

Practice Ready Assessment -BC: Return of Service in Surrey-North Delta

Dear SND Physician members,

In 2015, the province of British Columbia launched an assessment program for internationally trained family physicians who have completed residencies in Family Medicine outside of Canada. This program, known as Practice Ready Assessment – British Columbia (PRA-BC), provides qualified family physicians with an alternative pathway to licensure in BC.

All Physician applicants go through a pre-screening criteria based on eligibility requirements as set out by PRA-BC and the College of Physicians and Surgeons of BC (CPSBC).

Physicians who complete program requirements will fulfill a three-year return of service (ROS) within a BC community.

To find out more about PRA-BC please visit <https://www.prabc.ca/>

We anticipate the Ministry of Health will assign Surrey-North Delta between one and four PRA-BC Physicians and are accepting applications from clinics interested in this unique opportunity.

The IMGs:

- have been vetted by numerous agencies and are well qualified having practiced in their home country for years. Vast majority have not practiced in BC though and may need an adjustment time and/or extra support BUT, IMG Physician will need to complete and pass a 3 month assessment period in a clinic different than yours prior to be awarded licensure which presumably will assist in this transition process
- **WILL** require supervision from another physician in the practice *
- will enter a ROS agreement with the BC Ministry of Health confirming their commitment to the three-year placement.
- Will be able to start in their host clinic in **Spring or Fall 2027** depending on their cohort for their three year return of service
- is not obligated to stay at their original clinic placement site after the three-year ROS commitment has been honoured.

*Please find the requirements and responsibilities of being a supervisor here:
<https://www.cpsbc.ca/files/pdf/RP-Guidelines-for-Supervision-of-Registrants-in-the-Provisional-Class.pdf>

Disclaimer: The SND Division is responsible for identifying potential practices in Surrey-North Delta where an IMG Family Physician might complete their three-year ROS commitment. We are not responsible if a match does not occur or if candidates withdraw their applications at any moment in time.

Medical clinics will be carefully selected based on the below criteria, not listed in any specific order representing a level of priority:

- Eligibility for recruitment services

- Participation and readiness to be involved in Surrey-North Delta's Primary Care Networks
- Active recruitment posting with SND Division's recruitment, wellness & retention program/Health Match BC
- Clinics history of successfully recruiting new Family Physicians (FPs)
- Recent Physician recruitment
- The need for a full-time FP within the practice and within the neighborhood the clinic is located in
- Capacity to accommodate and commitment support to a new full-time FP within the practice
- Impact of IMGs on increasing primary care capacity, attaching new unattached patients &/or strengthening attachment of existing patients
- Clinic/Practice Profile
- The Clinic's past experience and success with IMGs within their practice
- Experience with and commitment to providing in-practice mentorship and support for the IMG
- Commitment and ability to support IMGs who may wish to do some maternity or addiction medicine/opioid agonist therapy etc. (while fulfilling Outpatient Clinic obligations)
- Active participation in community health care initiatives and Division activities
- Demonstration of working towards attributes of Primary Care Networks (PCN).

The Division's Recruitment, Retention, Retirement & Wellness (R3W) Committee will narrow down the applications based on the above criteria. **Our goal is to match IMGs with practices based on the best fit and potential for the long-term sustainability of the IMG in practice and in the community.**

The selected clinics will have the opportunity to interview PRA-BC physician candidates that have selected Surrey as their number one placement community. These interviews should take place from April until end of May. The vast majority of interviews will be virtual as many applicants are still in their home country.

The selected clinic will rank the candidates interviewed and be matched mid-June by PRA-BC.

Clinics not selected to receive a Physician will be considered for upcoming allotments.

- Applications are due **April 12, 2026 by midnight**. Applications received after the deadline will NOT be considered under any circumstances.

Questions? Contact Megan Shymanski at megan.shymanski@snddivision.ca or 604.499.3474

Regards,

Recruitment, Retention, Retirement & Wellness Committee,
Surrey-North Delta Division of Family Practice