

## Re: FOR REVIEW & APPROVAL-- bc association of social workers magazine

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From: Dix, Adrian HLTH:EX  
To: Yeung, Lucinda HLTH:EX <Lucinda.Yeung@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: April 21, 2019 3:46:25 PM PDT  
Why your version bien entendu. Thanks Lucinda

Sent from my iPad

On Apr 21, 2019, at 3:43 PM, Yeung, Lucinda HLTH:EX <[Lucinda.Yeung@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Lucinda.Yeung@gov.bc.ca)> wrote:

Hi Minister,

For your review and approval--attached are draft submissions to the BC Association of Social Workers quarterly magazine - Perspectives. You may recall that Michael (Crawford) had extended the invitation last year. I was told that they've moved from the Q&A format, but aside from an ask to acknowledge National Social Workers Month, we have lots of editorial room.

First draft is prepared from GCPE - focuses on primary care

Second draft is with my edits **s.13**

Your feedback and thoughts are welcomed. I'm happy to work on it tomorrow if it requires further polishing

Thank you,

Lucinda

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**From:** Thistle-Walker, Carlene GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2019 12:41 PM  
**To:** Yeung, Lucinda HLTH:EX  
**Cc:** Anderson, Kristy GCPE:EX; Singh, Jasmyn HLTH:EX; Lindstein, Sarah GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** RE: bcasw - perspectives

Hi Lucinda,

Here is the approved by the ministry submission for the BCASW.

Any questions, please let us know.

**Carlene Thistle-Walker** | Communications Manager

Government Communications & Public Engagement

B.C. Ministry of Health

**Tel:** 250.952.1644 | **Mobile:** 250.812.3291 | **email:** [carlene.thistle-walker@gov.bc.ca](mailto:carlene.thistle-walker@gov.bc.ca)

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**From:** Yeung, Lucinda HLTH:EX

**Sent:** April 8, 2019 6:56 PM

**To:** Thistle-Walker, Carlene GCPE:EX <[Carlene.ThistleWalker@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Carlene.ThistleWalker@gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** Anderson, Kristy GCPE:EX <[Kristy.Anderson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kristy.Anderson@gov.bc.ca)>; Singh, Jasmyn HLTH:EX <[Jasmyn.Singh@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jasmyn.Singh@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** bcasw - perspectives

Hi Carlene,

Remember Perspectives, the publication by the BC Association of Social Workers? I'm hoping that we can draft a submission on behalf of the Minister for their May 2019 issue. 500-750 words, deadline is mid-April. If the team can help draft something this week I am happy to make the edits and polish over the weekend to meet the deadline.

The May issue will feature celebrations from national social work month (March), so the request/suggestion is to include a note of congratulations about the week. There's ample freedom to pick the focus of the piece.

For reference I have attached their Winter 2019 issue.

Thank you,

Lucinda

**Lucinda Yeung**

Ministerial Assistant to

Hon. Adrian Dix, Minister of Health

Room 337| Parliament Buildings, Victoria, BC | V8V 1X4

**\*New\*** (778) 974-6005

<Submission for Perspectives\_Apr 11\_1237pm.docx>

<Submission for Perspectives-LY edit.docx>

## Re: Submission for Perspectives-final

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From: Dix, Adrian HLTH:EX  
To: Yeung, Lucinda HLTH:EX <Lucinda.Yeung@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: April 22, 2019 3:45:59 PM PDT

Here with some changes mostly cosmetic.

s.13

Sincerely,  
Adrian Dix  
Minister of Health

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From: Yeung, Lucinda HLTH:EX  
Sent: Monday, April 22, 2019 3:31 PM  
To: Dix, Adrian HLTH:EX  
Subject: Submission for Perspectives-final

Hi Minister,

In case you want to give it a final read-here's the final submissions to the BC Association of Social Workers magazine

Thank you,

Lucinda

## Materials

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From: Dix, Adrian HLTH:EX  
To: Singh, Jasmyn HLTH:EX <Jasmyn.Singh@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: April 23, 2019 1:53:49 PM PDT  
Hi Jasmyn,

I understand that materials that have been sent to me on the Cayton Report and other issues. Can I get those forwarded to me right away?

