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## Board Meetings

July 3  
Aug 7  
Sep 4  
Oct 2  
Nov 6  
Dec 4

## Physician Master Agreement



The BCMA President has announced that the BC Medical Association has concluded negotiations with the BC Provincial Government on a new four-year Physician Master Agreement, which is subject to ratification.

The agreement provides for continued support for the collaborative initiatives of the General Practice Services Committee (GPSC), the Specialist Services Committee (SSC), the Rural Joint Standing Committee and other committees. This means that the funding for the Divisions of Family Practice has been included in the agreement.

For Delta Division it means that we have a four-year funding window to make significant difference in our community of practice. It means that we can seriously get to work on the focus areas that you have identified.

With this renewed confidence the board is looking forward to working with you, the family doctors, and collaboratively with our partners in primary care.

*Martin Ray - Board Chair*

## UpToDate - a free service for members

UpToDate™ is now available *free of charge* for members who are included in the calculation for our infrastructure funding. You have access through the member portal of the Delta Division's website.

### How to Sign Up for UpToDate™

#### Step 1

Go to [www.divisionsbc.ca/delta](http://www.divisionsbc.ca/delta) and log in by clicking on *member login* at the top right hand corner of the home page screen. If you have forgotten your password click on 'Forgot password' and enter your email address. A new password will be sent to your email address. You then have the option to change the password that was sent to you through the 'My Account' link.

#### Step 2

Click on the UpToDate™ menu item on the top menu bar. Enter the term you are wishing to search or simply hit search.

#### Step 3

A screen will appear with both a Log in and a Registration form on it. If you currently hold an UpToDate™ subscription please enter your UpToDate™ user name and password in the **Log in** form and click on the 'Log In' button. You

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### To access the member's only portion of the website

Click on *member login* at the top right hand corner of the home page screen.

- Enter your user name, unless you have set the name for yourself, it is your first initial and surname - no spaces.
- You will be asked for your password.
- If you do not know your password, click *forgot password*. The system will ask for your e-mail address and will send you a new one.
- Keep your new password safe so that you can have easy access in the future.

Note that the Delta Division has no access to your confidential log-in information.

need to do this one time only and it will ensure that your CME credits are recorded in any reports.

If you are a new user fill in the fields on the Registration form and then click on the 'Submit Registration' button. The registration process is required one time only and enables recording of your CME credits.

#### What if I am already a subscriber?

Members who already purchased UpToDate™ can apply to be reimbursed.

Contact Customer Service at 1-800-998-6374 or

([customerservice@UpToDate.com](mailto:customerservice@UpToDate.com)) for further information about refunds. Be sure to mention that you are with the Delta Division of Family Practice.

## Four strategic areas - four working groups

To work on the four strategic areas that members have identified, four working groups are being formed. Board members are taking responsibility for bringing these groups together.

- **Recruiting family doctors** – Martin Ray
- **Community Health Issues** – Calvin Cheng
- **Mental health, drug and alcohol services** - Ruth Turnbull
- **Local orthopaedic care** – Ljiljana Kordic

The Division is going to put each of these areas on project status so that action follows without delay.

**What's next?** If you declared your interest at the Getting Strategic session, you can expect to be contacted and if you were not there, you can still be part of these initiatives. Contact a board member or email the Division at [delta@divisionsbc.ca](mailto:delta@divisionsbc.ca)

*Watch this space for updates in each area*

## Pix from April 25



If you did not manage to get to the Getting Strategic session – here's just one good reason why you should have been there!

..... and here's how we actually managed to decide on our strategic directions!



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## Contact Us

Website

[www.divisions.bc.ca/delta](http://www.divisions.bc.ca/delta)

email

[delta@divisionsbc.ca](mailto:delta@divisionsbc.ca)

## Divisions of Family Practice

The Divisions of Family Practice initiative is comprised of community-based affiliations of family physicians working together to achieve common health care goals. For more information, visit [www.divisionsbc.ca](http://www.divisionsbc.ca).

## Member profile - Dr. Art Shier

Dr. Art Shier began general practice in Vancouver in July of 1960 and spent ten years there before commencing his practice in Tsawwassen in August of 1970. He is the longest serving physician in South Delta, with 42 years of medicine in the same location, and 52 years as a family physician.

He recalls the summer he came to Tsawwassen as the year when a Russian freighter, *Sergey Yesenin* collided with the *Queen of Victoria* in Active Pass, slicing through the middle of the ferry and killing three people.

He practiced obstetrics as part of his service until 1985, and has many fond memories of deliveries in home births throughout Richmond, and some In the 1970's there was no medical care in Point Roberts, so the Tsawwassen doctors also did house calls in the Point. There was a gentleman's agreement that British Columbia doctors could practice there without requiring a Washington State license. Dr. Shier remembers following an ambulance straight through the border on an emergency without stopping - a far cry from today's situation!



Dr. Shier still in active practice today, participating in on-call, and enjoying every moment of being a family doctor, Dr. Shier serves as an outstanding example of the dedication of a full time general practitioner.

## Join the Division

We hope that you are getting the sense that it is important for you to join your colleagues if you have not already done so:

- Ensure that you are in the communication loop with the Division
- Ensure that your voice is heard when primary care is being discussed
- Be a part of the growing supportive community of practice
- Access member benefits

It's easy – go to [www.divisionsbc.ca/delta](http://www.divisionsbc.ca/delta) and click on *apply online*.

**The board of directors** The current board of directors volunteered as the Division of Family Practice was being formed as a non-profit society. Their job has been to steer the Division as it establishes itself. They have already worked on policies, financial processes, and is currently engaged in strategic planning.

Early in 2013, at the first AGM, there will be elections that will allow members to choose a board directors and this will be your first elected board.

## Billing Tip

Did you know that you can bill for a quick telephone consult with a specialist? There are MSP billing codes for both you and the specialist to be compensated.

Family practitioner – G14022 \$40

Specialist – G14021 \$60

***You can let your specialist colleagues know about this option when you call them.***