

## RE: HLTH Media Request: Physician Assistants ready and willing to join the health-care system - DEADLINE 11:45 AM

---

From: Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>  
To: MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca>, Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>, Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>  
Cc: Bringsli, Eric C HLTH:EX <Eric.Bringsli@gov.bc.ca>, Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca>, Younker, Katherine E HLTH:EX <Katherine.Younker@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: December 9, 2022 9:20:11 AM PST  
Received: December 9, 2022 9:20:12 AM PST  
Attachments: image001.png

Thanks all, s.<sup>13</sup>

s.<sup>13</sup> , this should be good to go. Thanks Tanya for coordinating this so quickly.

K

---

**From:** MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** December 9, 2022 9:18 AM  
**To:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Bringsli, Eric C HLTH:EX <Eric.Bringsli@gov.bc.ca>; Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca>; Younker, Katherine E HLTH:EX <Katherine.Younker@gov.bc.ca>; MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: HLTH Media Request: Physician Assistants ready and willing to join the health-care system - DEADLINE 11:45 AM

Hi Tanya – thanks for this.

I have attached our latest response the CAPA on their desire to introduce Pas in BC. This attachment contains newly revised messaging (Mark A approved) respecting BC's perspective on PAs.

Apologies for not forwarding this on yesterday to inform this.

Thanks,

M

---

**From:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** December 9, 2022 9:09 AM  
**To:** Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca>; Bringsli, Eric C HLTH:EX <Eric.Bringsli@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: HLTH Media Request: Physician Assistants ready and willing to join the health-care system - DEADLINE 11:45 AM

Hi Ryan and Kevin,

Draft response in purple below for your review. I've not included GCPE/Jania on this draft yet incase further edits are needed. I've included Mark Mackinnon for any Pro Reg input/edits on the draft response.

Please feel free to let me know if any questions or would like changes made.

Kind regards,

## **Request**

We are piecing together an article regarding physician assistants who are willing and able to work in BC after their military tenures are over, but are seemingly being disregarded by the Ministry of Health.

As one Comox PA put it:

"I, along with many others, were good enough to serve in uniform overseas and domestically alongside physicians, nurses, nurse practitioners and many other healthcare professions, but once our military service is over the PA profession isn't worthy of the same privilege of contributing to healthcare delivery in B.C."

This seems to me to be a reasonable solution to some of our healthcare shortcomings in the province. Is this a viable option for the province, and if so, what is being done to put these capable veterans to work?

If it is not a viable option, could we please get an explanation as to why not?

As for deadline, we are hoping to get something online by end of day today (5 p.m. PST)

## **Recommendation**

s.13

## **Background**

### *Physician Assistants*

- PAs are health care professionals that work under the direction and supervision of a licensed physician to provide a board range of health services.
- PAs act as 'physician extenders' that complement existing health services and are not independent practitioners.
- PAs are a relatively new health profession in Canada, although they have been trained and employed by the Canadian forces for over 40 years.
- There are approximately 800 PAs across Canada.
- Ontario, Alberta, Manitoba, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia have introduced PAs into their health workforces.

### *Associate Physicians*

- The College of Physicians and Surgeons of BC (CPSBC) has introduced the 'Associate Physician' class of registration for international medical graduates (IMG) who are not eligible for full or provisional licensure.
- The Associate Physician class allows practitioners with specialty medical training, acceptable to the CPSBC, to work under physician direction and supervision to increase capacity and service delivery.
- The Associate Physician classification will support IMGs in BC, who are not eligible for licensure as independent medical practitioners, to find employment opportunities that meet priority health-system gaps.
- Associate Physicians will be integrated into acute and specialty care settings in health authorities across BC throughout 2023. The Ministry is also working with CPSBC to expand the new class, so Associate Physicians can work in community-based primary care settings.