Thanks

Adrian

## Re: UPCC and Yates Update - April 23

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From: Dix, Adrian HLTH:EX  
To: Singh, Jasmyn HLTH:EX <[Jasmyn.Singh@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jasmyn.Singh@gov.bc.ca)>  
Sent: April 23, 2019 5:19:46 PM PDT  
s.13

On Apr 23, 2019, at 4:52 PM, Singh, Jasmyn HLTH:EX <[Jasmyn.Singh@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jasmyn.Singh@gov.bc.ca)> wrote:

I had requested Yates earlier this morning and North van last week. Presuming u asked for North and Kelowna

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Moulton, Holly HLTH:EX" <[Holly.Moulton@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Holly.Moulton@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Date:** April 23, 2019 at 4:49:20 PM PDT  
**To:** "Singh, Jasmyn HLTH:EX" <[Jasmyn.Singh@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jasmyn.Singh@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** "Byres, David W HLTH:EX" <[David.Byres@gov.bc.ca](mailto:David.Byres@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** UPCC and Yates Update - April 23

Good afternoon Jasmyn,

Please find attached update on Kelowna, North Vancouver and Yates as requested.

Kind regards

Holly

<UPCC and Yates Update - April 23-19.docx>

## Re: HLTH Media Request-Richmond News- PCN

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From: Dix, Adrian HLTH:EX  
To: Yeung, Lucinda HLTH:EX <Lucinda.Yeung@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: April 25, 2019 2:39:04 PM PDT  
s.13

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**From:** Yeung, Lucinda HLTH:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 25, 2019 2:37 PM  
**To:** Dix, Adrian HLTH:EX  
**Cc:** Singh, Jasmyn HLTH:EX  
**Subject:** HLTH Media Request-Richmond News- PCN

Hi Minister – what do you think of interview with Richmond news? I don't believe Maria of Richmond News was at announcement this morning

Thank you  
Lucinda

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**From:** Burton, Meribeth GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** April 25, 2019 2:06 PM  
**To:** Singh, Jasmyn HLTH:EX <Jasmyn.Singh@gov.bc.ca>; Yeung, Lucinda HLTH:EX <Lucinda.Yeung@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Anderson, Kristy GCPE:EX <Kristy.Anderson@gov.bc.ca>; Forbes, Brooke GCPE:EX <Brooke.Forbes@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** HLTH Media Request: Richmond PCN

Hi Jas and Lucinda,

Please see draft responses to questions re; Richmond PCN.

Meribeth

### Reporter

Maria Rantanen, Reporter  
Richmond News  
[mrantanen@richmond-news.com](mailto:mrantanen@richmond-news.com)  
604-249-3329 c: 604-816-5627

**Deadline** Thursday, April 25, 2019 12:00 PM

### Request

How is the funding attached? Who's paying for what?

s.13

What is the year over year funding breakdown?

s.13

Are these new physical spaces "clinics", or is it using existing spaces?

s.13

**How does the network work?**

s.13

**Who are allied health professionals?**

s.13

**Background**

**Recommendation**

## Re: HLTH Media Request: Diabetes drug: RESEND

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From: Dix, Adrian HLTH:EX  
To: Singh, Jasmyn HLTH:EX <[Jasmyn.Singh@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jasmyn.Singh@gov.bc.ca)>  
Sent: April 26, 2019 2:15:21 PM PDT  
The response looks fine

On Apr 26, 2019, at 2:07 PM, Singh, Jasmyn HLTH:EX <[Jasmyn.Singh@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jasmyn.Singh@gov.bc.ca)> wrote:

And this was sent earlier - yesterday

Sent from my iPhone

On Apr 26, 2019, at 1:54 PM, Singh, Jasmyn HLTH:EX <[Jasmyn.Singh@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jasmyn.Singh@gov.bc.ca)> wrote:

**The media request made by newsam1130/city, Dr Elliot is engaging in his latest round of advocacy for SGLT2**

In the response have added in that SGLT2 are not all recommended for listing by the DBC, and draw from your interview from CKNW last year when you responded to Dr Elliot's call for listing then

