

Committee Update

Dr Vijay Seethapathy was welcomed to SSC as the new representative of the Provincial Health Services Authority. He is the chief medical officer at BC Mental Health and Substance Use Services (BCMHSUS) as part of the dyad leadership team with Darlene MacKinnon, their Chief Operating Officer.

SSC Quarterly Financial Update:

A financial update was provided by the staff for the third quarter of the fiscal: Sept-Dec, 2021. The spending in the quarter and the fiscal year seems somewhat consistent with historical trends.

Interior Health's experience with Navig8

Drs Michael Ertel and Harsh Hundal shared their experience with the committee about initiating a medical leadership program called Navig8 at the Interior Health (IH) three years ago. This certified & affiliated program has trained many doctors in medical leadership and has proven to enhance their skills, confidence, and job satisfaction. The participant feedback from the program has been overwhelmingly positive. The committee thanked the IH representatives for showcasing the successful project to the committee and health authority representatives at the table.

SSC Quality Improvement Working Group (QIWG) Update

Dr Frank Ervin and Candice Manahan provided an update from the QI working group including their four main areas of deliverables for the Spreading Quality Improvement initiative over the next six months including:

- Creating a logic model and evaluation framework for spread
- Producing a report of the projects spread provincially
- Convening a congress in June for those physicians whose projects are being spread at the provincial level
- Creating a joint learning document populated by the SSC staff and health authorities, the outcomes of which will be presented at the aforementioned congress.

Additionally, the Physician Quality Improvement initiative will continue to increase the number of participants in its three levels of training available to all physicians, including community-based physicians. [Click here](#) to learn more about the quality improvement training opportunities available.

Dialogue with Doctors of BC President

Dr Ramneek Dosanjh, Doctors of BC's new president was welcomed by the committee, who outlined her one-year term priorities and responded to/noted the questions and suggestions by the members and guests. Topics included physician wellness, input into health authority mandates/policies, equitable care, remuneration, and support for physician leaders.

Exploring Cultural Safety & Humility Practices

A discussion at the committee level, as well as in smaller groups took place about what cultural safety and humility mean for individual specialists and what changes are needed at the system level to enable culturally safe practices. Feedback collected will be taken to the responsible steering committee and the next steps will be brought forward to future meetings.

Miscellaneous:

- The JCC Pre-Forum is being held on May 31, as a precursor to the BC Patient Safety and Quality Forum. The deadline for abstracts is March 7, and forum registration opens in late March/early April.
- The annual health authority physician engagement survey results were presented by the Doctors of BC Physician Advocacy team and demonstrated the highest level of participation since its inception six years ago. [Read more](#)
- SSC is will organize webinars on topics such as virtual care and climate action for specialists – topics that were rated high by specialists to be covered at the specialist symposium, postponed due to COVID-19.

The Specialist Services Committee (SSC) is one of four Joint Collaborative Committees (JCC) representing a partnership of Doctors of BC and BC Government. SSC aims to improve patient care by engaging physicians to:

- collaborate within the health system.
- lead quality improvement initiatives.
- deliver high quality services with SSC.

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