

COMMITTEE UPDATE

- The Committee congratulated Dr Matthew Chow, SSC Co-chair for his new appointment as the Doctors of BC President Elect. Doctors of BC Board will decide on a new co-chair for the SSC to take over in June, 2020.
- Announcement was made about the upcoming internal realignment of the three Joint Collaborative Committees - the [GPSC](#), the [SSC](#) (including [FE](#)) and [Shared Care](#). These committees will now be incorporated under one department, namely **Engagement & Quality Improvement**. A new Executive Director will be hired to lead this department in September 2019 with details to follow.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

- Two draft diagram options for the new SSC three-year Strategic Plan (2020-22) were presented, followed by a robust discussion by the members and guests. Changes will be incorporated and presented in the September meeting.
- [The SSC Annual Report](#) covering the period of April 2018 to March 2019 was approved by the committee.
- The committee approved conducting of a needs assessment for involving community specialists in its work. Various stakeholders will be involved.

PHYSICIAN BURDEN & BURNOUT

- Two physician attendees from the recent SSC sponsored course on “Joy in Work” by the Institute for Health Care Improvement presented their learnings from the course, aligning the outcomes with the work of the SSC.

- The Physician Health Program and the Policy Department of Doctors of BC shared their research findings on physician burden and burnout.
- A coordinated effort between various partners will help define a future strategy and support in the area of physician burden, burnout, and wellness.

MISCELLANEOUS

- **Specialist Symposium:** The Committee agreed to hold a Specialist Symposium targeted for Fall 2020. As GPSC usually holds a provincial summit in the fall, there may be an opportunity to coordinate and align these events. A working group composed of various stakeholders including SSC, Specialists of BC, health authorities and the Ministry of Health will plan the event.
- **Enhancing Early Diagnosis and Culturally Sensitive Support and Care of Dementia:** Drs Peter O’Connor & Leena Jain presented their completed Quality and Innovation project, the goal of which was to enhance the role of specialists in supporting primary care practitioners to increase their knowledge and confidence in early diagnosis and culturally sensitive treatment and management of people with dementia and their families.
- **UBC Sauder Physician Leadership Program:** An impact evaluation of this program was conducted by an external evaluator. This program is jointly funded by SSC and the Shared Care Committee to provide physicians in leadership roles with advanced training. The evaluation found very positive feedback from participants and sponsors, and also suggested opportunities to strengthen connections and supports for physicians in leadership roles within the health authorities.



The Specialist Services Committee (SSC) is one of four Joint Collaborative Committees representing a partnership of Doctors of BC and the government of BC. 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