**The reporter is looking for a response by today**

**Reporter**

Isabelle Raghem, Reporter

CITY TV

[isabelle.raghem@citytv.rogers.com](mailto:isabelle.raghem@citytv.rogers.com)

604-876-1344 c: 604-362-7114

**Request**

I'm emailing you in regards to a set of diabetes drugs not covered by the province. A doctor tells us B.C. is the only province in Canada not covering the cost of SGLT2 inhibitors, which costs patients more than \$1,000 a year. Dr. Tom Elliott, the medical director for BC Diabetes, says this set of drugs could save hundreds of lives every year.

Looking to hear from the health ministry about whether or not these medications are being considered? If not, why not? And why has B.C.'s health ministry chosen to be the only province in the country to not cover the drugs?

s.13

s.13



## Re: HLTH Media Request: Sooke and West Shore PCN

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From: Dix, Adrian HLTH:EX  
To: Singh, Jasmyn HLTH:EX <[Jasmyn.Singh@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jasmyn.Singh@gov.bc.ca)>  
Sent: April 26, 2019 2:27:27 PM PDT  
Ok. Small chance I might miss if copter delayed but sure

On Apr 26, 2019, at 2:00 PM, Singh, Jasmyn HLTH:EX <[Jasmyn.Singh@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jasmyn.Singh@gov.bc.ca)> wrote:

750 is the only time that would work if you agree

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**From:** Burton, Meribeth GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** April 26, 2019 1:58 PM  
**To:** Singh, Jasmyn HLTH:EX <[Jasmyn.Singh@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jasmyn.Singh@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Anderson, Kristy GCPE:EX <[Kristy.Anderson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kristy.Anderson@gov.bc.ca)>; May, Stephen GCPE:EX <[Stephen.May@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Stephen.May@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** FW: HLTH Media Request: Sooke and West Shore PCN

Hi Jas,

Is the Minister available for a live CBC interview on Sooke announcement Monday morning?

Meribeth

### Reporter

Deborah Wilson, Producer  
CBC - Victoria  
[deborah.wilson@cbc.ca](mailto:deborah.wilson@cbc.ca)  
250-414-4708 c: 250-360-2227

**Deadline** Friday, April 26, 2019 12:00 PM

### Request

On the Island host Gregor Craigie would like to interview Minister Dix about the Sooke PCN announcement, and an update on the West Shore PCN too (how many people it has served to date etc.). This will be a live one on one interview for 7-8 minutes. Times proposed: 7:20am; 7:50am or 8:20am on Monday.

### Background

### Recommendation

## Re: revised release

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From: Dix, Adrian HLTH:EX  
To: Singh, Jasmyn HLTH:EX <Jasmyn.Singh@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: April 30, 2019 6:36:37 PM PDT  
s.13

Sent from my iPad

On Apr 30, 2019, at 5:48 PM, Singh, Jasmyn HLTH:EX <[Jasmyn.Singh@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jasmyn.Singh@gov.bc.ca)> wrote:

For Immediate Release  
[release number]  
May 1, 2019

Ministry of Health

### Achieving results and delivering more MRI exams

VICTORIA – People throughout B.C. will continue to get improved access to magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) exams as government adds 15,000 more exams in the second year of the B.C. Surgical and Diagnostic Imaging Strategy after exceeding its first year targets.

“I’m proud to say that we have surpassed our bold MRI targets in year one of our plan, performing s.13 more exams compared to 2017-18,” said Health Minister Adrian Dix. “Our Surgical and Diagnostic strategy has improved services for patients, through capitalizing on existing public health resources, and adding new capacity where required. We are now taking further action to expand services and reduce waits by adding another 15,000 MRI procedures to this past year’s success.”

In the first year of the strategy the number of MRIs performed reached s.13

s.13 In 2017-18, s.13 189,376 exams were performed.

In 2019-20 a further \$5.25 million is being added to complete s.13 exams annually.

Under the strategy launched last year, government invested \$11 million of ongoing funding to substantially increase this number of exams.