**This is due back to GCPE (Calvin Simpson) by 11:45am, Today, Thursday, December 8, 2022.**

---

**From:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** December 8, 2022 10:16 AM

**To:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>; Marsh, Jania HLTH:EX <[Jania.Marsh@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jania.Marsh@gov.bc.ca)>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>; Bringsli, Eric C HLTH:EX <[Eric.Bringsli@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Eric.Bringsli@gov.bc.ca)>; MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <[Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: HLTH Media Request: Physician Assistants ready and willing to join the health-care system - DEADLINE 11:45 AM

Hi Kevin,

I completely understand. Why don't we set a deadline for tomorrow at 10 AM, and I will manage expectations with the reporter?

For reference, there will be another request coming your way from major media with a similar deadline.

Not sure what's gotten into the press today, but we are getting slammed.

Appreciate your assistance, and let me know if you have any questions.

Warm regards,

**Calvin Simpson**

Public Affairs Officer, Health Communications

Government Communications and Public Engagement

Government of British Columbia | 250-880-5179

---

**From:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** December 8, 2022 10:11 AM

**To:** Marsh, Jania HLTH:EX <[Jania.Marsh@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jania.Marsh@gov.bc.ca)>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>; Bringsli, Eric C HLTH:EX <[Eric.Bringsli@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Eric.Bringsli@gov.bc.ca)>; MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <[Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: HLTH Media Request: Physician Assistants ready and willing to join the health-care system - DEADLINE 11:45 AM

We'll see what we can pull together, 1145 is tight to say the least.

---

**From:** Marsh, Jania HLTH:EX <[Jania.Marsh@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jania.Marsh@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** December 8, 2022 9:54 AM

**To:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>; Bringsli, Eric C HLTH:EX <[Eric.Bringsli@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Eric.Bringsli@gov.bc.ca)>; MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <[Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** HLTH Media Request: Physician Assistants ready and willing to join the health-care system - DEADLINE 11:45 AM

**Importance:** High

Hi Kevin/Ryan/Eric, & Mark:

For input/review/approval, please see below for a media request regarding physician assistants who are willing and able to work in BC after their military tenures are over, but are seemingly being disregarded by the Ministry of Health.

Could you please advise what pathways are available for former military physician assistants to contribute to B.C.s health-care system? Any information that will help inform a response would be appreciated.

**Reporter**

Terry Farrell, Editor

Comox Valley Record (Courtenay)

[editor@comoxvalleyrecord.com](mailto:editor@comoxvalleyrecord.com)

778-225-0029

**Deadline** ASAP

**Request**

We are piecing together an article regarding physician assistants who are willing and able to work in BC after their military tenures are over, but are seemingly being disregarded by the Ministry of Health.

As one Comox PA put it:

"I, along with many others, were good enough to serve in uniform overseas and domestically alongside physicians, nurses, nurse practitioners and many other healthcare professions, but once our military service is over the PA profession isn't worthy of the same privilege of contributing to healthcare delivery in B.C."

This seems to me to be a reasonable solution to some of our healthcare shortcomings in the province. Is this a viable option for the province, and if so, what is being done to put these capable veterans to work?

If it is not a viable option, could we please get an explanation as to why not?

As for deadline, we are hoping to get something online by end of day today (5 p.m. PST)

**Recommendation**

**Background**

**This is due back to GCPE (Calvin Simpson) by 11:45am, Today, Thursday, December 8, 2022.**

Thank you,



**Jania Marsh | Executive Coordinator |**

Assistant Deputy Minister's Office | Health Sector Workforce & Beneficiary Services Division  
Ministry of Health | PO Box 9649 STN PROV GOVT | Victoria, BC | V8W 9P4  
P: 250-952-2402 | C: 778-679-6410 | E: [Jania.Marsh@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jania.Marsh@gov.bc.ca)

*Grateful to live, work, and play within the traditional territories of the Lekwungen speaking people – also known as the Esquimalt and Songhees First Nations.*



**WARNING - CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE** Government confidentiality and privilege requirements apply to this message and any attachments. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any review, retransmission, conversion to hard copy, copying, circulation or other use is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender immediately, and delete this message and any attachments from both your inbox and deleted items folder. Thank You.

---

**From:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** December 8, 2022 9:46 AM  
**To:** Marsh, Jania HLTH:EX <[Jania.Marsh@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jania.Marsh@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** MR: Physician Assistants ready and willing to joining the health-care system DEADLINE 11:45 AM

Good morning Jania,

Please see the below question from the Comox Valley Record.

