

October 2025



SAVE THE DATE! Medical Staff Forum, Thurs November 27, 7:30-8:30am

Medical staff are invited to attend a Medical Staff Forum on **Thursday November 27, 7:30-8:30am on MS Teams**. Agenda items include: **Medical Leadership Restructure, Medical Staff Rules, Public Health Update, and a Q&A**.



An email invitation was sent to all medical staff on October 14. Please check your email as the invitation contains the Teams meeting link, and a Slido link for advance questions. If you did not receive an invite, please email MedStaffCommunications@islandhealth.ca . For details about how to nominate a medical staff peer for recognition during the Forum, please see the medical staff website [HERE](#).

Health Authority Engagement Survey

Doctors of BC biannual Health Authority Engagement Survey is open until October 30, 2025. Completing this survey is an important way to influence how Island Health supports physicians—all Doctors of BC members are encouraged to participate. For detailed information about the survey, including how to request an invitation, please visit Doctors of BC website [HERE](#).

Click [HERE](#) to read a memo, distributed to medical staff on Monday 20 October, from the VP Medicine, Quality, Research and CMO regarding the survey.

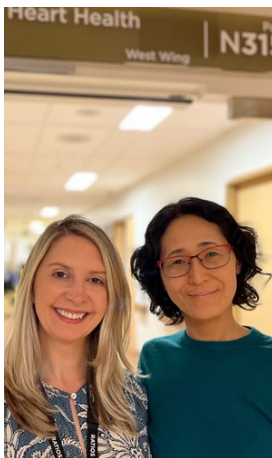
Medical Leadership Restructure

Earlier this week, a Medical Leadership Restructure newsletter was launched to facilitate awareness and promote process transparency. Via the newsletter, medical leaders and medical staff can learn about upcoming information sessions, key dates and milestones, as well as opportunities to contribute. You can access issues of the newsletter [HERE](#).

Upcoming Information Sessions:

Learn more about **Site Chief and Division Head leadership roles** in the new structure. Join us for one of the information sessions for current and aspiring medical leaders on **Tuesday, October 28 (4:30–5:30 pm)** or **Thursday, October 30 (7:00–8:00 am)**. *Open to all current medical leaders and interested medical staff members.* Please register for a session [HERE](#).

National Nurse Practitioner Week



Nurse Practitioners (NPs) are highly valued members of the medical staff at Island Health. Ahead of **National Nurse Practitioner Week (Nov 10-16)**, we would like to acknowledge and express gratitude to the growing number of NPs working in our region. NPs work in primary care, acute care, and in specialty settings, improving access to high-quality, broad scope, patient-centered care. New NP roles have been implemented in several acute care sites this year, emphasizing the importance of NP practice within the communities we serve.

Associate Physicians at Island Health

Associate Physicians (APs) help to improve patient care, enhance care team cohesion, and enrich the workforce. Currently, there are 16 APs employed at eight Island Health sites across four program areas: emergency, perinatal, inpatient, and surgery. We spoke with two Island Health APs working at Nanaimo Regional General Hospital and Oceanside Health Centre—to read the full article, please visit the [medical staff website](#).



Welcome NEW Medical Leaders

- **Dr. Mohammed Sarhan**, Medical Director, Infection Prevention and Control
 - **Dr. Tony Higgins**, Co-Medical Lead, Emergency, Comox Valley Hospital
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Canadian Medical Association (CMA) Awards

The CMA annual awards celebrate practitioners from across the country. Spanning 10 categories, award recipients represent a wide variety of career stages, specialties and backgrounds. Together, they

Provincial Violence Prevention Curriculum (PVPC) - Fall Dates for In-person Sessions

reflect the diversity of the profession and the communities served. The nomination period for the 2026 CMA Awards is open now and closes on November 30, 2025.

For more about the nomination process and eligibility criteria, visit the CMA website [HERE](#).

Other awards currently OPEN for nominations include:

- [Canadian College of Health Leaders](#)
- [Island Health Celebration of Excellence Awards](#)

The redesigned PVPC consists of two modules, including required in-person training for medical staff working in the following high-risk areas: **Emergency Departments/Urgent Care; Mental Health & Substance Use; Psychiatry; Neurology; Long-term Care; Community Health Services**. Upcoming in-person sessions:

- [November 14th from 09:30-13:00 at NRGH](#)
- [November 18th from 11:00-14:30 at RJH](#)
- [November 19th from 10:30-14:00 at CVH](#)

If you are part of the high-risk cohort listed above, please register for an in-person session through the [medical staff website](#). **Course completion will be tracked, and time will be compensated at sessional rates for the high-risk cohort.**



UBC CPD In-Person Conference: Achieving Success in your First Years of Practice

Transparency & Communications (T&C) Steering Committee Member Callout

One medical staff member representing North Island is being sought to join the T&C steering committee.

Practice Foundations 2025: Achieving Success in Your First Years of Practice is happening on Nov 29, 2025, at UBC Robson Square. **Up to 5.75 Mainpro+/MOC Section 1 Credits.** Sessions focus on the real-world challenges physicians face as they prepare to launch, build, expand, or simply stay ahead of the curve for their practice. Early bird rates end Nov 3. For details and registration, click [HERE](#).

The Committee is integral to the projects and improvement initiatives related to the Doctors of BC survey results. For more information, please click [HERE](#).



Public Health Grand Rounds: Seasonal Immunization Update

Join Drs. Christina Kay and Mark Cachia, Medical Health Officers, for virtual Grand Rounds on October 29, noon until 1pm. See the medical staff website [HERE](#) for meeting link and details. Please note this event is not accredited.



COVID-19 & Influenza Vaccinations

Influenza and COVID-19 vaccines are recommended to protect yourself, your patients, colleagues, and loved ones. For more information about B.C.'s *Get Vaccinated* system and Heart Pharmacy's pop-up site clinics, visit the medical staff website [HERE](#).

September Bulletin Links Correction: Some medical staff reported being unable to access links in September's Bulletin. Please visit the medical staff website [HERE](#) for a corrected version.



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