



Winter Surge Updates:



island health
medical staff

| **Integrated Winter
Surge Planning
Updates**

- [Significant investment to stabilize north island health-care services](#)
On January 27, Health Minister Adrian Dix announced significant investments to immediately stabilize and improve access to health-care services, including emergency care, in the Mount Waddington region. To read more on what Island Health is doing to improve hospital capacity [Please click here.](#)
- *Winter Surge Tip of the Week Links:*
 - February 8 Tip of the Week - [Including patient and family early in the Discharge Planning process](#)
 - January 31 Tip of the Week - [Caregiver Programs and Supports.](#)
 - January 27 Tip of the Week - [Optimizing the Community Virtual Care Program at Discharge.](#)

*Visit the [Medical Staff Winter Surge Webpage](#) for up-to-date Winter Surge content.

Public Health:





- [Introduction to Decriminalization in British Columbia](#)
On January 31, 2023, a three-year temporary exemption under the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act came into effect in BC. The exemption means people will not face criminal penalties for possessing small amounts of certain illicit drugs for personal use. Read more on the [Toxic-drug supply in BC](#) and how it claimed nearly 2,300 lives in 2022.
- [COVID Testing and Return to Work for Health Care Workers](#)
Chief Medical Health Officer Dr. Reka Gustafson and Chief Medical Health Executive Dr. Ben Williams provide some clarification regarding COVID testing and return-to-work guidance for Island Health staff and medical staff.

Spotlight:



- [New payment model for physicians means better care for patients](#)
A BC Ministry of Health Information Bulletin announces a new family physician payment model to help more family physicians start or continue their practice and ensure people throughout the province have access to primary care.
- [The 2023 BC Rural Health Awards Nominations are Open!](#)
The Rural Coordination Centre of BC (RCCbc) is excited to announce nominations for this year's BC Rural Health Awards are open. These awards recognize and honour rural doctors and communities for their inspiring contributions to improving the health of rural British Columbians. Submit your nomination by February 17.
- [Seeking rural preceptors for Island communities](#)
For the weekends of March 3–5 and/or May 26–28, 2023 , the UBC Family Medicine Interest Group (FMIG) has launched a Rural Shadowing Initiative to increase first- and second-year medical students' exposure to rural medicine.

Technology News:



- [Chemainus IHealth activation a 'game changer' for patient care and provider communication](#)
For medical staff working in Island Health facilities and collaborating with colleagues in primary care clinics, access to detailed clinical information on patients in the EHR is a “game changer”.

- [MyHealth enrolment surpasses 200,000](#)

The MyHealth patient portal has provided more than 200,000 people in the Island Health region with the ability to have quick and easy access to their personal health records.

- [OneSign Tap N Go coming to VGH, GRH, SISC](#)

On January 31, OneSign "Tap N Go" was activated in computers and workstations on wheels (WoWs) across VGH, GRH and South Island Surgical Centre. This allows medical and clinical staff to stay logged in across all the computers on which they work for up to four hours, using their prox card to "tap in" and "tap out".

Upcoming Events and Education Opportunities:



- [Register now! First Annual Island Health Trauma/Critical Care \(TRACC\) Conference](#)

The inaugural Island Health Trauma/Critical Care conference will be held on April 22, 2023. at Tigh-Na-Mara Seaside resort in Parksville, BC. Join the conversation for updates on the current state of trauma care management on the island.

- [Training for Montreal Cognitive Assessment Memory Index Score \(MoCA-MIS\) Version 8.1 | Vancouver Island Coastal First Nations](#)

Clinicians will learn how to bring a trauma-informed lens to their working

relationship with Indigenous seniors and their families. Click the link to read about the potential for valuable learning outcomes and ways to register.

- [Indigenous Cultural Safety Webinar Series: Session 3 of 5](#)

The third session of this five-part series was held on January 12, 2023. Session 3 of 5: Digging for the root and connecting dots.

- [Enroll in the BCPSQC Communicating the Unexpected Outcomes \(CUO\) for Clinicians now!](#)

Prepare yourself for Disclosure conversations; enroll in the BCPSQC Communicating the Unexpected Outcomes (CUO) for Clinicians now! Seats still available.

- [Cognitive Behavioural Therapy \(CBT\) Physician Wellness Group Training Course](#)

The Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT) Skills Physician Wellness Group Training Course is an 8-week course designed to provide BC physicians with education and training to support their own mental well-being through evidence-based self-management strategies.

- [Medical Staff Town Hall | March 9](#)

Join your colleagues from across the region at the March Medical Staff Town Hall. Submit your questions to [Sli.do](#) using the event code #MSTownHall.

All upcoming events found on the

[Calendar of Events page](#)

If you wish to add a Calendar Event to your personal Outlook Calendar, click this button at the top of the calendar pop-up



Newsletters:



- [CME Offerings February 2023 Newsletter](#)
 - [Island Health Magazine Winter 2023 is online now](#)
 - [Long-Term Care Program Newsletter | January 2023](#)
 - [MAiD Newsletter - January 2023](#)
 - [IHealth News - Looking ahead in 2023](#)
- Read about the IHealth Highlights from 2022 [here](#).
- [MHSU Update - January 2023](#)

The next email bulletin will occur **March 9**. The [medical staff website](#) is updated

Monday through Friday (excluding holidays).

If you have any questions, or wish to unsubscribe, please email

MedStaffCommunications@islandhealth.ca

