
Board Brief summarizes the board meetings of BC Emergency Health Services (BCEHS). It is shared with BCEHS agencies, government, media and other stakeholders to keep them informed about the activities of BCEHS.

- BCEHS Board Briefs are available online at: <http://www.health.gov.bc.ca/ehsc/about/>
 - *Media contact:* BCEHS Communications at 250-953-3651
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Summary of the June 26, 2014, Board Meeting

The BC Emergency Health Services (BCEHS) Board has six scheduled open board meetings per year. BCEHS is committed to holding open board meetings outside the Lower Mainland twice a year. The June 26, 2014, open board meeting was held in Fort St. John.

Question & Answer/Public Presentation Period

In the spirit of its commitment to public accessibility, the board of BC Emergency Health Services provides opportunities for the public to schedule presentations and to ask questions of the board prior to the beginning of every open board meeting. There were no questions from the public.

Presentations

There were no presentations.

Resource Allocation Plan (RAP) – Update

BCEHS Executive Vice President Linda Lupini advised that RAP will continue to be a standing item on the agenda in order to provide regular updates and keep the board informed. She reported that staff have been working with municipalities to ensure ongoing dialogue and to understand the distinct roles in the continuum of care. BCEHS Vice President of Medical Programs Dr. Dick provided an update as follows:

- The whole point of updating the RAP is to ensure that critical patients get services quicker and that everyone gets services appropriately.
- BCEHS has found that ambulances are able to respond to our sickest patients faster.
- There has been a decrease in the number of requests from First Responders to review cases.
- BCEHS has reviewed 131 cases and have determined that the care provided was appropriate in every case. It takes about 7 hours to review each case.
- The only theme observed is that patient falls comprise approximately 15 per cent of the cases which have been reviewed. From a medical standpoint, falls would not increase urgency although BCEHS is looking into this further to get a better understanding.
- When meeting with municipalities outside of the Lower Mainland, the number one concern is general resource levels, not RAP.

BCEHS Board Chair Wynne Powell advised that the board previously felt that not enough discussion with municipalities had occurred. The board now feels that very comprehensive discussions have taken place – there remain some tensions and disagreement but management has done a very good job of being proactive and collaborative with First Responders.

Mr. Powell also wished to congratulate BCEHS on achieving accreditation for the dispatch centres. This is a significant step forward and something staff should be extremely proud of.

Board Committee Reports

The Quality & Access Committee advised that as part of the committee's Red Flag report, it is currently reviewing the following two indicators:

- 911 calling time (the time from when the call was received to when an ambulance arrives)
- Response to suspected cardiac arrest (time call received to time arrived on scene)

A project focussed on improving inter-facility transfers is underway. An impressive amount of work has been done and the results are intended to improve patient care.

The Governance & Human Resources Committee reported that an annual review of various terms of reference for board committees was undertaken. The board approved the suggested minor changes. Also, the Premier has issued Taxpayer Accountability Principles – a document for public sector organizations to strengthen accountability and to ensure all are acting in the best interest of the public. Management will prepare a briefing note for further discussion in August.

The Finance Committee advised that BCEHS and Island Health (IH) are entering into a lease agreement where BCEHS plans to lease land from IH for the construction of an ambulance station in Parksville. Ministry of Health approval is also required. The board approved that the current operating leases and operating agreements with respect to real or personal property are ratified and approved and that BCEHS/PHSA management is authorized to enter into future operating leases and other operating agreements with respect to real or personal property in accordance with the Board approved Level of Authorities. On another note, management reported that at the end of Period 2 BCEHS had a surplus of approximately \$400,000 and expects a balanced budget at the end of the year.

The Audit Committee reported that it held a special meeting on May 20th to review the audited financial statements. BCEHS is consolidated under PHSA – approval will be sought at the PHSA Board meeting.

Next Meeting of the board in public is scheduled for August 21, 2014, in Vancouver.

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