

Dear Friends,

The past year has been a crucible for health policy everywhere in the world.

BC has seen the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, the ongoing deployment of the Primary Care Networks, and a historic election. It has required society to adopt sometimes paradoxical ways of being. We have learned both that we can never be fully prepared for the future, and that careful preparation is essential to advancing effective, efficient, and compassionate health care. We have learned to draw deep on our experience, but also to innovate. We have had to stop and listen carefully, but also act decisively. It has reminded us that we need to be solid and strong, but also nimble and dextrous. While some of these complexities may be new to the public discourse, they are no stranger to CHCs. From exam rooms to boardrooms, CHCs in BC are prepared to take on the challenges of today and tomorrow.

In 2021, CHCs will continue to be on the front lines of history. We are ideally positioned to take part in the monumental vaccination campaign; not only through providing vaccines, but also by helping to address vaccine hesitancy. We will continue to provide high quality patient centred care, while not forgetting about the social inequities that affect our communities. While CHCs stand ready to take care of BC, BCACHC stands ready with strategies and services to support them.



PIOTR MAJKOWSKI
BCACHC BOARD CHAIR



In this issue:

Feature:

- BCACHC STRATEGIC PLAN HIGHLIGHTS

Member Update:

- PARTNERSHIP TABLE
- MEMBER SURVEY
- CHC FUNDING PATHWAYS

Organizational News:

- NEW STAFF, NEW BOARD MEMBERS, NEW MEMBERS!
- UPDATED BRANDING AND WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT



Did you receive a grant from BCACHC last year?

Reminder: Send in your interim spending and outcomes report by the end of February 2021.

Season in review:

October

ELECTION ADVOCACY
MEMBER SURVEY INITIATED
PARTNERSHIP TABLE LAUNCHED
MONTHLY MINISTRY MEETING

November

1:1 MEMBER INTERVIEWS
MEMBER SURVEY ANALYSIS
STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION
MONTHLY MINISTRY MEETING

December

STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT HIRED
MONTHLY MINISTRY MEETING
MEETING WITH THE FIRST NATIONS
ABORIGINAL PRIMARY CARE NETWORK

January-present

WORK PLAN AND STRATEGIC PLAN
DEVELOPMENT
BRAND STRATEGY UPDATED
SURVEY REPORT DEVELOPMENT
MONTHLY MINISTRY MEETING
3 NEW MEMBERS JOINED
MEETINGS WITH THE BC HEALTH
COALITION, CARES, BC RURAL HEALTH
NETWORK, AND THE FIRST NATIONS
HEALTH AUTHORITY

MESSAGE FROM THE

Executive Director

Since our last newsletter – our special issue focusing on the provincial election – the BCACHC team has been busy developing its 5 year strategic plan and defining our advocacy goals and member service priorities. Through the feedback you provided during our member survey and 1:1 chats last fall, we learned that our focus needs to be on advocating for funding supports for CHC development, enhancement and operations; developing services that support member CHC operations, education and networking; and building relationships with organizations and decision-makers in the province in support of CHC and community needs.

We are excited to focus on these priorities and have added some new talented people to help us succeed. Please welcome our new part-time Administrative Assistant – Shelley Travis! Shelley will support the Board of Directors and staff team at BCACHC and help to answer your questions and provide member supports where she can.

In addition, our Board of Directors welcomed 3 new Directors at our August 2020 AGM. We are delighted to be joined by Ms. Mary Chudley – CoolAid, Ms. Sarah Louie – Atira Women’s Resources, and Ms. Susann Richter – Pender Harbour CHC. They have added a depth of knowledge and experience to the team.

We are also pleased to recognize 3 new CHC members to BCACHC – Kootenay Boundary, Healthy Essentials, and North Shuswap Health Centre. Their input into our work is welcomed as we plan and prioritize our work.

I hope you enjoy catching up with us in this newsletter. We look forward to sharing our plans and initiatives with you as we work to meet your needs and the needs of communities supporting CHCs in our province.



VAL ST JOHN
BCACHC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BCACHC

Strategic Planning 2021-2026

The BCACHC strategic plan will be available on our website in the coming weeks. In the meantime, take a look at our four key areas of strategic focus as an organization.



Recognition

Advance the profile of the CHC model into one that is known, understood, and valued by the community and key stakeholders in the health care sector.



