



# MEDICAL STAFF

## BULLETIN

September 14, 2023

### WELCOME MEDICAL LEADERS

*Please join us in welcoming the following new Medical Leaders. We are thrilled to have you on board!*

**Dr. Savannah Forrester** - Medical Lead, Acute Care, Seniors Health

**Dr. Stefan Da Silva** – Emergency Medicine – Department Head and Island Medical Director

**Dr. Valerie Ehasoo** - Medical Lead Senior's Health, Primary and Community Care

### ASSOCIATE PHYSICIAN PROGRAM

We will soon be welcoming new members of the care team, Associate Physicians, to Island Health. To find out more about this developing program and its preliminary deployment, please visit: [Associate Physicians | Medical Staff \(islandhealth.ca\)](#).

## UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

### **NEW - Transparency and Communications Steering Committee**

We are seeking two Physician Medical Staff members to join a newly formed Transparency and Communications Steering Committee. Members will have the opportunity to influence culture change through best practice communications and co-developed solutions that seek to embed transparent practices within Island Health. Physicians will be compensated at the Doctors of BC honoraria rate through regional Facility Engagement Initiative funding. For more information please visit: [Upcoming Opportunity – Transparency in Governance and Communications Steering Group | Medical Staff \(islandhealth.ca\)](#)

## MERC ROLE

The Medical and Education Resource Committee (MERC) is responsible for advising Island Health on the educational needs of our medical staff and developing an onboarding program for new staff. The committee currently has a vacancy for one rural medical staff member. This position reports into HAMAC and will be required to attend 6 virtual meetings annually, which will be chaired by Dr. Keith Menard. To submit your interest, please contact [medstaffsupport@islandhealth.ca](mailto:medstaffsupport@islandhealth.ca). This position will be open until filled.

## SHARE YOUR SAY

**Health Authority Engagement  
Survey 2023**

training required to practice effectively

This week, Doctors of BC launched their 8th annual Health Authority Engagement Survey. This survey presents an opportunity for physicians to provide insights regarding their safety, working standards and experience working in Island Health and at their respective sites. The survey will be open for 30 days and will take 10 minutes to complete. Each physician will receive an individual link to access the survey via the email they have registered with Doctors of BC.

### **Evaluation of Medical Staff Educational Needs**

The Medical Education Resource Committee (MERC) is responsible for ensuring that staff have the education and

at Island Health. Needs include general clinical areas, such as managing new areas of medicine or mastering certain clinical procedures, as well as learning areas that apply to our communities. Please access the survey here: [Medical Staff Education Needs Assessment Survey \(viha.ca\)](https://viha.ca/medical-staff-education-needs-assessment-survey)

### **Island Health Climate Change and Planetary Health Engagement Survey.**

Taking action on climate change is a top Island Health priority. We invite all medical staff to participate in the [Island Health Climate Change and Planetary Health Engagement Survey](https://viha.ca/island-health-climate-change-and-planetary-health-engagement-survey). The survey is voluntary and anonymous; it only takes 10-15 minutes and will be open for 3 weeks. Find out more [here](#).

## MEDICAL LEADER SPOTLIGHT

**Meet MJ Harris, Medical Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI)**

***“My hope is that every person, regardless of their identity or lived experiences, has a place in our healthcare system to feel safe, respected, and understood” - MJ Harris***



We are delighted that MJ Harris has joined us as Island Health's new Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. MJ will be integral in embedding DEI practices across the organization, with a particular focus on medical staff. MJ will be the key point of contact with program and department medical leaders across the organization, partnering to educate, guide, and champion behaviours to support and incorporate DEI across Island Health. Please join us in welcoming MJ! You can read about MJ's journey here: [MJ Harris, Medical Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion \(DEI\) | Medical Staff \(islandhealth.ca\)](#)

## UPCOMING EVENTS & EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Please [RSVP](#) for the in-person Medical Leadership workshop 'Mastering Crucial Conversations' held on Thursday November 23, 2023 at Four Points Sheraton hotel (Langford) with speaker Ms. Linda Dobson ([Certified Conflict Coach](#)). A Holiday Social will follow immediately after the workshop. For more information/questions: [medstaffdevelopment@islandhealth.ca](mailto:medstaffdevelopment@islandhealth.ca). [Click here for event details.](#)

**All upcoming events found on the**

[Calendar of Events page](#)

*If you wish to add an event to the medical staff calendar of events, please  
contact [MedStaffCommunications@islandhealth.ca](mailto:MedStaffCommunications@islandhealth.ca)*

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



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