



**Sunshine Coast**  
**Division of Family Practice**  
An FPSC initiative



# Annual Report

April 2023 – March 2024

**Divisions of Family Practice**

An initiative of the Family Practice Services Committee

[divisionsbc.ca/sunshine-coast](https://divisionsbc.ca/sunshine-coast)

## Overview: April 2023 - March 2024

The Sunshine Coast Division of Family Practice represents physicians who support the communities along the lower Sunshine Coast, including Earl's Cove, Langdale, Madeira Park, Pender Harbour, Sechelt, Robert's Creek, and Gibsons.

Together, the members work to improve local primary care, increase local physicians' influence on health care delivery and policy, and provide professional support for physicians. Membership is open to all physicians practising or recently retired on the Lower Sunshine Coast, including specialists and locums.

Incorporated in November 2011, the Division currently has 91 members, including 36 family physicians, who work in six medical clinics.

Divisions of Family Practice are sponsored by the Family Practice Services Committee, a joint committee of the BC Ministry of Health and Doctors of BC. Divisions of Family Practice are designed to improve patient care, increase family physicians' influence on health care delivery and policy, and provide professional satisfaction for physicians.



## Message from the Chair

The Division of Family Practice is funded by the Family Practice Services Committee (FPSC), a joint initiative of the BC Ministry of Health and Doctors of BC. Our mission is to enhance patient care, strengthen family physicians' influence in health policy, and support professional well-being.

This is a noble profession. We must remember that we are not "lesser than" and just a GP. We are the critical foundation of our health care system and provide incredible value for money in this system through the multiple roles we fulfill in all our communities. To name a few on the Sunshine Coast: lifetime longitudinal care from pregnancy/delivery to palliative care, home care, ER acute care, hospital inpatient and outpatient, chemotherapy, anesthesia, minor to major surgery and assists, LTC, OAT care, CBT group care, couple counselling, Doc in School care and multiple leadership and administration positions.

We see whoever walks through the door and are usually the first point of contact in this comprehensive care response. Exhausting and hugely satisfying if we maintain the balance between work, family and play time. We have to also acknowledge that the introduction of the LFP payment model marks a significant step in valuing longitudinal family practice and reinforcing our profession's importance.

This fiscal year started with Dr. Annette McCall, Division Chair, stepping down from her role and from the Board. We want to thank her for her service and support during her time with us. Following her departure and the completion of Drs. Krickan and McKee's terms, only Mark Wentzell and I remained on the Board. Fortunately, five new Board members joined: Drs. Anthony Barale, Julie Baxter, Brian Myhill-Jones, Sara Nimmo, and Ruby Yee. The Board continues with a majority of physicians and one non-physician treasurer. We also faced early challenges with the departure of our Executive Director but were fortunate to bring Afsaneh Moradi on as our Interim Executive Director.

In August 2023, after three years of development, our Sunshine Coast Primary Care Network (PCN) service plan was approved by the Ministry of Health. We are now in the early stages of a four-year implementation, focusing on community team-based care. Over the next four years, we aim to hire 12 Allied Health Professionals, including mental health counselors, social workers, pharmacists, and specialized community nurses. Our goal is to improve access to primary care and increase the number of Sunshine Coast residents with a longitudinal care provider.

Further PCN attributes include trauma-informed and culturally safe care. We continue our engagement with the shíshálh Nation, and along with VCH, we are committed to the long process of reconciliation to address the significant harms of colonization. Our Board met with hereditary chief Gary Feschuk and members of the siyiyaya Reconciliation Committee in January to address collaboration on shíshálh Nation and Division opportunities such as the hospital-based blanket weaving project, planning for a health community Blanket exercise and planning for shíshálh Nation cultural learning for our health care providers. We continue to promote and support san'yas Indigenous Cultural Safety training for our physicians and all new PCN hires.

The Division continues to collaborate with the Medical Staff Association (MSA) on the Recruitment and Retention Working Group to attract family physicians and nurse practitioners to the Sunshine Coast. We have hired a Marketing and Communications Specialist to develop material and support our public outreach and recruitment efforts. Special thanks to Drs. Nancy Yao and Carmen Goojha for their Leadership and to all physicians who provided insights.

The Division has also streamlined communication through a new newsletter, consolidating key updates for members.