“Our government has been very clear that the commitment announced last March to improve access to MRIs was not a one time effort, but part of a multi- year strategy to reduce waits and leverage solutions and capacity in the public health-care system. We have seen some great results in just the first year, which we will continue to build off in year two so more and more patients can receive faster and more appropriate care. Simply put, we are just getting started,” added Dix.

Reaching and exceeding the 2018-19 MRI targets involved in part running existing machines longer by adding evening, s.13 weekend and/or statutory holiday shifts to the existing MRI units. At the start of 2019, of the 33 MRIs across B.C, 10 were running 24/7 compared to one in August 2017, 17 more than 19 hours a day.

s.13 Fraser Health purchasing two private MRI outpatient clinics in September 2018, as part of government’s Surgical and Diagnostic Imaging Strategy. An MRI machine also began operating at Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital in Cranbrook. s.13

s.13

Since October 2018, Vancouver Coastal Health, Fraser Health and Providence Health Care have processed MRI requests through a central intake system, which is helping streamline the MRI referral process,

eliminate duplicate referrals and reduce missed appointments. The combined benefits gives patients more options of where and when they can undergo a procedure.

In addition to increasing capacity, the Ministry of Health continues to work with health authorities to find ways to make sure referrals for MRI are the most appropriate test, and that the quality of exams are consistently high to ensure patient safety and reduce the need to repeat them and take up more valuable time.

MRI is one of the tools used to diagnose a number of medical conditions, including abnormalities of the brain, as well as tumours, cysts and soft-tissue injuries in other parts of the body. An early diagnosis can lead to early treatment, which can positively impact people's quality of life and return them to being contributing members of their communities and the economy.

Two backgrounders follow.

**Media contact(s):** Ministry of Health Communications  
250 952-1887 (media line)

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Connect with the Province of B.C. at: [news.gov.bc.ca/connect](https://news.gov.bc.ca/connect)

# BACKGROUND 1

## What people are saying about MRIs

**Danita Braun, MRI recipient, Northern Health -**

"I got a call from the MRI booking office, and they told me that they wanted me in the next day, in the evening, and I was dumbfounded because I was expecting it to be a six week wait for this appointment. The icing on the cake for that, was that the results of my (MRI) tests resulted in a whole different direction for my treatment, and it was able to happen quickly, the change of direction, and that was happy, happy, happy news for me!"

**Kyra Janot, MRI recipient, Vancouver Coastal -**

"Being able to get an MRI within two weeks helped me physically and mentally. It gave me the peace of mind, not having to wait and worry."

**Deborah M., MRI recipient, s.13**

**Island Health -**

"I was really pleased to see this (MRI) machine go 24/7. People are really pleased to get their results sooner. I got my MRI quickly and I got my results quickly. That really helped with my physiotherapy. My physiotherapist was able to pinpoint exercises for me to do and the things I should avoid doing. It's been really helpful."

s.13

# BACKGROUND 2

s.13

s.13

s.13

## Volumes for 2017-18 and 2018-19

- 2018-19 totals
  - B.C. – 233,369
  - Interior Health – 27,219
  - Northern Health – 14,084
  - Island Health – 49,346
  - Fraser Health – 65,302
  - Vancouver Coastal Health – 64,606
  - Provincial Health Services Authority – 12,812
- 2018-19 totals and percentage change over previous year (2017/18):
  - B.C. – 233,369—23%
  - Interior Health – 27,219—31.3%
  - Northern Health- 14,084—86.9%
  - Island Health—49,346—28.2%
  - Fraser Health – 65,302—17.2%
  - Vancouver Coastal Health – 64,606—s.13
  - Provincial Health Services Authority – 12,812 – 31.4%

**From:** [Dix, Adrian HLTH:EX](#)  
**To:** [Singh, Jasmyn HLTH:EX](#)  
**Subject:** Re: attempt 2 to pull things into one place, in body of the email - ha updates on measles campaign (missing fnha)  
**Date:** April 22, 2019 3:40:54 PM

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Thanks Jasmyn.

