



# Divisions of Family Practice

A GPSC initiative

Divisions of Family Practice are community-based groups of family physicians (FPs) working together to achieve common health care goals. This initiative was designed to improve patient care, increase family physicians' influence on health care delivery and policy, and provide professional satisfaction for physicians.

The first of its kind in Canada, the Divisions of Family Practice initiative provides physicians with a stronger collective voice in their community while supporting them to improve their clinical practices and offer comprehensive patient services. The initiative is founded on the belief that our communities are best served when we seek to improve the health of all residents in the region.

Divisions of Family Practice are sponsored by the General Practice Services Committee (GPSC), a joint committee of the Government of BC and Doctors of BC. As of November 2015, there are 35 divisions of family practice in BC that encompass over 230 communities. The divisions are:

Abbotsford	Kootenay Boundary	Ridge Meadows
Burnaby	Langley	Rural and Remote
Campbell River and District	Mission	Sea to Sky
Central Interior Rural	Nanaimo	Shuswap North Okanagan
Central Okanagan	North Peace	South Island
Chilliwack	North Shore	South Okanagan Similkameen
Comox Valley	Northern Interior Rural	Sunshine Coast
Cowichan Valley	Oceanside	Surrey-North Delta
Delta	Pacific Northwest	Thompson Region
East Kootenay	Powell River	Vancouver
Fraser Northwest	Prince George	Victoria
	Richmond	White Rock-South Surrey

Currently, more than 4,700 of BC's family physicians (over 80%) are members of their local division of family practice.

## Benefits of Divisions

Being a member of a division offers a number of benefits, such as:

- Shared efforts to provide full-spectrum primary care.
- Greater impact on the organization of local and regional health services around a division practice area.
- Improved access to health authority and specialist services.
- Enhanced professional collegiality and access to physician health and wellness programs.
- Shared efforts for recruitment, retention, and locums.
- Support from colleagues in caring for complex-care or unattached patients.
- Reliable assistance with duties historically falling to call groups, such as scheduling and meeting organization.

For more information, go to [www.divisionsbc.ca](http://www.divisionsbc.ca).

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