Foundation

Establish BCACHC as a sustainable, viable, and stable organization.



Membership

Provide excellent services and supports to existing and aspiring CHCs.



Advocacy

Amplify the voice, presence, and influence of CHCs for policy and systems change.

Thank you to
Annelies at



COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

A new look for BCACHC



BCACHC

BRITISH COLUMBIA ASSOCIATION
OF COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRES

Notice some changes between this newsletter and the last one?

In alignment with strategic planning, we've been developing a brand strategy to ensure that we're advancing our goals each time someone interacts with BCACHC.

This strategy helps us hone in on who we aim to reach with the work we do, and it gives us a chance to be intentional about how we look, sound, and feel as an organization.

The new look reflects a fresh balance between BCACHC's role as a trusted advocate and a dynamic force for change. Watch for updates to the website too!

We look forward to sharing our progress over the coming months.

Guide for groups looking to develop or expand a Community Health Centre

READ THE BLOG

Community Health Centre Research

Evidence-base for CHCs

RAPID SYNTHESIS: IDENTIFYING
THE FEATURES AND IMPACTS OF
COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRES.
MCMASTER UNIVERSITY, OCT 2020

EXPLORE THE REPORT

CACHC Survey

HAVE YOU PARTICIPATED?
85% OF BCACHC MEMBERS STILL
HAVEN'T SUBMITTED RESPONSES!

BY SHARING YOUR PANDEMIC
EXPERIENCES, YOU WILL BE
SUPPORTING CHC RESEARCH AND
ADVOCACY ACROSS THE COUNTRY.

TAKE THE SURVEY

KEY INFORMATION FOR BCACHC Members

The team at BCACHC is creating supports for those developing or expanding CHCs in their communities. Here's a snapshot of our step-by-step guide. Read the full blog at www.bcachc.org.

Before you start...

- Learn about the 5 attributes of a Community Health Centre
- Inquire about the development of your Primary Care Network
- Reach out to BCACHC for support

1. Establish governance

Inclusive and representative of the community
Not-for-profit society or co-operative

2. Develop model

Demonstrate the need for your unique care model
Describe the "who, what, when, where, why, how"

3. Approach Primary Care Network (PCN)

Contact your PCN or Division of Family Practice/
Health Authority regarding PCN development
Discuss how a CHC could fit into local planning

4. Develop full proposal

Provide a detailed description of your model
Work with the PCN to refine and submit the proposal
for Ministry of Health approval.

5. Ministry approval

Revise the proposal with the Ministry of Health
Obtain formal letter with approval and requirements

6. Implementation

Health Authority supports implementation
CHC services offered in coordination with the PCN

BCACHC

Operational update



CHC Partnership Table

On November BCACHC and The Ministry of Health co-chaired the first meeting of the provincial CHC Partnership Table. This meeting brought together 32 representatives from community and government with the goal of increasing the visibility of CHCs and to support their integration into BCs primary care system.

The first such meeting of its kind, the Table included representatives from the Health Authorities and a range of Ministries as BCACHC seeks to broaden sources of funding for our members in order to provide our communities with access to the social determinants of health, which are not always funded through Ministry of Health funding for primary care services. This was the first meeting of the Table which will meet three times each year with the next meeting planned for early 2021.



CHC Evaluation framework

BCACHC is working to develop a framework for CHC evaluation that can be adopted by our members provincially. This framework will allow CHCs to demonstrate their value not only in terms of traditional primary care measures, but also in relation to the social determinants of health, accessibility, and health equity.

BCACHC is working with researchers at UBC, the Ministry of Health, and interested members to develop a framework that not only reflects our valuable work, but that is realistic and achievable for our diverse membership.

NEW TEAM MEMBER

Welcome Shelley

Welcome Shelley Travis, our new Administrative Assistant! Shelley started her career as a counselor in Federal and Youth Custody, however moved on from that path after several years. She has spent the last 20 years in office administration supporting executive teams and CEO's. She is a people person that loves to build great partnerships with her peers and looks forward to her time working with the BCACHC.



What do you do for fun?

"We live in a rural community that is surrounded by many beautiful trails so hiking with my dogs is a great past-time for me. I am also the proud "GiGi" of 6 grandchildren and spend a lot of time having fun with them -particularly, they like to beat me at games!"