

April 2025

# Medical Staff Bulletin



LAST CHANCE

The Culture Conference: Psychological Safety in the Workplace |

Nanaimo, April 28th, 2025 | A unique opportunity to help medical staff create, promote, and maintain psychological safety at Island Health



Last chance to register! Connect with peers, discover and apply insights, and unite as medical staff to transform workplace culture. Guests include keynote speaker and Obstetrician-Gynecologist, Dr. Don Wilson—a member of the Heiltsuk Nation. Dr. Wilson's professional interests include Indigenous health, international women's health, LGBTQ+ health, and metabolic health with a focus on lifestyle and nutrition. A lively and engaging day is planned with guest speakers, a debate, discussion groups, and PechaKucha session.

**WHEN:** Monday 28 April, 9am to 3.45pm **WHERE:** Vancouver Island Conference Centre, 101 Gordon Street, Nanaimo **TO REGISTER:** Click [HERE](#) to access Eventbrite registration

The Culture Conference is open to **all medical leaders, future medical leaders, and medical staff. This event is accredited for MOC and Mainpro+ credits, and has been co-funded by Doctors of BC, Physician Health & Safety.** Breakfast and lunch are provided.

For more information about the event, including shuttle bus information from RJH and VGH, please see the [medical staff website](#) or email [MedStaffDevelopment@islandhealth.ca](mailto:MedStaffDevelopment@islandhealth.ca).

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## Medical Staff Forum Recap



Earlier today, the first Medical Staff Forum of 2025 was hosted by Dr. Michelle Weizel, Associate VP Medicine and Deputy CMO. Over 100 participants joined this virtual event—we extend our sincere thanks to all who took the time to attend. Medical staff who were unable to attend can access the presentation deck [HERE](#).

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### Agenda items included:

- Peer Recognition
  - Most Responsible Practitioner Shortage
  - Recruitment
  - Medical Leadership Strategy
  - IHealth
  - Public Health
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## Unintended SECCON Deactivation of Access Cards

In February, several medical staff reported difficulties accessing Island Health sites with their proxy card. Security Control (SECCON) has confirmed there was an unintended deletion of 381 records, which has impacted some medical staff.

The deletion occurred when an outdated data server was overloaded with records. Unfortunately, there is no way of determining whose access cards have been impacted. Sporadic deactivations may occur until the server capacity issue is addressed by SECCON.

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**What to do if your card stops working unexpectedly:**

- Please report your issue to: [SECCON@islandhealth.ca](mailto:SECCON@islandhealth.ca)
- If your photo ID is expired, you will be redirected to Credentialing and Privileging to request a renewal.
- Security officers have keys and are available to assist with site access.
- Loaner access cards are available for day use, if required, from the onsite security office. Photo ID will be required to receive access assistance and/or a loaner card.

SECCON is working to resolve this issue. We are sorry for any inconvenience that medical staff may have experienced. For more information, please see the medical staff website [HERE](#).

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**HAMAC Highlights**

The Health Authority Medical Advisory Committee (HAMAC) meets on the second Thursday of every month. Full meeting minutes can be accessed on the Intranet [HERE](#).

In addition to regular business during HAMAC's March meeting, the Committee discussed:

- Fiscal Status Update
- The Current State of the ER and Inpatient Care at WCGH
- Departmental Reporting—Department of Critical Care

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**Medical Staff Spotlight—A Fond Farewell to Dr. David Butcher, HAMAC Chair March 2019 - March 2025**



Last month, Dr. David Butcher completed his second term as chair of the Health Authority Medical Advisory Committee (HAMAC). As his six-year tenure comes to an end, we commend and thank Dr. Butcher for his unwavering commitment to the role, and to the medical staff it serves.

Dr. Butcher has been working at Island Health since 2012; first on Salt Spring Island as a family physician in the community and at Lady Minto. Since 2022 he has been practicing at Royal Jubilee as a hospitalist, while also working with the Hospital at Home program.

Across his clinical and administrative roles, Dr. Butcher is widely admired—*respectful*, *knowledgeable*, and *methodical* are words that colleagues use when referring to his time as HAMAC chair. Dr. Butcher's attention to detail, coupled with his ability to manage and organize the Committee has been exemplary, and a source of inspiration to all. We bid him a fond farewell and express our deepest gratitude as he steps down from the role.

In tribute to his time as HAMAC chair, Dr. Butcher joins us for this month's Spotlight feature to share his thoughts on governance structure progress, collaboration, and the future of HAMAC.

**Please tell us about a notable success achieved during your time as HAMAC chair?**

*I am proud of the work that HAMAC and its sub committees have participated in, particularly around advancing processes for credentialing and privileging using a quality improvement framework. I do not take personal credit for this, but rather, commend HAMAC's Medical Planning and Credentials Committee (MPCC) for their efforts. I'm also proud of the work our members have done to help educate the board on medical staff governance and quality issues.*

**You have been working within the region since 2012, what are some of the major changes you've witnessed?**

*I've witnessed increased medical staff engagement and trust. While there's always room for improvement, collaboration and trust help to drive shared successes and move the health authority forward.*

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## What is your hope for the future of HAMAC?