The Sunshine Coast Foundry planning continues, and the Division, which played a key role in supporting its application, will remain involved in all planning aspects. This is a major investment for children and youth. We continue to collaborate with stakeholders, including the Ministry of Health, the shíshálh Nation, FPSC, VCH, and community partners to drive improvements in patient care and physician support.

We extend our gratitude to the Board for their dedication and leadership, and to our Division and PCN staff, whose tireless efforts have been invaluable. We remain committed to advocating for our members and the communities we serve. Your ongoing engagement is critical to our shared mission.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Rob Lehman, Chair

## Vision and Strategies: 2021-2024

### Vision

Healthy, thriving Sunshine Coast communities supported by resilient doctors and comprehensive community-based health care

### Mission

To support and provide a voice for physicians and foster action to promote system change and accessible, comprehensive and sustainable health care on the Sunshine Coast

### Values

Community centred solutions through team-based care

Physician health, well-being and empowerment

Cultural humility in community engagement

Teamwork, collaboration and partnership

Diversity, equity and inclusion

Creativity, innovation and openness to change

Integrity, accountability and transparency

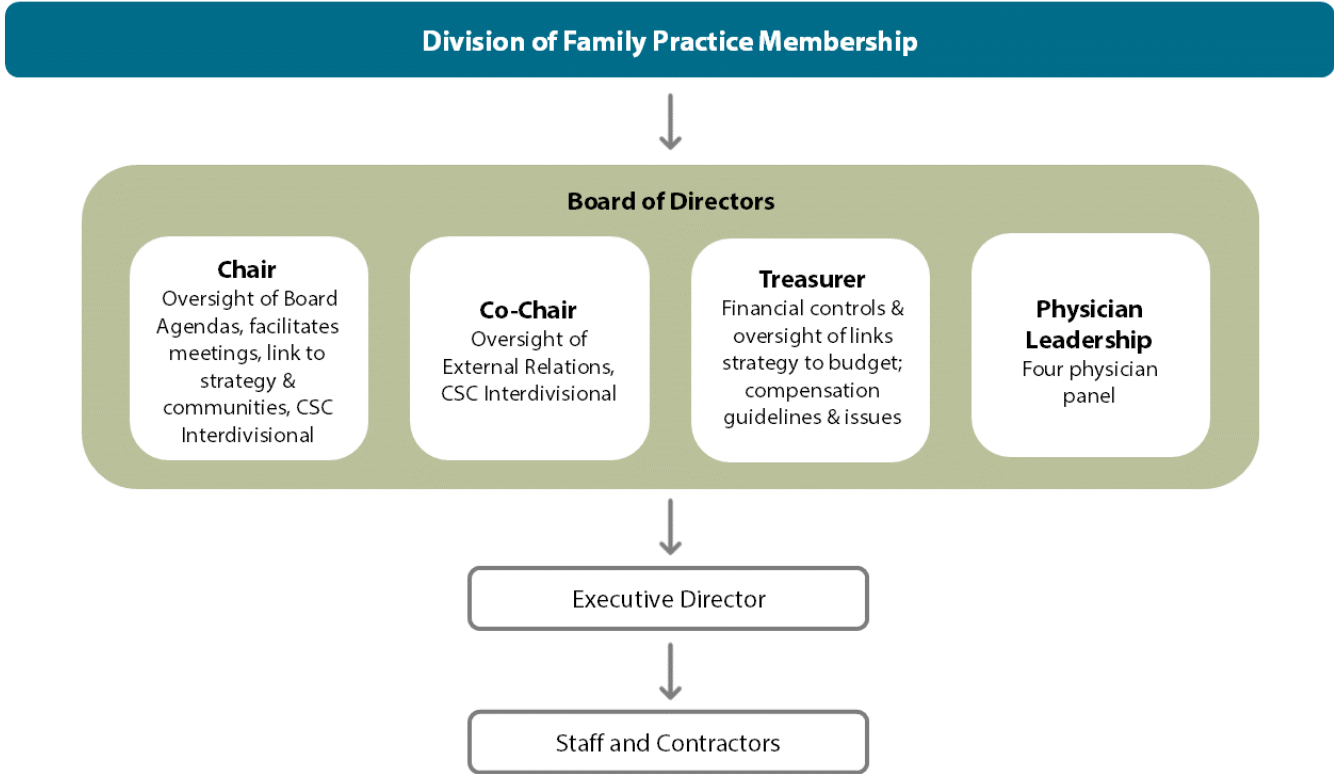
### Priority Strategies

- **Primary Care Network** - Implement and evaluate PCN Service Plan
- **Recruitment and Retention** - Recruit and support retention of additional physicians
- **Governance Structure** - Review and energize
- **Voice of Physicians** - Listen with openness and engage collaboratively
- **Communication** - Promote deep understanding of the role of physicians in leveraging system change
- **Physician Well-being** - Embed commitment in every aspect of our work
- **Community Engagement** - Strengthen connection with local governments and community planning tables
- **Responsive Projects** - Develop projects, including a Community Health Centre, that responds to emerging needs including team-based care

### Planned Outcomes

- **Patients/Residents** are attached in a meaningful way to health services through the Sunshine Coast Primary Care Network
- There is an increase in the number of **physicians** effectively meeting the health needs of residents through team-based care
- **Physicians and other stakeholders** are fully engaged in regular dialogue, partnership and collaboration
- The **Division Board** continues to be effective and is responsive to emergent issues

