

**BC EMERGENCY HEALTH SERVICES
Board of Directors PUBLIC Meeting
Tuesday, February 10, 2026 | 8:00 am to 8:30 am**

MINUTES

BCEHS Board of Directors

Elizabeth Cull (Chair)	Colleen Austin 'Wii Goot	Jim Chu	Doug LePard
Brandi MacAulay	Barry O'Neill		

Executive and Leadership Team

Dr. Penny Ballem, Interim President and CEO, PHSA
Dr. Leanne Heppell, Executive Vice President, PHSA & Chief Ambulance Officer, BCEHS
Zulie Sachedina, General Counsel & Chief Legal Officer, PHSA
Jennie Helmer, Chief Operating Officer, BCEHS
Dr. Sandra Jenneson, Chief Medical Officer, BCEHS
Paul Valley, Chief Quality, Planning and Coordination Officer, and Interim Chief Paramedic Practice, BCEHS
Annie Leung, Executive Assistant to the President and CEO, PHSA & BCEHS Board Liaison & Executive Administrator
Vivian Tai, Executive Assistant, Office of the CEO, PHSA (*interim recorder*)

Guests

Siem Te Ta-in

1. Call to Order

Elizabeth Cull called the meeting to order.

2. Indigenous Welcome & Land Acknowledgement

Elizabeth Cull offered the land acknowledgement. Siem Te Ta-in provided the Indigenous welcome.

3. Agenda Approvals and Conflicts

3.1 Approval of the February 10, 2026, Meeting Agenda.
Moved by Doug LePard, seconded by Jim Chu. Carried.
No conflicts were declared.

4. Approval of the December 09, 2025, Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Moved by Barry O'Neill, seconded by Doug LePard. Carried.

5. Chief Ambulance Officer Update

Dr. Leanne Heppell provided an update and reviewed the BCEHS Public Reporting Metrics and Emergency Department Closures and Risk Mitigations.

Public reporting, with key systems and clinical metrics, is available online with updates provided quarterly. Metric includes:

- 1) Response time within nine (9) minutes, which BCEHS is meeting the response time.

- 2) 911 calls have increased; currently we experience the same call volumes as we did during the heat dome in 2021.
- 3) Time for critical assessment; time between call received and when the ambulance is enroute.

Increasing Emergency Department closures, service interruptions, reduced bed availability and staffing storage are causing ambulances to travel to the next available hospital. Mitigation strategy includes securing additional 21 ambulances, continuing strong relationships and daily communications with Health Authorities in assessing individual occurrences, and reassigning ambulances to impacted communities.

6. Resolution to Convene Closed Session of the Meeting

Moved by Jim Chu, seconded by Doug LePard. Carried.

CLOSED MEETING