Could program please advise what pathways are available for former military physician assistants to contribute to B.C.s health-care system?

Any information that will help inform a response would be appreciated.

**Reporter**

Terry Farrell, Editor  
Comox Valley Record (Courtenay)  
[editor@comoxvalleyrecord.com](mailto:editor@comoxvalleyrecord.com)  
778-225-0029

**Deadline** ASAP

**Request**

We are piecing together an article regarding physician assistants who are willing and able to work in BC after their military tenures are over, but are seemingly being disregarded by the Ministry of Health.

As one Comox PA put it:

"I, along with many others, were good enough to serve in uniform overseas and domestically alongside physicians, nurses, nurse practitioners and many other healthcare professions, but once our military service is over the PA profession isn't worthy of the same privilege of contributing to healthcare delivery in B.C."

This seems to me to be a reasonable solution to some of our healthcare shortcomings in the province. Is this a viable option for the province, and if so, what is being done to put these capable veterans to work?

If it is not a viable option, could we please get an explanation as to why not?

As for deadline, we are hoping to get something online by end of day today (5 p.m. PST)

Thank you.

Terry Farrell  
Editor,  
Comox Valley Record

## **Recommendation**

## **Background**

### **Calvin Simpson**

Public Affairs Officer, Health Communications  
Government Communications and Public Engagement  
Government of British Columbia | 250-880-5179

## RE: HLTH Media Request: Physician Assistants ready and willing to join the health-care system - DEADLINE 11:45 AM

---

From: MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca>  
To: Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>, Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>, Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>  
Cc: Bringsli, Eric C HLTH:EX <Eric.Bringsli@gov.bc.ca>, Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca>, Younker, Katherine E HLTH:EX <Katherine.Younker@gov.bc.ca>, MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: December 9, 2022 10:01:44 AM PST  
Received: December 9, 2022 10:01:45 AM PST  
Attachments: image001.png

Even better.

M

---

**From:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** December 9, 2022 9:59 AM  
**To:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>; MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Bringsli, Eric C HLTH:EX <Eric.Bringsli@gov.bc.ca>; Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca>; Younker, Katherine E HLTH:EX <Katherine.Younker@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: HLTH Media Request: Physician Assistants ready and willing to join the health-care system - DEADLINE 11:45 AM

Made some quick tweaks, fire away. Thx  
K

---

**From:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** December 9, 2022 9:41 AM  
**To:** Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>; MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <[Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca)>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Bringsli, Eric C HLTH:EX <[Eric.Bringsli@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Eric.Bringsli@gov.bc.ca)>; Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)>; Younker, Katherine E HLTH:EX <[Katherine.Younker@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Katherine.Younker@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: HLTH Media Request: Physician Assistants ready and willing to join the health-care system - DEADLINE 11:45 AM

Hi all,

Thanks everyone for your quick review and input.

Mark - thank you kindly for sharing the response to CAPA – much appreciated.

s.13

Everything new is in black below.

Please kindly let me know if any further updates/edits are recommended.

Tanya

**Recommendation**

### Background

- PAs are health care professionals that work under the direction and supervision of a licensed physician to provide a board range of health services.
- PAs act as 'physician extenders' that complement existing health services and are not independent practitioners.
- PAs are a relatively new health profession in Canada, although they have been trained and employed by the Canadian forces for over 40 years.
- There are approximately 800 PAs across Canada.
- Ontario, Alberta, Manitoba, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia have introduced PAs into their health workforces.
- BC does not currently have a PA training program. There are only three PA training programs in Canada (two in Ontario and one in Manitoba).

---

**From:** Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** December 9, 2022 9:22 AM

**To:** MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <[Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** Bringsli, Eric C HLTH:EX <[Eric.Bringsli@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Eric.Bringsli@gov.bc.ca)>; Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)>; Younker, Katherine E HLTH:EX <[Katherine.Younker@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Katherine.Younker@gov.bc.ca)>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: HLTH Media Request: Physician Assistants ready and willing to join the health-care system - DEADLINE 11:45 AM

Thanks Mark.

