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Subject: TEST - November Newsletter
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Division *FOCUS*

November 2015

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It's not officially winter yet, but the cooler temperatures and snow on the ground make it seem like it is. The Division has been working hard to bring you the next edition of our Division. Read on!

Important Information Regarding Changes to BC Palliative Care Benefits

Please be advised about the recent changes to the BC Palliative Care Benefits. Of particular note is that the PPSv.2 is no longer being used as a prognostication tool for both malignant and non-malignant populations to determine eligibility for provincial palliative benefits. Rather, the SPICT tool (attached and embedded in the BCPCB registration form) is a reliable and valid tool for both populations for this purpose. Please note that these new forms are now in effect and old BCPCB forms will only be accepted to approximately the end of November 2015.

Click here to read the full summary of the changes to BC Palliative Care Benefits, and **here for the SPICT tool**.

For more information, please refer to the Ministry of Health website that provides the updated forms, patient information, and prescriber guide:

<http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/practitioner-professional-resources/pharmacare/prescribers/plan-p-bc-palliative-care-benefits-program>.

This information is also accessible from the Dashboard on the member's online portion of the Division website. If you are not able to access your Division account, please contact us by email at thompsonregion@divisionsbc.ca or by telephone at

Register to Receive GPSC Residential Care Incentives

The Division is excited to coordinate the GPSC Residential Care Initiative for Kamloops. This initiative provides family physicians with incentives and supports to help you deliver dedicated GP Most Responsible Physician(MRP) services to your patients living in residential care homes.

Our goal is to have as many family physicians as possible involved so that we can support you in achieving the five best practices. We need you to register to receive the quarterly incentive. Information about the initiative was sent to you in early October. Our physician leads may also contact you over the coming weeks to encourage you to participate. If you have not submitted your registration form or would like more information, please contact the Division.

To learn more about the GPSC Residential Care Initiative, [click here](#). You can also contact [Dr. Phil Sigalek](#) or [Laura Becotte](#), the project lead, for more information.

Nurse in Practice Engagement Event a Huge Success!

The Division hosted an event November 5th for physicians interested in learning more about introducing family practice nurses to their team. The project team introduced a toolkit that provides information on steps to consider when introducing a nurse into family practice. This includes an interactive business tool developed with Venture Kamloops that models a cost-effective impact a nurse would have on their practice. Thank you to everyone who attended! We hope you found the evening informative and the resources valuable.

If you were unable to attend the event and are interested in learning more about the toolkit please contact the [Division](#).

We are also looking for up to three practices willing to prototype a nurse in practice. If you are interested in being involved please contact the [Division](#).

Nurse in Practice: More Capacity, Better Care

A GP for Me

Nurse in Practice



**Aims to assist physicians' capacity
to open spaces for new patients
by introducing nurses into practices.**



This project introduces nurses into physician offices as a way to ensure patients get the time and care they need; put more patients into physicians' offices for diagnosis; and ease the workload of physicians. In-office nurses provide education and support patients with chronic health issues, assist them in managing and living with their diseases, and help them find resources in the community.



Recruitment Update

The Thompson Region profile is expanding! Recruitment activities have resulted in 151 physicians expressing interest in receiving more information, coming for a site visit, and looking to relocate. If you have space in your practice, are thinking about retiring, or looking for locum coverage, please post your opportunity to the familypracticekamloopsarea.ca website and/or get in touch with Christine Matuschewski at thompsonrecruitment@divisionsbc.ca.

The Practice Succession Planning Workshop was held October 20th, 2015 with more than ten physicians participating. The Division has developed workbooks to provide tips and tricks for your succession plan. Please let us know if you would like a copy or support.