## Board Governance Structure: March 2024



**Board of Directors**

April 2023 –  
March 2024

**Chair**

Dr. Rob Lehman

**Co-Chair**

Dr. Sara Nimmo

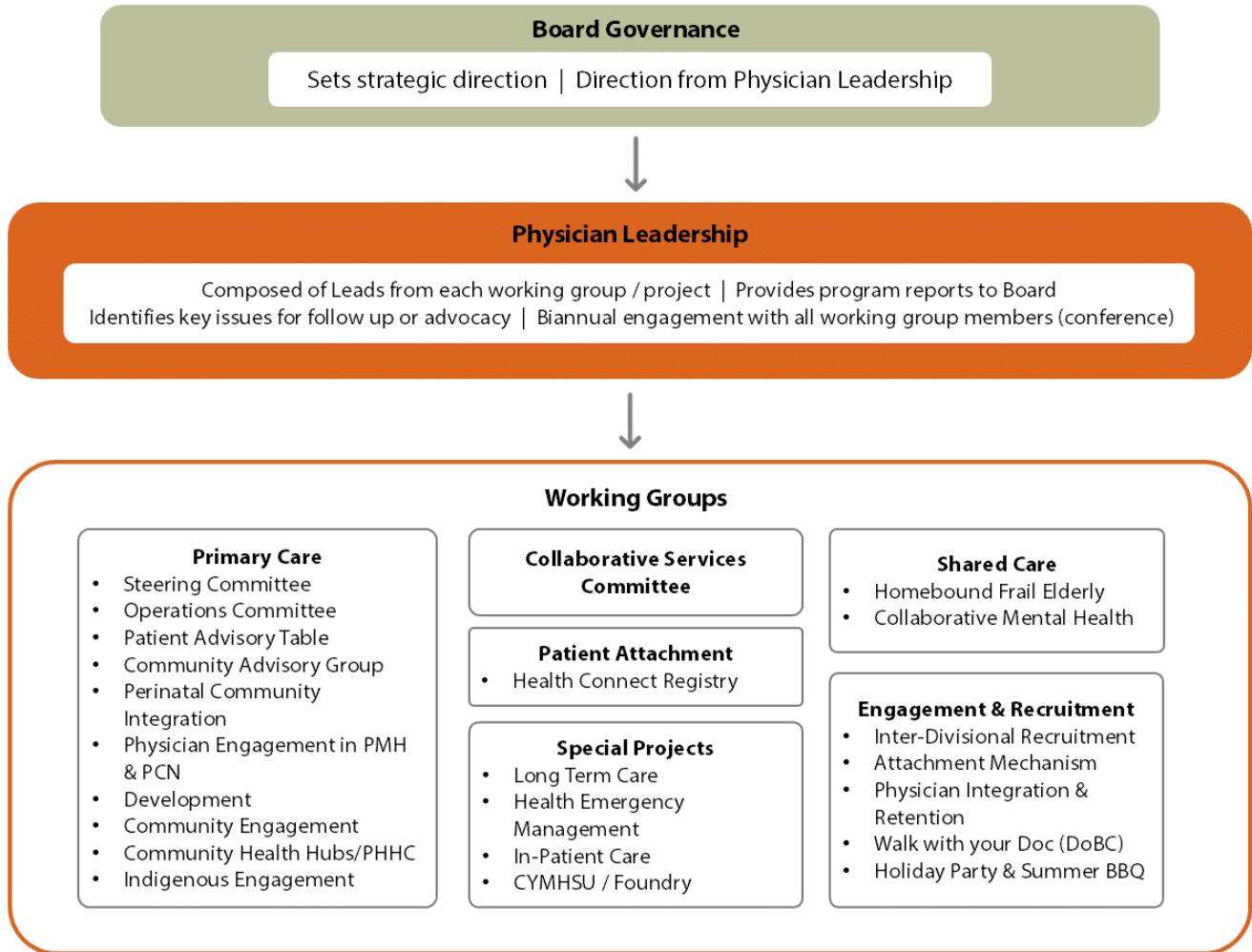
**Physician Leads**

Dr. Ruby Yee  
Dr. Julie Baxter  
Dr. Anthony Barale  
Dr. Brian Myhill-Jones

**Treasurer**

Mark Wentzell

## Our Board and Working Groups: March 2024



## Program Highlights: Shared Care

### Collaborative Mental Health Care

Dr. Rahul Gupta, FP with Focused Practice Lead  
 Dr. Patricia Rutherford, Specialist Lead

- Dr. Suzanne Walter
- Dr. Anthony Barale
- Dr. Jennifer Baxter
- Dr. Joerg Jaschinski
- Dr. Ron Mundy
- Dr. Annette McCall
- Monica Stein, VCH
- Leanne Komm, VCH
- Susan Richter / Nick Gaskin, PHHC
- Michael Monroe, PCN Counsellor
- Katie Clogg, PCN Manager & Shared Care Manager

Vicky Duffield, Shared Care Project Coordinator  
 (as of January 2024)

Commenced planning on all four components of the 2-year project: embed psychiatry into family clinics, facilitate in-person group visits to expand access, provide trauma education to providers and community, and provide navigation of MHSU resources.

- Collaboration initiated with Sechelt Hospital Foundation and VCH MHSU to hold a public MedTalk on trauma; event planned for May 2024.