---

**From:** MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <[Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** December 9, 2022 9:18 AM

**To:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** Bringsli, Eric C HLTH:EX <[Eric.Bringsli@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Eric.Bringsli@gov.bc.ca)>; Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)>; Younker, Katherine E HLTH:EX <[Katherine.Younker@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Katherine.Younker@gov.bc.ca)>; MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <[Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: HLTH Media Request: Physician Assistants ready and willing to join the health-care system - DEADLINE 11:45 AM

Hi Tanya – thanks for this.

I have attached our latest response the CAPA on their desire to introduce Pas in BC. This attachment contains newly revised messaging (Mark A approved) respecting BC's perspective on PAs.

Apologies for not forwarding this on yesterday to inform this.

Thanks,

M

---

**From:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** December 9, 2022 9:09 AM

**To:** Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <[Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca)>; Bringsli, Eric C HLTH:EX <[Eric.Bringsli@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Eric.Bringsli@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: HLTH Media Request: Physician Assistants ready and willing to join the health-care system - DEADLINE 11:45 AM

Hi Ryan and Kevin,

Draft response in purple below for your review. I've not included GCPE/Jania on this draft yet incase further edits are needed. I've included Mark Mackinnon for any Pro Reg input/edits on the draft response.

Please feel free to let me know if any questions or would like changes made.

Kind regards,

Tanya

### **Request**

We are piecing together an article regarding physician assistants who are willing and able to work in BC after their military tenures are over, but are seemingly being disregarded by the Ministry of Health.

As one Comox PA put it:

"I, along with many others, were good enough to serve in uniform overseas and domestically alongside physicians, nurses, nurse practitioners and many other healthcare professions, but once our military service is over the PA profession isn't worthy of the same privilege of contributing to healthcare delivery in B.C."

This seems to me to be a reasonable solution to some of our healthcare shortcomings in the province. Is this a viable option for the province, and if so, what is being done to put these capable veterans to work?

If it is not a viable option, could we please get an explanation as to why not?

As for deadline, we are hoping to get something online by end of day today (5 p.m. PST)

## Recommendation

s.13

## Background

### *Physician Assistants*

- PAs are health care professionals that work under the direction and supervision of a licensed physician to provide a board range of health services.
- PAs act as 'physician extenders' that complement existing health services and are not independent practitioners.
- PAs are a relatively new health profession in Canada, although they have been trained and employed by the Canadian forces for over 40 years.
- There are approximately 800 PAs across Canada.
- Ontario, Alberta, Manitoba, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia have introduced PAs into their health workforces.

### *Associate Physicians*

- The College of Physicians and Surgeons of BC (CPSBC) has introduced the 'Associate Physician' class of registration for international medical graduates (IMG) who are not eligible for full or provisional licensure.
- The Associate Physician class allows practitioners with specialty medical training, acceptable to the CPSBC, to work under physician direction and supervision to increase capacity and service delivery.
- The Associate Physician classification will support IMGs in BC, who are not eligible for licensure as independent medical practitioners, to find employment opportunities that meet priority health-system gaps.
- Associate Physicians will be integrated into acute and specialty care settings in health authorities across BC throughout 2023. The Ministry is also working with CPSBC to expand the new class, so Associate Physicians can work in community-based primary care settings.

**This is due back to GCPE (Calvin Simpson) by 11:45am, Today, Thursday, December 8, 2022.**

---

**From:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** December 8, 2022 10:16 AM

**To:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>; Marsh, Jania HLTH:EX <[Jania.Marsh@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jania.Marsh@gov.bc.ca)>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>; Bringsli, Eric C HLTH:EX <[Eric.Bringsli@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Eric.Bringsli@gov.bc.ca)>; MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <[Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: HLTH Media Request: Physician Assistants ready and willing to join the health-care system - DEADLINE 11:45 AM

Hi Kevin,

I completely understand. Why don't we set a deadline for tomorrow at 10 AM, and I will manage expectations with the reporter?

For reference, there will be another request coming your way from major media with a similar deadline.

Not sure what's gotten into the press today, but we are getting slammed.

Appreciate your assistance, and let me know if you have any questions.

