment for the Pacific Northwest.

The Pacific Northwest Division of Family Practice Locum Network would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all the locums that have provided Primary Care support to our physician members. We look forward to having you back in our spectacular and vibrant communities!



CODI – SUPPORTING DOCTORS. IMPROVING OUTCOMES.

What is CODI?

CODI (Critical Outreach and Diagnostic Intervention) is a secure iOS smartphone app that supports rural providers during stressful and challenging times in the emergency room. It is an on-demand, 24/7 "intensivist in your pocket", directly connecting a rural physician to an Intensivist, using technology similar to Face Time. Virtual critical care consults are dictated and sent on for transcription using the secure app, and medical reports flow back to the rural physician in a timely manner for entry to the patient's chart.

Approval

In May 2019, the PNW Division of Family Practice approved the purchase of the necessary equipment for all ER's in our Division (iPads on mobile stands), television screens, internet connectivity, and any other relevant support to make the use of CODI successful & useful to our Physician members.

Distribution

The PNW Division will distribute 10 iPads with the CODI app and other medical applications that will be of benefit and use to physician members working in Emergency Departments (ED) in the rural communities in the PNW. These ipads will be deployed to the EDs in Masset, Queen Charlotte, Prince Rupert, Terrace, Kitimat, Gitlaxt'aamiks, Dease Lake, Stewart, Smithers, and Houston before the end of September 2019.

Connectivity

Due to NHA connectivity, we won't be recommending that the iPads be connected to the Physicians Connect Network within NHA as it is too clunky requiring physicians to log in twice during an emergent situation, and then of course network drops are a common issue.

Once NH completes the Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) for CODI, we will pursue connecting the iPad to the NH network. The direction our mentors in the Northern Interior Rural Division are going is to pursue NH to create a separate "virtual medicine" network that provides unfiltered access to the internet just like the SIM cards do. If they accommodate, then we'll connect to this new network as the default so the

process for the physician stays the same, only having to log into CODI at the beginning of their shift. No idea how long this could take but reinforces the importance of us Divisions in the North to work together on these initiatives.

Configuration

Before sending out to the ED's the iPads will all be configured to have the same Applications as recommended by the NIRD as well as from input from some of our PNW Physician members. We will have one "Apple ID" that will allow all the iPads to be synced through the cloud with the same APPs. All iPads will also have to be labeled with a PIN in order to access the iPad when it is locked, & a message that says "do not connect to WiFi" in order to avoid NHA connectivity issues will be labeled on the device.

The application list for our iPads:

CODI	Hypertension	Merck Pro
ACLS Advisor	WebEx	Pages
PALS Advisor	ERes	Files
Pedisafe	MD on Call	
BC Guidelines	UpToDate	

Northern Health Authority Approval

Northern Health Authority has documented their endorsement of CODI. An email was sent out from the PNW Division to each HSA in our region. We have received no negative responses in this regard.

Any physicians that request a TV or large screen in their ER, will have to go through NH physician engagement contact in IT: Gerry Boyarchuk, Gerry.boyarchuk@northernhealth.ca for approval to mount such equipment in their facility.



Picture 20 - Balance Rock, Haida Gwaii

THANK YOU TO OUR DEPARTING BOARD MEMBER AND STAFF



Picture 21 - View from Seymour Ridge, Smithers

We would like to thank Dr. Caroline Walker for being a board member for the Pacific Northwest Division of Family Practice. We appreciate the time and energy that you have devoted to the Division.

Colleen Enns has stepped down from her position as the Executive Director and taken a position with. We would like to thank Colleen for her dedication and contributions to the Division. The Board has accepted Colleen's offer to stay on as a board member.

Zak Cline has stepped down from his position as Project Manager with the Division, and is returning to school to study Robotics. We would like to thank Zak for his contributions to the Division.



Picture 22 - Boronite Mountain, Terrace

THANK YOU TO OUR MEMBERS

Thank you to our membership that continues to improve patient centered primary care in the Pacific Northwest.



Picture 23 - View from the North Pacific Cannery National Historic Site, Port Edward

Supporting Family Physicians in British Columbia's Pacific Northwest



Picture 24 - Seeley Lake Provincial Park, Hazelton