- Preliminary planning for piloting psychiatry in 1 clinic commenced.
- A draft of the proposed provider trauma education workshops was produced with collaborative planning meetings held with VCH MHSU managers.
- Dates set for the first 8 week in-person CBT groups skills and meetings held with Mind Space.

### Homebound Frail / Elderly Seniors

Dr. Annette McCall, FP Lead  
 Dr. Carmen Goojha, FP with Focused Practice Lead (Phase 2)

- Dr. John Sloan (FP Lead, Phase 1)
- Shari Myhill-Jones, VCH
- Scilla Anderson, VCH
- Johanna Trimble, Patient Voice
- Suzanne Richter, PHHC
- Cayce Laviolette, VCH
- Mary Caros, Sunshine Coast Resource Centre
- Wendy Johnstone, Family Caregivers of BC
- Katie Clogg, PCN Manager & Shared Care Manager

Vicky Duffield, Shared Care Project Coordinator  
 (as of October 2023)

- Developed project and evaluation plans for the second phase of the project.
- Conducted discovery sessions with primary, acute, and community providers to explore the current state of frailty care for older adults with frailty, and their care givers, on the lower Sunshine Coast.
- Implemented a 6-month joint-rounds practice improvement pilot at 2 Long Term Care settings.
- Hosted an online presentation by the Richmond PCN's Frail Seniors Team for a small group of physicians, VCH and community partners on the Sunshine Coast.