Warm regards,

**Calvin Simpson**

Public Affairs Officer, Health Communications  
Government Communications and Public Engagement  
Government of British Columbia | 250-880-5179

---

**From:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** December 8, 2022 10:11 AM

**To:** Marsh, Jania HLTH:EX <[Jania.Marsh@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jania.Marsh@gov.bc.ca)>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>; Bringsli, Eric C HLTH:EX <[Eric.Bringsli@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Eric.Bringsli@gov.bc.ca)>; MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <[Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: HLTH Media Request: Physician Assistants ready and willing to join the health-care system - DEADLINE 11:45 AM

We'll see what we can pull together, 1145 is tight to say the least.

---

**From:** Marsh, Jania HLTH:EX <[Jania.Marsh@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jania.Marsh@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** December 8, 2022 9:54 AM

**To:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>; Bringsli, Eric C HLTH:EX <[Eric.Bringsli@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Eric.Bringsli@gov.bc.ca)>; MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <[Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** HLTH Media Request: Physician Assistants ready and willing to join the health-care system - DEADLINE 11:45 AM

**Importance:** High

Hi Kevin/Ryan/Eric, & Mark:

For input/review/approval, please see below for a media request regarding physician assistants who are willing and able to work in BC after their military tenures are over, but are seemingly being disregarded by the Ministry of Health.

Could you please advise what pathways are available for former military physician assistants to contribute to B.C.s health-care system? Any information that will help inform a response would be appreciated.

**Reporter**

Terry Farrell, Editor  
Comox Valley Record (Courtenay)  
[editor@comoxvalleyrecord.com](mailto:editor@comoxvalleyrecord.com)  
778-225-0029

**Deadline** ASAP

**Request**

We are piecing together an article regarding physician assistants who are willing and able to work in BC

after their military tenures are over, but are seemingly being disregarded by the Ministry of Health.

As one Comox PA put it:

"I, along with many others, were good enough to serve in uniform overseas and domestically alongside physicians, nurses, nurse practitioners and many other healthcare professions, but once our military service is over the PA profession isn't worthy of the same privilege of contributing to healthcare delivery in B.C."

This seems to me to be a reasonable solution to some of our healthcare shortcomings in the province. Is this a viable option for the province, and if so, what is being done to put these capable veterans to work?

If it is not a viable option, could we please get an explanation as to why not?

As for deadline, we are hoping to get something online by end of day today (5 p.m. PST)

## Recommendation

### Background

**This is due back to GCPE (Calvin Simpson) by 11:45am, Today, Thursday, December 8, 2022.**

Thank you,

**Jania Marsh | Executive Coordinator |**

Assistant Deputy Minister's Office | Health Sector Workforce & Beneficiary Services Division

Ministry of Health | PO Box 9649 STN PROV GOVT | Victoria, BC | V8W 9P4

P: 250-952-2402 | C: 778-679-6410 | E: [Jania.Marsh@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jania.Marsh@gov.bc.ca)

*Grateful to live, work, and play within the traditional territories of the Lekwungen speaking people – also known as the Esquimalt and Songhees First Nations.*



**WARNING - CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE** Government confidentiality and privilege requirements apply to this message and any attachments. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any review, retransmission, conversion to hard copy, copying, circulation or other use is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender immediately, and delete this message and any attachments from both your inbox and deleted items folder. Thank You.

---

**From:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** December 8, 2022 9:46 AM

**To:** Marsh, Jania HLTH:EX <[Jania.Marsh@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jania.Marsh@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** MR: Physician Assistants ready and willing to joining the health-care system DEADLINE 11:45 AM

Good morning Jania,

Please see the below question from the Comox Valley Record.

Could program please advise what pathways are available for former military physician assistants to contribute to B.C.s health-care system?

Any information that will help inform a response would be appreciated.

**Reporter**



Terry Farrell, Editor  
Comox Valley Record (Courtenay)  
[editor@comoxvalleyrecord.com](mailto:editor@comoxvalleyrecord.com)  
778-225-0029

## **Deadline** ASAP

### **Request**

We are piecing together an article regarding physician assistants who are willing and able to work in BC after their military tenures are over, but are seemingly being disregarded by the Ministry of Health.

