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## Visit Us Online

Thompson Region Division of Family Practice website  
*Check in regularly for upcoming events and information*

## Contact Us

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## Important Updates & Participation Opportunity

Check out these important updates and more on the [Division website](#).

### **A GP for Me and In Patient Care**

A reminder that video presentations are available on the GPSC website to help you learn more about the new fee codes under the A GP for Me and In-Patient Care initiatives that are available for billing April 1, 2013. For more information visit <http://www.gpsc.bc.ca/billing-fees/billing-guide-tutorial>

Based on member support, the Division has secured funding to pursue the assessment and planning phase of the GP for Me/Attachment initiative. We're actively recruiting for a Project Lead and member volunteers to sit on the advisory committee. For more information contact Chris Hollstedt at 250-372-1621 or [chollstedt@divisionsbc.ca](mailto:chollstedt@divisionsbc.ca).

**Provincial Round Table June 2013** Almost 200 people attended the provincial round table June 12-14 representing 32 Divisions in our province. Coordinators, executive directors and physicians were all in attendance. To download the report, conference materials, and local division poster visit <https://www.divisionsbc.ca/provincial/roundtablesummer2013>.

**The Recruitment and Retention Committee** is looking for physicians that are interested in participating on the committee. For more information please contact Dr. Wayne Dong [wdlexan@hotmail.com](mailto:wdlexan@hotmail.com).

## Community News

### **Changes in Tuberculin Skin Testing (TST)**

Interior Health is making some important changes to our tuberculin skin testing (TST) practices. Effective April 2, 2013 those who require TST for work, school admission, immigration requirements or travel will not have this testing publicly funded. The patients will be referred to a private provider where they will be charged a fee. In communities where a private provider is not available within a one hour drive, public health centers will provide this service for a fee of \$40.00.

This change in practice is in line with all other health authorities who are charging for this testing or referring to a private provider.

It is important to note this change only affects TB skin tests that are required for work, school admission, immigration requirements or travel. *All public health centers will continue to provide TSTs free of charge to individuals who may have been exposed to an active case of tuberculosis, in outbreak situations, for medical reasons and for admission to residential treatment facilities.*

To find out where non-publicly funded TST is available in your area please refer to our website <http://www.interiorhealth.ca> for the list of

## Divisions of Family Practice

An initiative of the General Practice Services Committee

[www.divisionsbc.ca](http://www.divisionsbc.ca)

### Board Members

- Shirley Sze
- Chip Bantock
- Graham Dodd
- Krista Bradley
- Miranda du Preez
- Bruce Newmarch
- Lennard Pretorius

### Support Staff

- Chris Hollstedt Executive Director
- Lisa Fuller, Transitions in Care Project Lead
- Vivian Van Dorne, Office Administrator

### Newsletter Production Team

- Shirley Sze
- Vivian Van Dorne

Submissions for the September newsletter must be provided to [vvandorne@divisionsbc.ca](mailto:vvandorne@divisionsbc.ca) by September 15, 2013

As always, please email the Division at [thompsonregion@divisionsbc.ca](mailto:thompsonregion@divisionsbc.ca) if you need more information on any particular topic or wish to volunteer for something, anything!

public and private providers.

**The Seniors Outreach Society** has been offering free services to assist seniors with independent living for over two decades. They have been providing solutions to low income seniors with ageing concerns and to assist them in placement in safe, appropriate housing. A referral form has been provided to ensure accurate client information and consent is obtained from the seniors. Further information available in our office. To access the referral form please visit our website at <https://www.divisionsbc.ca/thompson-region>

**World Health Organization (WHO)** is conducting an e-survey on newly released growth charts. In BC, revised WHO Growth Charts (which are more representative of the Canadian population) were distributed by the Ministry of Health to health units for physician uptake in January 2012. However, the Ministry does not know how many FPs are now using these charts in their practice, or the reasons behind a physician's choice to use them. To participate in the survey please go to <http://fluidsurveys.com/s/2006-2007-WHO-Growth-Charts/>.

**Become a patient partner** The Patients as Partners| Patient Voices Network is hosting a FREE orientation for registered volunteers in the Interior Health region. To learn more or to register now please visit <https://www.divisionsbc.ca/thompson-region>.

**MEND** and **ShapedownBC** are weight management programs for BC children to assist them and their families to achieve healthy weights. These programs are offered free of charge. **MEND** is provided by participating YMCAs and BC Recreation and Parks Association (BCRPA) member municipal recreation centers. **ShapedownBC** is provided by Health Authorities, in partnership with YMCAs and BCRPA member municipal recreation centers. To view the referral guide and program sheet visit <https://www.divisionsbc.ca/thompson-region>.

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## Upcoming Meetings

**Division Board of Directors** Your Division Directors meets monthly to review progress and develop strategies to address emerging opportunities. If you'd like to attend or present an item for deliberation for any of the upcoming meetings please send an email to [thompsonregion@divisionsbc.ca](mailto:thompsonregion@divisionsbc.ca) and we'll do our best to accommodate.

2013 scheduled meetings are: September 7, October 1, November 5, and December 3.

**Thompson Collaborative Services Committee (CSC)** is a forum where representatives of our Division, Interior Health Authority, Ministry of Health and the General Practices Services Committee bring local issues of concern in healthcare and come together to co-determine priorities and co-design solutions. Participation of community partners and patients at the CSC is called upon as needed. The CSC is an innovative way of co-generating solutions for complex, multifactorial issues facing the healthcare system by having all the partners and stakeholders work together collaboratively.

If you have concerns you would like to bring to the attention of the CSC or our Division, please contact us at [thompsonregion@divisionsbc.ca](mailto:thompsonregion@divisionsbc.ca).

2013 scheduled CSC meetings are: September 18, October 10, November 14, December 12.