
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 October 23, 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.

Business Meeting

Community Paramedicine

Jodi Jensen (Chief Operating Officer) provided an update on Community Paramedicine and the pilot project being developed. BCEHS is pleased to be partnering with the Ministry of Health on this new initiative, which includes a commitment to fund 80 new full-time roles across the province over the next few years. We have looked at models that have been successful in other jurisdictions and believe that several could be introduced successfully here, namely discharge planning, at home programs and chronic disease management.

We will consult stakeholders over the next couple of months, in conjunction with looking at rural and remote service models in general. We expected the project will have two or three phases, and that we would see three or four pilot projects take place in the spring/summer of next year. Mr. Roy highlighted the fact that this initiative is in support of one of the Ministry's priorities to improve services in rural and remote BC.

Resource Allocation Plan

Dr William Dick (Vice President, Medical Programs) provided an update, noting that the most significant change is a code changes for 'falls'. It has changed from a code two to a code three, which means lights and sirens are used in response. Since the RAP has been implemented, this type of call has elicited the most feedback and concern, given that many of these patients are frail and elderly. It is not expected to produce a change in patient outcomes.

A recent review of response times, based on our first 11 months of data, confirms that we are getting to our code 3 (lights and sirens) calls faster across the province. We are also getting to our code 2 (non-lights and sirens) patients quicker.

LEAN process – Jodi Jensen

Jodi Jensen (Chief Operating Officer) highlighted a couple of “lean” projects that have improved efficiencies within the organization.

First Responder Collaboration Agreements: Delta Fire Pilot Project

Linda Lupini (Executive Vice President) provided the Board with a preliminary overview of discussions that have been taking place with the Municipality of Delta to potentially begin a pilot study that would assess the viability of raising the level of skill training of their Emergency Medical Assistants (EMA) to the Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) level.

Board Chair Wynne Powell noted that this is the first time this initiative has been discussed at the Board level. He is requesting that management reflect on the discussion from today and put this on the next BCEHS open meeting agenda for further discussion and input prior to decisions being made.

Linda Lupini was instructed by the Board to meet with Delta Mayor and Fire Chief to discuss the multiple concerns that the BCEHS Board has with a potential project with Delta.

Board Committee Reports

The Quality & Access Committee:

Mr. Ritchie reported that compliance with BCEHS Required Organizational Practices (ROPs) has continued. A full Mock Accreditation was conducted in October and results will be presented at the next committee meeting.

Governance & Human Resources Committee:

No report submitted.

Finance Committee:

The transfer of the Fort St. John and Houston ambulance station properties from Northern Health Authority to BCEHS was approved.

Audit Committee:

No report submitted.

Research Committee:

PHSA does an annual survey of research metrics – this year education was included as part of the report. It is interesting to learn that BCEHS plays a significant role in the practical education and training of students in various paramedic positions and dispatch. The training is very broad and it is estimated that the direct cost in BCEHS was about \$5.5 million making paramedic training the largest throughout PHSA.

Next Meeting of the board in public is scheduled for December 4, 2014 in Vancouver.