As one Comox PA put it:

"I, along with many others, were good enough to serve in uniform overseas and domestically alongside physicians, nurses, nurse practitioners and many other healthcare professions, but once our military service is over the PA profession isn't worthy of the same privilege of contributing to healthcare delivery in B.C."

This seems to me to be a reasonable solution to some of our healthcare shortcomings in the province. Is this a viable option for the province, and if so, what is being done to put these capable veterans to work?

If it is not a viable option, could we please get an explanation as to why not?

As for deadline, we are hoping to get something online by end of day today (5 p.m. PST)

Thank you.  
Terry Farrell  
Editor,  
Comox Valley Record

## **Recommendation**

### **Background**

#### **Calvin Simpson**

Public Affairs Officer, Health Communications  
Government Communications and Public Engagement  
Government of British Columbia | 250-880-5179

## RE: HLTH Media Request: Physician Assistants ready and willing to join the health-care system - DEADLINE 11:45 AM

---

From: Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca>  
To: Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>  
Cc: Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>, Marsh, Jania HLTH:EX <Jania.Marsh@gov.bc.ca>, Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>, Bringsli, Eric C HLTH:EX <Eric.Bringsli@gov.bc.ca>, MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca>, Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca>, Younker, Katherine E HLTH:EX <Katherine.Younker@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: December 9, 2022 10:58:53 AM PST  
Received: December 9, 2022 10:58:54 AM PST  
Attachments: image001.png

Thanks for all of the help the last few days! Response looks great.

---

**From:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** December 9, 2022 10:09 AM  
**To:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Marsh, Jania HLTH:EX <Jania.Marsh@gov.bc.ca>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>; Bringsli, Eric C HLTH:EX <Eric.Bringsli@gov.bc.ca>; MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca>; Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca>; Younker, Katherine E HLTH:EX <Katherine.Younker@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: HLTH Media Request: Physician Assistants ready and willing to join the health-care system - DEADLINE 11:45 AM

Good morning Calvin,

Thank you for the deadline extension on this one. Below is a response that has been reviewed/approved by Kevin Brown and Mark MacKinnon.

Kind regards,

Tanya

### Recommendation

- The Ministry recognizes the contributions that Physician Assistants (PAs) can make to health care delivery as physician extenders, and we continue to monitor their implementation in other provinces.
- The introduction of a new health profession requires careful consideration and management, and significant resources in order to properly understand and address the inevitable team function issues that emerge from overlapping scopes of practice.
- The Ministry of Health (the Ministry) is committed to optimizing the scopes of practice of health care professionals to enable efficient and effective use of resources. This is reflected in the recently published BC Health Human Resources Strategy ([New health workforce strategy improves access to health care, puts people first | BC Gov News](#)), which identifies a wide range of strategies and objectives.
- One of these strategies is the implementation of Associate Physicians into the BC health system to help meet urgent and emergent patient care needs. The new Associate Physician classification that was introduced by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of BC (CPSBC) will support international medical graduates (IMGs), who are not otherwise eligible for licensure as independent medical practitioners, to work under physician direction and supervision to increase health system capacity and service delivery.

- As the Ministry works to implement this strategy, it will continue to assess the option of implementing additional professions and occupations, such as PAs.

## Background

- PAs are health care professionals that work under the direction and supervision of a licensed physician to provide a board range of health services.
- PAs act as 'physician extenders' that complement existing health services and are not independent practitioners.
- PAs are a relatively new health profession in Canada, although they have been trained and employed by the Canadian forces for over 40 years.
- There are approximately 800 PAs across Canada.
- Ontario, Alberta, Manitoba, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia have introduced PAs into their health workforces.
- BC does not currently have a PA training program. There are only three PA training programs in Canada (two in Ontario and one in Manitoba).

---

**From:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** December 8, 2022 10:16 AM

**To:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>; Marsh, Jania HLTH:EX <[Jania.Marsh@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jania.Marsh@gov.bc.ca)>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>; Bringsli, Eric C HLTH:EX <[Eric.Bringsli@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Eric.Bringsli@gov.bc.ca)>; MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <[Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: HLTH Media Request: Physician Assistants ready and willing to join the health-care system - DEADLINE 11:45 AM

Hi Kevin,

I completely understand. Why don't we set a deadline for tomorrow at 10 AM, and I will manage expectations with the reporter?

