

Board briefs summarize the board meetings of BC Emergency Health Services (BCEHS). These briefs are shared with BCEHS agencies, government, media and other stakeholders to keep them informed about the activities of BCEHS.

- Board briefs are available online at: [www.bcehs.ca/about/accountability/board-meetings](http://www.bcehs.ca/about/accountability/board-meetings)
- Media contact: BCEHS Communications at 250-953-3651

## **Summary of the August 27, 2015 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. The August 27, 2015 meeting was held in Vancouver.

### **Question & Answer / Public Presentation Period**

In the spirit of its commitment to public accessibility, the board of BCEHS provides opportunities for the public to schedule presentations and to ask questions of the board prior to the beginning of every open board meeting.

No questions were submitted.

### **Business Meeting**

Two updates were presented by Jodi Jensen, BCEHS Chief Operating Officer, on employee engagement and stakeholder engagement.

#### *Employee Engagement:*

Ms. Jensen presented an update on actions that have been taken by BCEHS to improve employee engagement and strengthen relationships within the organization. Ms. Jensen also reported on projects that have been implemented to open the lines of communication between executive and front-line staff, i.e. the introduction of a Leader's blog as well as workshops with managers and two provincial station tours.

#### *Stakeholder Engagement:*

Ms. Jensen provided an overview of the steps that BCEHS has taken over the last nine months to communicate more clearly and collaborate effectively with partners and stakeholders.

It was noted that the two presentations had similar themes with regards to the importance of relationships, transparency and working collaboratively with both partners and employees.

### **Discussion among board members included the following points:**

- The understanding of specific issues that affect rural communities and part-time employees
  - Staffing and resourcing models
  - Call Volumes

- PTSD and what is being done across PHSA to support staff and promote their mental health well-being
- Broader community recruitment and retention strategies
- Benefit eligibility of part-time employees
- Appreciation and congratulations for a job well done by BCEHS staff dealing with several serious highway accidents during the summer that required multiple responses from BCEHS

## **Board Committee Reports**

### **Quality & Access Committee**

Mr. Ritchie reported that the Committee reviewed progress on the 2015 Quality and Safety Goals.

The committee reviewed the latest data on the processing of ambulance calls. Currently the committee is tracking progress on emergency calls processed within set target times. Call processing time and the percentage of cardiac arrest call metrics are close to achieving the targets and management has improvement initiatives in place to meet the targets. The committee wants to see all targets being met and is encouraged to see the demand analysis study as it will help guide longer term expectations.

Mr. Ritchie also reported that management has reviewed the comprehensive preventative maintenance program for medical devices and equipment.

### **Governance and Human Resources Committee**

Ms. McGrath reported that the annual review of the Influenza Control Policy was conducted and it was recommended that the existing BC Emergency Health Services and PHSA policies be combined into one policy, requiring some minor amendments. The board approved the amended Influenza Control Policy.

### **Finance Committee**

Mr. Manning provided some minor revisions that were made to the Board and CEO Financial Signing Authority Policy and the BCEHS banking policies.

The revised policies were approved.

Mr. Manning also provided a financial summary for the three periods ended June 18, 2015 and reported a small surplus. Management is forecasting that PHSA will end the year with a balanced budget or a surplus and also spend 100 per cent of the capital spending target by the end of the year.

### **Audit Committee**

No items to report.

### **Research Committee**

Mr. Sadler reported that BCEHS is participating in a multi-site Resuscitation Outcomes Consortium research study. The study will help determine whether administering a medication used to stabilize bleeding pre-hospital, to patients with a life-threatening traumatic brain injury, improves outcomes. Traumatic brain injury is the number one cause of death in people under 40 years of age and very few treatments exist. The medication being studied is called Tranexamic Acid or TXA.

### **Next meeting**

October 22, 2015 in Vancouver