Did the Camille Bains interview. **s.13**

**s.13**

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**From:** Singh, Jasmyn HLTH:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, April 22, 2019 2:57 PM  
**To:** Dix, Adrian HLTH:EX  
**Cc:** Yeung, Lucinda HLTH:EX  
**Subject:** attempt 2 to pull things into one place, in body of the email - ha updates on measles campaign (missing fnha)

(also attached the latest update in one place, and FHA clinics master sheet as it currently stands, these clinics are still being planned; we are getting the doses administered updated shortly)

**Health Authority Update**

**Vancouver Coastal Health**

Mail out to Parents/Guardians

- VCH has mailed out 130,000+ letters to parents/guardians providing information about the Measles Immunization Catch-Up Program.
- Approximately 14,000 students have been identified as needing one or two doses.

School Clinic Immunizations

- 313 school-based clinics planned over the course of the Campaign.

55 have already occurred, plus 16 Community based clinics at community health centres, and public health units

Clinics that are occurring this week:

Richmond Schools

Maple Lane (Elementary)	Apr 23 2019
RC Middle	Apr 24 2019
(WD) Ferris (Elementary)	Apr 25 2019
(Walter) Lee Elementary	Apr 25 2019

Vancouver **s.13**

	Apr 22
Hamber Secondary	2019
Southlands (elementary)	Apr 23 2019
	Apr 24
Vancouver Christian	2019
Lord Tennyson (Elementary )	Apr 24 2019
Mackenzie Elementary	Apr 24 2019
Strathcona (Elementary)	Apr 25 2019
	Apr 25
Dickens	2019
	Apr 25
OLPH	2019

Nootkan	Apr 26 2019
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North Shore

St Pius (elementary)	Apr 23 2019
Capilano (Elementary)	Apr 24 2019
Caulfield (Elementary, West Vancouver)	Apr 25 2019
Montroyal (elementary)	Apr 26 2019

### Fraser Health Authority

Mail out to Parents/Guardians

- Parents/guardians of those 93,000 records being reviewed are receiving letters. To date that is approx. 9,000 letters from 40,000 records reviewed

School Clinic Immunizations

155 are planned, 50 in high schools – the first high school clinic is scheduled to take place April 18<sup>th</sup>.

Other school clinics are in the process of being planned

Community Clinic Immunizations

- Have up dated their website to include all planned clinics (approximately 65) until the end of June 2019 ([www.fraserhealth.ca/measlescatchup](http://www.fraserhealth.ca/measlescatchup)).

Clinics that are happening this week:

FHA:

25-Apr-19	0815-1100	School	New Westminster Secondary School	
25-Apr-19	0900-1500	School	Moscrop High School	Burnaby
26-Apr-19	0900-1500	School	Khalsa Secondary School	North Surrey

Community based clinics:

24-Apr-19	1600-1800	Community	Newton Public Health	Newton	
27-Apr-19	0900-1500	Community	Cloverdale Health Unit	Cloverdale	
27-Apr-19	0930-1530	Community	Maple Ridge Health Unit	Maple Ridge	
27-Apr-19	0900-1130	Community	North Delta Health Unit	North Delta	

### Interior Health

Mail out to Parents/Guardians

IHA has mailed out 130,000 letters to parents/guardians providing information about the Measles Immunization Catch-Up Program, and is preparing consent packages for distribution to students in Grades 1-12. Expected approximately 20,000 children are not up-to-date for age. Circulation of consent packages is expected week of April 22, 2019.

School Clinic Immunizations

- There are over 400 schools in IHA. School clinics will occur over approximately an 8 week period, with an average of about 50 school clinics each week.
- Routine grade 6 & 9 immunization clinics have been ongoing throughout the year using personalized consents, which allows for MMR catch up of school kids who are not up to date with two MMR doses as per BC Immunization Schedule.
- Public Health Nurses have started to book their school clinics as the timing of consent package availability has been determined. School clinics require the personalized consent to be distributed to children/ families at least 1 week in advance of the scheduled clinic.
- Students who do not attend a physical school e.g. home schooled, have been identified. These students will be directed to their local health centre for immunization.