For reference, there will be another request coming your way from major media with a similar deadline.

Not sure what's gotten into the press today, but we are getting slammed.

Appreciate your assistance, and let me know if you have any questions.

Warm regards,

**Calvin Simpson**

Public Affairs Officer, Health Communications

Government Communications and Public Engagement

Government of British Columbia | 250-880-5179

---

**From:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** December 8, 2022 10:11 AM

**To:** Marsh, Jania HLTH:EX <[Jania.Marsh@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jania.Marsh@gov.bc.ca)>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>; Bringsli, Eric C HLTH:EX <[Eric.Bringsli@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Eric.Bringsli@gov.bc.ca)>; MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <[Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: HLTH Media Request: Physician Assistants ready and willing to join the health-care system - DEADLINE 11:45 AM

We'll see what we can pull together, 1145 is tight to say the least.

---

**From:** Marsh, Jania HLTH:EX <[Jania.Marsh@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jania.Marsh@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** December 8, 2022 9:54 AM

**To:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>; Bringsli, Eric C HLTH:EX <[Eric.Bringsli@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Eric.Bringsli@gov.bc.ca)>; MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <[Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** HLTH Media Request: Physician Assistants ready and willing to join the health-care system - DEADLINE 11:45 AM

**Importance:** High

Hi Kevin/Ryan/Eric, & Mark:

For input/review/approval, please see below for a media request regarding physician assistants who are willing and able to work in BC after their military tenures are over, but are seemingly being disregarded by the Ministry of Health.

Could you please advise what pathways are available for former military physician assistants to contribute to B.C.s health-care system? Any information that will help inform a response would be appreciated.

**Reporter**

Terry Farrell, Editor

Comox Valley Record (Courtenay)

[editor@comoxvalleyrecord.com](mailto:editor@comoxvalleyrecord.com)

778-225-0029

**Deadline** ASAP

**Request**

We are piecing together an article regarding physician assistants who are willing and able to work in BC after their military tenures are over, but are seemingly being disregarded by the Ministry of Health.

As one Comox PA put it:

"I, along with many others, were good enough to serve in uniform overseas and domestically alongside physicians, nurses, nurse practitioners and many other healthcare professions, but once our military service is over the PA profession isn't worthy of the same privilege of contributing to healthcare delivery in B.C."

This seems to me to be a reasonable solution to some of our healthcare shortcomings in the province. Is this a viable option for the province, and if so, what is being done to put these capable veterans to work?

If it is not a viable option, could we please get an explanation as to why not?

As for deadline, we are hoping to get something online by end of day today (5 p.m. PST)

**Recommendation**

**Background**

**This is due back to GCPE (Calvin Simpson) by 11:45am, Today, Thursday, December 8, 2022.**

Thank you,

**Jania Marsh | Executive Coordinator |**

Assistant Deputy Minister's Office | Health Sector Workforce & Beneficiary Services Division  
Ministry of Health | PO Box 9649 STN PROV GOVT | Victoria, BC | V8W 9P4  
P: 250-952-2402 | C: 778-679-6410 | E: [Jania.Marsh@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jania.Marsh@gov.bc.ca)

*Grateful to live, work, and play within the traditional territories of the Lekwungen speaking people – also known as the Esquimalt and Songhees First Nations.*



**WARNING - CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE** Government confidentiality and privilege requirements apply to this message and any attachments. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any review, retransmission, conversion to hard copy, copying, circulation or other use is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender immediately, and delete this message and any attachments from both your inbox and deleted items folder. Thank You.

---

**From:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** December 8, 2022 9:46 AM

**To:** Marsh, Jania HLTH:EX <[Jania.Marsh@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jania.Marsh@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** MR: Physician Assistants ready and willing to joining the health-care system DEADLINE 11:45 AM

Good morning Jania,

Please see the below question from the Comox Valley Record.

Could program please advise what pathways are available for former military physician assistants to contribute to B.C.s health-care system?