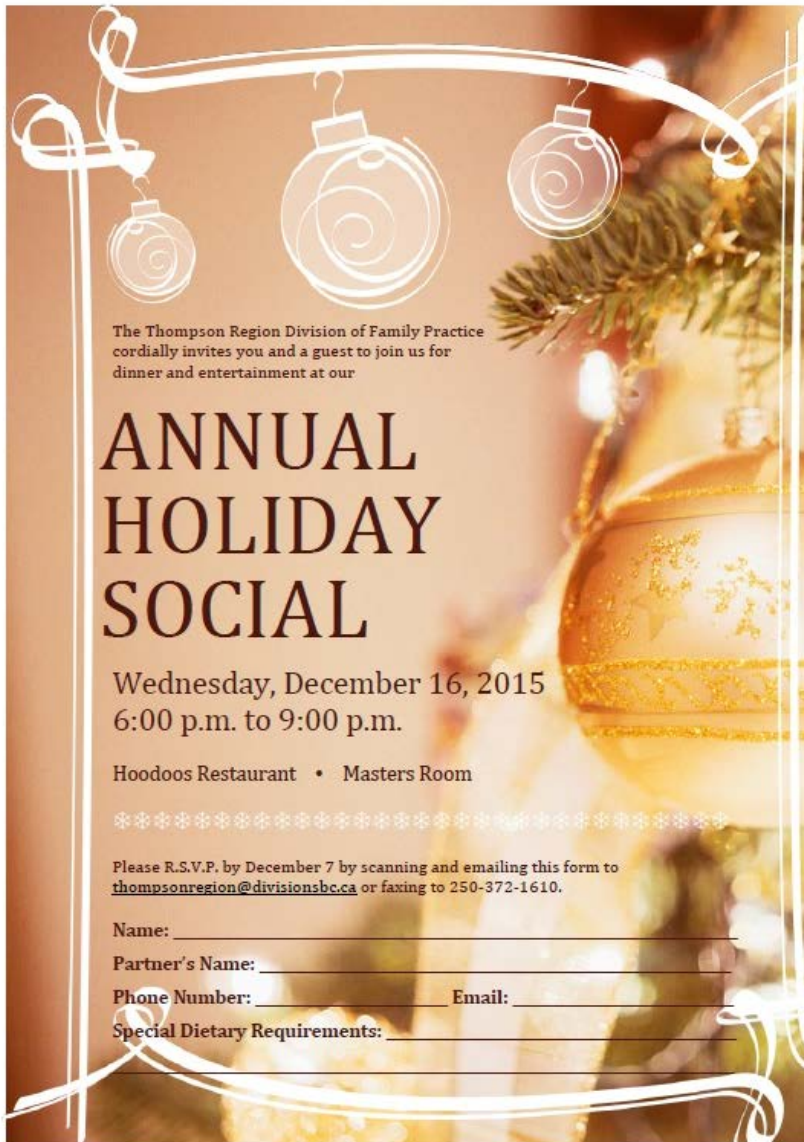
Dr. Selena Lawrie – Physician Representative, Christine Matuschewski – Project Lead, and Jamie Mayes – Venture Kamloops, attended the Family Medicine Forum in Toronto November 12th to 14th, 2015. The forum was well attended with over 3,000 delegates and 200 exhibitors. Our participation resulted in 44 physicians expressing interest in learning more about the Thompson Region practice opportunities. We are committed to following up with each of these individuals and

the [primary care transformation agenda](#). The concept of the Primary Care Home, or Patient Medical Home, is central to these conversations. We value your ideas and will strive to host a few meetings early in the New Year to hear from you. In the mean time, if you'd like more information or wish to get more involved please contact Chris at ThompsonRegion@divisionsbc.ca.

Two Opportunities for You to Have Winter Fun This Holiday Season

This winter season we're pleased to host two events to brighten up your winter. Mark these dates in your calendar: Wednesday, December 16, 2015 for an evening of wine and appetizers, and Friday, January 15, 2016 for tubing and family fun at Harper Mountain. More details are below!

The Thompson Region Division of Family Practice is pleased to invite all members, colleagues, and their partners to join us at Hoodoos Restaurant on Wednesday, December 16 at 6:00 PM for an evening of fun leading into the holiday season. Appetizers, wine, and entertainment will be provided. Be prepared for a night of laughs and joy to get you in the holiday spirit. We hope to see you all there! [Click here](#) for your invitation and registration form.



