

Treasury Board Submission – Request for Decision

Minister: Honourable Colin Hansen, Minister of Health Services
Ministry: Health Services
Date: 4/02/2011 Ministry Document #: H10-20

Title: BC Services Card Approval

ISSUE: FOR DECISION

The Ministry of Health Services requests approval to implement new health/government services cards and related business processes that would replace the current BC CareCard with a more secure identity credential, for use in the health sector

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RECOMMENDATION:

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BACKGROUND:

History

The Ministries of Health Services, Public Safety and Solicitor General (Insurance Corporation of BC) and Citizens' Services have worked collaboratively to design a major project to leverage existing best practices in identity management services to create a more secure identity credential that can be used in

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This credential would replace the existing CareCard.

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Medical Services Plan (MSP) and CareCard

Under the *Medicare Protection Act*, all BC citizens are required to enrol in MSP, which publicly funds eligible services provided by health care providers and diagnostic facilities. Enrolment in MSP is also required for other provincial programs such as hospital services, PharmaCare, and Home and Community Care.

On enrolment, each citizen receives a CareCard displaying a unique Personal Health Number (PHN) that is used to identify the beneficiary and their records within the health care system. Health care providers use a patient's PHN to determine their eligibility for MSP coverage and to bill MSP for eligible health care services.

While the CareCard is a convenient basis for confirming coverage, other enquiry tools are available and it is not necessary for beneficiaries to be in possession of their CareCard at the time of service.

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eGovernment

The Ministry of Citizens' Services is responsible for leading innovation and transformation in the public sector including championing enablers for eGovernment strategies. The new BC Services Card initiative is a key component of the "Citizens @ the Centre: B.C. Government 2.0" strategy which sets out how to deliver government services to the public more effectively through the application of technological advancements.

Electronic Health Records

The provincial vision for eHealth is an integrated system in which health care information is accessible, when and where it is needed, to support personal health, health care decision making and health system sustainability. Provincial eHealth and the development of electronic health record systems are well underway. The new health card will provide a stronger identity credential and assist with reducing inaccuracies in electronic health records and associated potential risks to patient safety, data integrity and privacy.

IMPLICATIONS AND CONSIDERATIONS:


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Pages 4 through 9 redacted for the following reasons:

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Contact: Manjit Sidhu, ADM
Financial and Corporate Services
(250) 952-2066



Honourable Colin Hansen

March 09, 2011

Date Signed

Appendices

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Appendix C: A Comparison of Current Health Cards in Canada

Appendix D: Governance Structure

Pages 12 through 15 redacted for the following reasons:

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Appendix C – A Comparison of Current Health Cards in Canada