- All unimmunized/under-immunized kindergarten students will be immunized in health centres and offered all catch-up vaccines including a measles-containing vaccine

#### Community Health Centre Immunizations

- Interior Health will provide measles containing vaccine through more than 40 community health centres.
- Drop in immunizations for the target population (5-18 years of age) are available at all IH health centres.
- Clinics are running Mon-Fri during business hours across the region at all IHA public health locations. Normally, IHA would require appointments, however, IHA has staffed the clinics to be able to accommodate drop-ins as part of the measles catch up program.

#### **Island Health Authority**

##### Mail out to Parents/Guardians

- Island Health plans to send approximately 26,000 letters to parents/guardians providing information about the Measles Immunization Catch-Up Program the week beginning April 15, 2019.

##### School Clinic Immunizations

- 104 clinics planned April-June 2019.

##### Public Health Unit Immunizations

- 156 additional public health clinics planned through region.

#### **Northern Health Authority**

##### Mail out to Parents/Guardians

- On March 29<sup>th</sup>, NHA sent letters via all public school superintendents and independent school authorities to all parents/guardians of K-12 students, informing them of the upcoming campaign.
  - Consent packages will be sent April/May to the estimated 10,380 parents/guardians of children that have no record or require one or two doses of measles vaccine prior to scheduled school clinics.

##### School/Community Clinic Immunizations

- NHA has asked for their Campaign related doses to be delivered from BCCDC from April 29<sup>th</sup>. Following that vaccine drop and consent packages provided, NHA will begin their school and community clinics.
- Quesnel School District (19 public schools; 3 independent), immunizations will be provided primarily within the school setting. Children also have the option to attend a clinic, which operates Monday through Friday from 0900-2000. Ongoing assessment of uptake via school clinics will occur to determine whether there are any additional needs.
- Prince George School District (45 public schools; 9 independent schools) will offer school clinics as well as evening/weekend clinics to provide options to access immunization further to this campaign. Prince George operates a regular drop-in clinic Monday through Friday from 0830-1600. Appointments can also be booked with the booster clinic which operates twice weekly, Monday mornings 0830-1200 and Friday afternoons at 1300-1600.

**From:** [Dix, Adrian HLTH:EX](#)  
**To:** [Singh, Jasmyn HLTH:EX](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Cayton: Steering committee documents  
**Date:** April 23, 2019 2:49:15 PM

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Thanks Jasmyn

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**From:** Singh, Jasmyn HLTH:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 23, 2019 2:05 PM  
**To:** Dix, Adrian HLTH:EX  
**Subject:** Cayton: Steering committee documents

These are the latest updated ones, slightly revised from the prior versions -**s.13**  
**s.13**

1. Steering Committee Terms of Reference –**s.13**  
**s.13**

2. Steering Committee Public Engagement Plan
3. Plan in Response to Part 2 of the Cayton Report

**From:** [Dix, Adrian HLTH:EX](#)  
**To:** [Yeung, Lucinda HLTH:EX](#)  
**Subject:** Re: HLTH Media Request-Richmond News- PCN  
**Date:** April 25, 2019 2:43:49 PM

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s.13

s.13 So something like this

**Request**

**How is the funding attached? Who's paying for what? What is the year over year funding breakdown?**

s.13

**Are these new physical spaces "clinics", or is it using existing spaces?**

s.13

**How does the network work?**

s.13

**Who are allied health professionals?**

s.13

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**From:** Yeung, Lucinda HLTH:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 25, 2019 2:37 PM  
**To:** Dix, Adrian HLTH:EX  
**Cc:** Singh, Jasmyn HLTH:EX  
**Subject:** HLTH Media Request-Richmond News- PCN

Hi Minister – what do you think of interview with Richmond news? I don't believe Maria of Richmond News was at announcement this morning

Thank you  
Lucinda

---

**From:** Burton, Meribeth GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** April 25, 2019 2:06 PM  
**To:** Singh, Jasmyn HLTH:EX <Jasmyn.Singh@gov.bc.ca>; Yeung, Lucinda HLTH:EX <Lucinda.Yeung@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Anderson, Kristy GCPE:EX <Kristy.Anderson@gov.bc.ca>; Forbes, Brooke GCPE:EX <Brooke.Forbes@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** HLTH Media Request: Richmond PCN