The Thompson Region Division of Family Practice cordially invites you and a guest to join us for dinner and entertainment at our

ANNUAL HOLIDAY SOCIAL

Wednesday, December 16, 2015
6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Hoodoos Restaurant • Masters Room



Please R.S.V.P. by December 7 by scanning and emailing this form to thompsonregion@divisionsbc.ca or faxing to 250-372-1610.

Name: _____

Partner's Name: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Special Dietary Requirements: _____



Because the Here Comes the Fall BBQ was so much fun for families, we've decided to have a winter family fun social as well. Join us on Friday, January 15, 2016 at Harper Mountain for an evening of tubing, roasting marshmallows, and enjoying hot chocolate by the fire. A casual dinner will also be provided in the lodge. Dress warmly and get ready to zoom down the hill! [Click here](#) for your registration form.



**WINTER FAMILY
FUN EVENT**

January 15, 2016 • 5:00 PM

Harper Mountain

**Hosted at Harper Mountain, highlights include tubing,
roasting marshmallows, and hot chocolate by the bonfire.
A casual dinner will be provided.**



PSP Small Group Learning Opportunities

The Division is pleased to work with Practice Support Program team to develop variety of small group learning opportunities of most interest to you and your colleagues. You may be approached over the next few weeks by Ron Gorospe, Joanne Styles or Dara Johnson. We encourage you to share your ideas on topics of interest. PSP will use your input to guide the development of local learning sessions to be offered early in the New Year. For more information about the Practice Support Program and small group learning sessions please contact Dr. Shirley Sze at wmsze@gmail.com or Ron Gorospe at 1-250-319-2527.

What is a small group learning session?

Small Group Learning Sessions (SGLS) promote physician designed and led quality improvement strategies aimed at *addressing authentic practice needs*. Grounded in best practice guidelines, SGLS topics will be co-created with the Divisions of Family Practice and PSP, and endorsed by the collaborative planning table in order to prioritize resources for quality improvement and practice supports.

Looking for physicians to be involved in centralized booking and referral project

The general surgeons in Kamloops, led by Dr. David Hanks, are embarking on a project to centralize all bookings and referrals for general surgery. Phase 1 of the project requires information gathering on a variety of practices which refer patients to a general surgeon.



Do you want to be involved in this innovative project?

Please contact Angela Hapke of Novalla Consulting (angela@novallconsulting.com) to get involved. Physician and MOA time spent on the project will be funded.

New Interior Health Resource: Exercises for COPD patients and frail seniors

Interior Health partnered with The Centre for Heart, Lung & Vascular Health at UBC Okanagan to develop a series of eight videos focused on exercises for people who are homebound after an exacerbation of their chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD).

These clinically informed, evidence-based videos may be of interest to physicians who treat COPD patients or other frail people who require home-based exercise programs with clinical oversight.

These videos can be accessed on the Interior Health YouTube Channel, either through the public website or directly from this link, [Move into Health](#). An [exercise planner resource](#) is also available to download from Interior Health's public website.

[Click here](#) to learn more.

Extra Reading and Resources

[Click here](#) to read the latest edition of the Divisions Dispatch newsletter.

[Click here](#) to read the latest GPSC meeting summary.

[Click here](#) to access information about UpToDate.

[Click here](#) to read the latest edition of Interior Health's newsletter.

[Click here](#) to view the Endocrinology Telehealth tri-fold pamphlet.

Upcoming Meetings and Events

Division Board of Directors: Your Division Directors meet monthly to review progress and develop strategies to address emerging opportunities.

Upcoming Board Meetings: December 7, 2015

Thompson Collaborative Services Committee: Upcoming CSC Meetings: January 21, 2015

If you have items to bring forward to the Board and/or CSC please contact thompsonregion@divisionsbc.ca

Contact Us:

<https://www.divisionsbc.ca/thompson/home>

Phone: 250-372-1621

Fax: 250-372-1610

thompsonregion@divisionsbc.ca

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Veronica Smith, *Finance*

Newsletter Production Team:

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If you have something to share for the September newsletter, please provide it to thompsonregion@divisionsbc.ca by December 1, 2016.

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