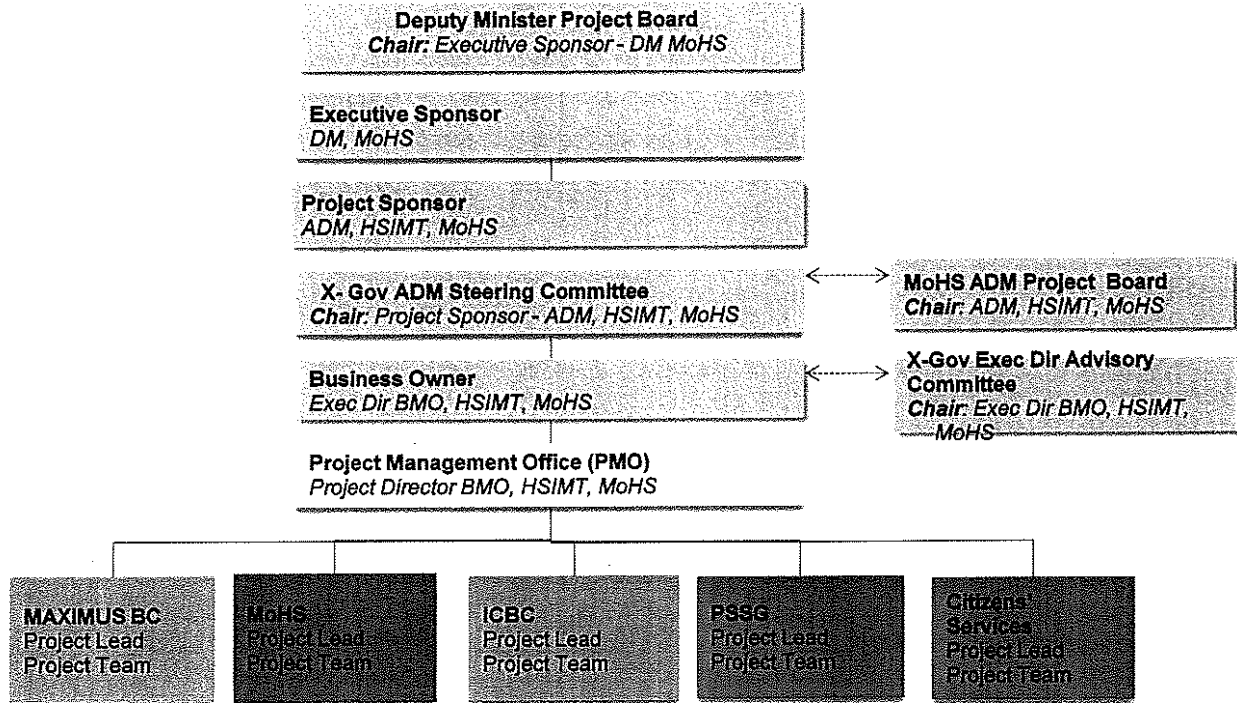
Jurisdiction	Photo on health card?	Expiring health card?	Registration process	Charge for card? ¹
British Columbia	No	Some cards. Vast majority do not.	Mail in	No
Alberta	No	No	Counter or mail in	No
Saskatchewan	No	Yes	Mail in	No
Manitoba	No	No	Counter	No
Ontario	Yes	Yes	Counter unless exempted. Mail in for clients temporarily out of province	No
Quebec	Yes	Yes	Counter unless exempted. Mail in for clients temporarily out of province	\$8 fee for photo if it is not provided by client
New Brunswick	No	Yes	Mail in	No
Prince Edward Island	No	Yes	Mail in	No
Nova Scotia	No	Yes	Telephone for first time registration. Mail in/fax for renewals.	No
Newfoundland	No	Yes	Mail in	No
Yukon	No	Yes	Counter	No
Northwest Territories	No	Yes	Mail in	No
Nunavut	No	Yes	Counter	No

No provinces or territories currently combine the health card with another card (for example, Driver's Licence).

British Columbia would be first province to implement a generic government services access card as the foundation for the health card and the only province to consider giving residents the option of combining the health card and driver's licence.

¹ This does not include charges for duplicate or replacement cards.

Appendix D – Governance Structure



The Ministry of Health Services (the Ministry) has established a Deputy Ministers’ Project Board to manage the implementation of the Project. The Project Board will be chaired by the Deputy Minister of Health Services, and include representatives from the Ministry, the Ministry of Citizens’ Services, the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General and the Insurance Corporation of BC (ICBC). The Board is responsible for providing overall strategic direction and key decision-making on critical cross-government project concerns, with particular reference to scope, budget, schedule, procurement and communications. Direction from the Board has stated that any change in scope, costs or timelines must be approved by the Board. This would include decisions on additional funding requests, absorbing costs internally, and decreasing scope.

Progress Report

Ministry: Health

Date: 30/04/2012

Ministry Document # H12-03

Issue: Report on Progress on the BC Services Card Project

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Pages 19 through 28 redacted for the following reasons:

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Progress Report

Ministry: Health

Date: 30/11/2011

Issue: Report on Progress on the BC Services Card Project

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Pages 30 through 33 redacted for the following reasons:

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