## Program Highlights: Advocacy & Engagement

### Collaborative Services Committee (CSC)

Dr. Rob Lehman,  
 Co-Chair, Division Chair  
 Marie Duperreault,  
 Co-Chair, Director, Sechelt Hospital

- Darlene MacKinnon, VP, Community of Care VCH
- Shari Myhill-Jones, Home Health Manager, VCH Sechelt Hospital
- Maggie Aronoff, Regional Manager, Ministry of Health VCH
- Rochelle Le Sueur, Regional Lead, Primary Care
- Dr. Paul Murphy, MSA/FE President
- Dr. Marius Welgemoed, Local Medical Director
- Fran Hopkins, Primary Care Transformation Partner, DoBC
- Marina McBride, PC Transformation Partner, DoBC
- Nick Gaskin, Executive Director, PHHC
- Dr. Moliehi Khaketla, Medical Health Officer Coastal VCH
- Shiloh Joe, Community Services Div. Mgr., shíshálh Nation
- Dr. Tracy Monk, FP, FPSC Pathways

Afsaneh Moradi, Division Interim Executive Director

Sonja Sorensen, Division Administrative Manager

- Co-chaired by Dr. Rob Lehman and Marie Duperreault.
- Focused on PCN priorities and service plan oversight.
- Ongoing PCN dialogue with physicians and VCH senior staff.
- Research and analysis of health care gaps and assets on the Sunshine Coast.

### Advocacy

- Advocate for rural issues and rural considerations at the Regional Divisions and VCH meetings (ICSC).
- Advocate for rural approach to PCN (Primary Care Networks).
- Advocacy for child and youth mental health resources, such as a Foundry, for the Sunshine Coast.
- Advocacy for a new Sunshine Coast primary care community health clinic model.



## Primary Care Network

### PCN Steering Committee

Dr. Rob Lehman, Physician (Co-Convenor)  
 Dr. Julie Baxter, Physician (Co-Convenor)

- Dr. Ruby Yee, Physician
- Dr Patricia Rutherford, Specialist
- Annaliese Hasler, Nurse Practitioner
- Lehe Spiegelman, Midwife
- Marie Duperreault, VCH Director, Community of Care
- Shari Myhill-Jones, VCH PCN Manager
- Rochelle Le Sueur, Regional Lead, Primary Care, Indigenous Health
- Shiloh Joe, shíshálh Nation
- Nick Gaskin, Pender Harbour Health Centre (formerly Susann Richter)
- Katie Clogg, PCN Manager
- Afsaneh Moradi, Interim Executive Director
- Fran Hopkins, FPSC
- Tracy Luong, Ministry of Health

### PCN Operations Committee

- Dr. Ruby Yee, Physician
- Shari Myhill-Jones, VCH
- Amanda Dixon, shíshálh Nation
- Nick Gaskin, Pender Harbour Health Centre
- Katie Clogg, PCN Manager
- Afsaneh Moradi, Interim Executive Director

After months of engagement, the Sunshine Coast PCN Service Plan was approved by the Ministry of Health in July 2023, securing over \$5M annually in primary care resources for the community. Operational implementation began in Q3 of the fiscal year. Some big wins for PCN last fiscal year include:

- Welcoming two new staff: PCN Manager, Katie Clogg, with a background in community engagement, communications and healthcare, and PCN Administrative Coordinator, Trina Lee-Jones, with experience in medical administration.
- VCH securing a start-up investment for a new PCN Hub, with renovations underway at the former Sechelt Medical Clinic.
- Launching the “Find Your Perfect Balance” recruitment campaign with a new brand identity, including a new website, in collaboration with Top Shelf Creative and the R & R committee.
- Establishing a bi-weekly PCN Operations Committee with partners from the Nation, PHHC, VCH, and the Division.
- Launching Michael Munro, our first PCN Counsellor, who is now managing a full patient caseload.
- Hosting engagement sessions with primary care providers, family physicians and Pender Harbour Health Centre to increase awareness about the vision of PCN.
- Implementing a Governance Refresh for our Steering Committee, becoming the first PCN Steering Committee in BC to include a Nurse Practitioner as a voting member. Welcoming new members, Shiloh Joe, Annaliese Hassler and Lehe Spiegelman.
- Contributing to the establishment of the Healthy Aging Community Collaborative (HACC) with local nonprofits to advance health initiatives for seniors, including the development of a social prescribing program.
- Successfully hosting the PCN Pharmacist Implementation Committee, which resulted in the hiring of Eric Kosiuk as our PCN Pharmacist.
- Participating in the BE the Change: Health Access Month with the Sunshine Coast Poverty Reduction Project with a public PCN launch at Seaside Centre.

A special thank-you to Arbutus Clinic for hosting Eric and Michael while we await the Hub opening. We're grateful to everyone contributing to the committees and working groups!