**Hi Jas and Lucinda,**

**Please see draft responses to questions re; Richmond PCN.**

**Meribeth**

**Reporter**

Maria Rantanen, Reporter  
Richmond News  
[mrantanen@richmond-news.com](mailto:mrantanen@richmond-news.com)  
604-249-3329 c: 604-816-5627

**Deadline** Thursday, April 25, 2019 12:00 PM

**Request**

**How is the funding attached? Who's paying for what?**

s.13

**What is the year over year funding breakdown?**

s.13

**Are these new physical spaces "clinics", or is it using existing spaces?**

s.13

**How does the network work?**

s.13

**Who are allied health professionals?**

s.13

**Background**

**Recommendation**

**From:** [Dix, Adrian HLTH:EX](#)  
**To:** [Singh, Jasmyn HLTH:EX](#)  
**Subject:** Re: media response Surgeries compliance , vancouver sun  
**Date:** April 23, 2019 4:54:38 PM

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Ok

On Apr 23, 2019, at 4:33 PM, Singh, Jasmyn HLTH:EX <[Jasmyn.Singh@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jasmyn.Singh@gov.bc.ca)> wrote:

Fayerman has come back – on compliance letters. **s.13**  
**s.13**

“I have a few surgeons saying that although government said they’d be getting more OR time, they have not seen anything like that materialize and that they are now doing fewer surgeries in total,  
I wondering if you have any evidence that more elective surgeries are being done from then until now?  
It seems the surgical wait list website has been changed so total numbers are no longer shown. And I have no way of knowing if more resources have even put into OR availability for surgeons who lost the ability to have a foot in both doors.  
Also, just wondering if you know of any other provinces where surgeons sign such compliance letters?  
She is now, in relation to surgical waitlists, asking for the surgery states from oct-december 2018 compared to 2017

**s.13**

*Response*  
**s.13**

s.13

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**From:** [Dix, Adrian HLTH:EX](#)  
**To:** [Singh, Jasmyn HLTH:EX](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Residential Care Q3 Update  
**Date:** April 25, 2019 2:24:40 PM

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The facilities? Where are they? Who received what and when.  
Adrian

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**From:** Singh, Jasmyn HLTH:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 25, 2019 2:04 PM  
**To:** Dix, Adrian HLTH:EX  
**Cc:** Yeung, Lucinda HLTH:EX  
**Subject:** Residential Care Q3 Update

**From:** [Dix, Adrian HLTH:EX](#)  
**To:** [Singh, Jasmyn HLTH:EX](#)  
**Subject:** RE: revised release  
**Date:** April 30, 2019 6:53:00 PM

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s.13

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**From:** Singh, Jasmyn HLTH:EX  
**Sent:** April 30, 2019 6:50 PM  
**To:** Dix, Adrian HLTH:EX <[Adrian.Dix@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Adrian.Dix@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** Re: revised release

I am going to find Gary

Sent from my iPhone

On Apr 30, 2019, at 6:37 PM, Dix, Adrian HLTH:EX <[Adrian.Dix@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Adrian.Dix@gov.bc.ca)> wrote:

Do I have leave tonight?

Sent from my iPad

On Apr 30, 2019, at 5:48 PM, Singh, Jasmyn HLTH:EX <[Jasmyn.Singh@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jasmyn.Singh@gov.bc.ca)> wrote:

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Ministry of Health

### **Achieving results and delivering more MRI exams**

VICTORIA – People throughout B.C. will continue to get improved access to magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) exams as government adds 15,000 more exams in the second year of the B.C. Surgical and Diagnostic Imaging Strategy after exceeding its first year targets.

“I’m proud to say that we have surpassed our bold MRI targets in year one of our plan, performing s.13 more exams compared to 2017-18,” said Health Minister Adrian Dix. “Our Surgical and Diagnostic strategy has improved services for patients, through capitalizing on existing public health resources, and adding new capacity where required. We are now taking further action to expand services and reduce waits by adding another 15,000 MRI s.13 to this past year’s success.”