*HAMAC supported the complete, strategic redesign of clinical governance at Island Health—I look forward to witnessing the continued evolution of a collaborative relationship between HAMAC and the clinical excellence committees.*

*I've been involved in medical leadership at a critical time, and it's been a privilege. My colleagues in administrative and medical leadership are experts in their field and we learn, in reciprocal ways, from other health authorities as we build and improve our processes. My ultimate hope is for that to continue, and for Island Health to become a leader in the province for best practices in medical staff governance.*

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## NEW Medical Staff Service Recognition Program

The Medical Staff Recognition Program, overseen by MAA's Partnerships and Programs team, aims to integrate medical staff into the existing long-term service recognition program at Island Health. Launching in the summer, the initiative will celebrate the exceptional contributions of medical staff, recognizing individuals who achieve service milestones in 5-year increments. To learn more, please see the medical staff website [HERE](#). Questions? Email [MedStaffRecognition@islandhealth.ca](mailto:MedStaffRecognition@islandhealth.ca)

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## Welcome NEW Medical Leaders

- **Dr. Tomas Kuca**, Division Head, Specialist Anesthesia Geography 2
  - **Dr. Sean Nixon**, Co-Medical Lead, Emergency CVH
  - **Dr. Miguel Fernandez**, Medical Lead Anesthesia SISC
  - **Dr. Evan Rogers**, Site Medical Director/Chief of Staff for Mount Waddington
  - **Dr. Katharine McKeen**, Division Head, Family Practice (Urban Victoria), LTC Sites
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## CARE Course in Focus

[The CARE Course](#) is a two-day inter-professional team-oriented learning experience developed by rural healthcare practitioners for rural medical staff, nurses, and pre-hospital providers. It enhances healthcare teams' ability to deliver comprehensive rural emergency care across airway management, trauma care, cardiac care, emergency obstetrics, pediatrics and neonatal care.

In March, 24 care team members from Pender, Galiano, and Mayne Islands gathered at the Pender Island Health Centre to participate in this hands-on course. Feedback from participants was positive, reinforcing the aim of the course creators. The Gulf Islands share many common characteristics and healthcare challenges—the course provided a unique opportunity for practitioners to learn from each other, strengthening relationships within and across teams, and bolstering rural emergency responses and care.



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### NEW Spring/Summer Dates for Violence Prevention Training

We are pleased to announce 7 new dates for in-person Provincial Violence Prevention Curriculum (PVPC) training this spring/summer. **Time in-session is compensated for the high-risk cohort and catering will be provided thanks to PMA Physician Health & Safety funding.**

Click [HERE](#) for more information, or click on one of the quick registration links below (LearningHub login required):

- [Register for in-person violence prevention training, April 29th 12.00-15.30 @ NRGH](#)
  - [Register for in-person violence prevention training, May 12th 12.00-15.30 @ RJH](#)
  - [Register for in-person violence prevention training, May 30th 12.00-15.30 @ VGH](#)
  - [Register for in-person violence prevention training, June 19th 12.00-15.30 @ CVH](#)
  - [Click here to view and register for other available sessions.](#)
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## IHealth

### Cowichan District Hospital on track to activate CPOE on May 3, 2025

Computerized provider order entry (CPOE) will activate at Cowichan District Hospital (CDH) on Saturday May 3, 2025. Overall readiness at CDH, including medical staff and clinical staff, is fully on-track.

98% of CDH medical staff have completed required e-Learning modules and classroom education and are currently preparing for Go-Live with in-person Workflow Review Sessions. When CDH goes live, staff will be supported by colleagues from across Island Health and the Lower Mainland.

Thank you to colleagues from activated sites in Island Health, and to 27 residents coming from all sites connected to UBC and UVic, who will be at CDH to offer their support and expertise.

“Congratulations to CDH medical staff for their hard work, flexibility, engagement and professionalism as they have progressed so well through this busy period of clinical responsibilities, education and preparation,” said Dr. Willie Pewarchuk, IHealth Medical Site Lead, CDH.

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### Psychiatry Residents & MHA Form Completion

On 7 April, Dr. Wei Song, Executive Medical Director, MHSU and Tasha McKelvey, Executive Director, MHSU circulated a memo regarding psychiatry residents' eligibility to act as MHA Director delegates to complete Mental Health Act (MHA) forms. Click [HERE](#) to read the memo outlining the phased eligibility rollout for PGY2-PGY5 residents.



If you no longer work at Island Health and wish to be removed from our Medical Staff email database, please respond to this email with UNSUB in the email body. **Please do not alter the email subject in your reply.**