## Engagement & Recruitment

Dr. Nancy Yao,  
 Physician Recruitment Lead

Dr. Carmen Goojha,  
 Physician Recruitment Lead

Dr. Setareh Banihosseini,  
 Physician Recruitment Lead

Raveena Arora & Meghan Mathias,  
 Division Recruitment Coordinators

Afsaneh Moradi,  
 Interim Division Executive Director

Sonja Sorensen,  
 Division Administrative Manager

- May 11, 2023: Annual Walk with Your Doc
- July 1, 2023: shíshálh Nation | syiyaya Reconciliation | Canada Day Parade
- July 16, 2023: Annual Division Family BBQ
- September 26, 2023: Joint Division and MSA AGM – Dr. Joshua Greggain, DoBC president
- December 10, 2023: Division Family Holiday Party at the Sunshine Coast Golf and Country Club
- Ongoing coordinated recruitment efforts for ROS, IMG's & PRA's.
- Onboarded 2 recruitment coordinators through Divisions.
- Partnered with the MSA to support the establishment of a Recruitment & Retention working group.
- Partnered with PCN (Primary Care Network) to expand further recruitment opportunities.
- Ongoing building working relationship with Pender Harbour Health in recruitment.
- Hard launch of new recruitment website partnering with PCN and marketing team Top Shelf.
- Physician Lead Nancy Yao attended the BC Rural Health Conference as part of Tri-Divisional Team.
- Aiding Pender Harbour Health Center with ongoing recruitment efforts.



## Photo Highlights: Thank You to our Membership



View more event photos in the 'Doctors Only' portal on [divisionsbc.ca/sunshine-coast](https://divisionsbc.ca/sunshine-coast)



## Acknowledgements

We would like to thank our specialist colleagues, community partners and the following Division members for their contributions to our various committees and working groups:

**Dr. Raul Gupta**

Shared Care Collaborative  
Mental Health

**Dr. Anthony Barale**

Shared Care Collaborative  
Mental Health

**Dr. Patricia Rutherford**

Shared Care Collaborative  
Mental Health, PCN Steering  
Group, PCN Counsellor  
Working Group

**Dr. Suzanne Walter**

Shared Care Collaborative  
Mental Health

**Dr. Jennifer Baxter**

Shared Care Collaborative  
Mental Health

**Dr. Joerg Jaschinski**

Shared Care Collaborative  
Mental Health

**Dr. Ron Mundy**

Shared Care Collaborative  
Mental Health

**Dr. Annette McCall**

Shared Care Collaborative Mental  
Health, Shared Care Homebound  
Frail/Elderly, Long Term Care  
Committee, In-Patient Care  
Committee

**Dr. Carmen Goojha**

Shared Care Homebound  
Frail/Elderly, Recruitment &  
Retention Committee, Long Term  
Care Committee,  
PCN Pharmacist Implementation  
Team

**Dr. John Sloan**

Shared Care Homebound  
Frail/Elderly

**Dr. Paul Murphy**

Collaborative Services Committee

**Dr. Rob Lehman**

Collaborative Services Committee,  
PCN Steering Committee

**Dr. Julie Baxter**

PCN Steering Committee,  
PCN Pharmacist Implementation  
Team

**Dr. Ruby Yee**

PCN Steering Committee,  
PCN Operations Committee

**Lehe Spiegelman**

PCN Steering Committee

**Dr. Andrea Stinson**

PCN Pharmacist  
Implementation Team

**Dr. Nancy Yao**

Recruitment & Retention  
Committee

**Dr. Setareh Banihosseini**

Recruitment & Retention  
Committee

**Dr. Brian Myhill-Jones**

Long Term Care Committee

**Dr. Karen Forgie**

Long Term Care Committee,  
In-Patient Care Committee

**Dr. Sara Nimmo**

In-Patient Care Committee

## Operations Team: September 2024

**Afsaneh Moradi**

Interim Executive Director

**Katie Clogg**

Primary Care Manager

**Trina Lee-Jones**

PCN Administrative  
Coordinator

**Chris Neumeyer**

PMH/PCN Integration Lead

**Vicky Duffield**

Shared Care Project Coordinator

**Sonja Sorensen**

Administrative Manager

**Erin Lane**

Patient Services Coordinator

**Meghan Mathias**

Recruitment Coordinator

**Raveena Arora**

Recruitment Coordinator