In the first year of the strategy the number of MRIs performed reached s.13  
s.13 In 2017-18,  
s.13 189,376 exams were performed.  
In 2019-20 a further \$5.25 million is being added to complete s.13

**s.13** exams annually. Under the strategy launched last year, government invested \$11 million of ongoing funding to substantially increase this number of exams.

“Our government has been very clear that the commitment announced last March to improve access to MRIs was not a one time effort, but part of a multi-year strategy to reduce waits and leverage solutions and capacity in the public health-care system. We have seen some great results in just the first year, which we will continue to build off in year two so more and more patients can receive faster and more appropriate care. Simply put, we are just getting started,” added Dix.

Reaching and exceeding the 2018-19 MRI targets involved in part running existing machines longer by adding evening, **s.13** weekend and/or statutory holiday shifts to the existing MRI units. At the start of 2019, of the 33 MRIs across B.C, 10 were running 24/7 compared to one in August 2017, 17 more than 19 hours a day.

**s.13** Fraser Health purchasing two **private** MRI outpatient clinics in September 2018, as part of government’s Surgical and Diagnostic Imaging Strategy. An MRI machine also began operating at **s.13** Hospital in Cranbrook. **s.13**  
**s.13**

Since October 2018, Vancouver Coastal Health, Fraser Health and Providence Health Care have processed MRI requests through a central intake system, which is helping streamline the MRI referral process, eliminate duplicate referrals and reduce missed appointments. The combined benefits gives patients more options of where and when they can undergo a procedure.

In addition to increasing capacity, the Ministry of Health continues to work with health authorities to find ways to make sure referrals for MRI are the most appropriate test, and that the quality of exams are consistently high to ensure patient safety and reduce the need to repeat them and take up more valuable time.

MRI is one of the tools used to diagnose a number of medical conditions, including abnormalities of the brain, as well as tumours, cysts and soft-tissue injuries in other parts of the body. An early diagnosis can lead to early treatment, which can positively impact people’s quality of life and return them to being contributing members of their communities and the economy.

**s.13** backgrounders follow.

**Media contact(s):** Ministry of Health Communications

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## BACKGROUNDER 1

### What people are saying about MRIs

#### **Danita Braun, MRI recipient, Northern Health -**

“I got a call from the MRI booking office, and they told me that they wanted me in the next day, in the evening, and I was dumbfounded because I was expecting it to be a six week wait for this appointment. The icing on the cake for that, was that the results of my (MRI) tests resulted in a whole different direction for my treatment, and it was able to happen quickly, the change of direction, and that was happy, happy, happy news for me!”

#### **Kyra Janot, MRI recipient, Vancouver Coastal -**

“Being able to get an MRI within two weeks helped me physically and mentally. It gave me the peace of mind, not having to wait and worry.”

#### **Deborah M., MRI recipient, s.13**

**s.13** **Island Health -**

“I was really pleased to see this (MRI) machine go 24/7. People are really pleased to get their results sooner. I got my MRI quickly and I got my results quickly. That really helped with my physiotherapy. My physiotherapist was able to pinpoint exercises for me to do and the things I should avoid doing. It’s been really helpful.”

**s.13**

## BACKGROUNDER <sup>s.1</sup><sub>2</sub>

**s.13**

### Improving Access to MRI exams

**s.13**

#### **Volumes for 2017-18 and 2018-19**

- 2018-19 totals
  - B.C. – 233,369
  - Interior Health –27,219
  - Northern Health—14,084

- Island Health – 49,346
  - Fraser Health – 65,302
  - Vancouver Coastal Health – 64,606
  - Provincial Health Services Authority – 12,812
- 
- 2018-19 totals and percentage change over previous year (2017/18):
    - B.C. – 233,369—23%
    - Interior Health – 27,219—31.3%
    - Northern Health- 14,084—86.9%
    - Island Health—49,346—28.2%
    - Fraser Health – 65,302—17.2%
    - Vancouver Coastal Health – 64,606—s.13
    - Provincial Health Services Authority – 12,812 – 31.4%