Any information that will help inform a response would be appreciated.

**Reporter**

Terry Farrell, Editor  
Comox Valley Record (Courtenay)  
[editor@comoxvalleyrecord.com](mailto:editor@comoxvalleyrecord.com)  
778-225-0029

**Deadline** ASAP

**Request**

We are piecing together an article regarding physician assistants who are willing and able to work in BC after their military tenures are over, but are seemingly being disregarded by the Ministry of Health.

As one Comox PA put it:

"I, along with many others, were good enough to serve in uniform overseas and domestically alongside physicians, nurses, nurse practitioners and many other healthcare professions, but once our military service is over the PA profession isn't worthy of the same privilege of contributing to healthcare delivery in B.C."

This seems to me to be a reasonable solution to some of our healthcare shortcomings in the province. Is this a viable option for the province, and if so, what is being done to put these capable veterans to work?

If it is not a viable option, could we please get an explanation as to why not?

As for deadline, we are hoping to get something online by end of day today (5 p.m. PST)

Thank you.

Terry Farrell  
Editor,  
Comox Valley Record

## **Recommendation**

## **Background**

### **Calvin Simpson**

Public Affairs Officer, Health Communications  
Government Communications and Public Engagement  
Government of British Columbia | 250-880-5179

## RE: Update re: PA messaging

---

From: Krystalowich, Katharine HLTH:EX <katharine.krystalowich@gov.bc.ca>  
To: Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>, Clarke, Paul HLTH:EX <Paul.Clarke@gov.bc.ca>, Johansen, Nadeen C HLTH:EX <Nadeen.Johansen@gov.bc.ca>  
Cc: Bringsli, Eric C HLTH:EX <Eric.Bringli@gov.bc.ca>, Feraru, Loredana HLTH:EX <Loredana.Feraru@gov.bc.ca>, Harrington, Carmen HLTH:EX <Carmen.Harrington@gov.bc.ca>, Ghesquiere, Breanne J HLTH:EX <Breanne.Ghesquiere@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: December 9, 2022 2:18:53 PM PST  
Received: December 9, 2022 2:18:54 PM PST  
Attachments: image001.png

Thanks for your emails Tanya and for sharing this information.

k

---

**From:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** December 9, 2022 2:14 PM  
**To:** Clarke, Paul HLTH:EX <Paul.Clarke@gov.bc.ca>; Johansen, Nadeen C HLTH:EX <Nadeen.Johansen@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Bringsli, Eric C HLTH:EX <Eric.Bringli@gov.bc.ca>; Krystalowich, Katharine HLTH:EX <katharine.krystalowich@gov.bc.ca>; Feraru, Loredana HLTH:EX <Loredana.Feraru@gov.bc.ca>; Harrington, Carmen HLTH:EX <Carmen.Harrington@gov.bc.ca>; Ghesquiere, Breanne J HLTH:EX <Breanne.Ghesquiere@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** Update re: PA messaging

Hi all,

As I think folks from both Paul and Nadeen's team have prepared correspondence re: Physician Assistants (PAs) in the past, I am sharing this recent messaging update. I think I've included most of the regular PWD correspondence writers but please forward along if I've missed anyone!

The first attachment is very recent (Nov 28, 2022) with Mark Armitage approved messaging.

Yesterday there was a media request re: PAs and the messaging in the 2<sup>nd</sup> attachment was approved by both Kevin Brown and Mark MacKinnon this morning.

Kind regards,

Tanya

**Tanya Lorenz**, BScN, MSchQ | Senior Policy Analyst, Physician Workforce Development  
Physician Services Branch | Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services Division | Ministry of Health  
PO Box 9649 STN PROV GOVT | Victoria BC V8W 9P4  
E: [Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca) P: 236-478-1298



*I am thankful and privileged to live, work, and play on the traditional territories of the Lekwungen People – also known as the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations.*

---

This e-mail is intended solely for the person or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged information. Any review, dissemination, copying, printing or other use of this e-mail by persons or entities other than the addressee is prohibited. If you have received this e-mail in error, please contact the sender immediately and delete the material from any computer.

## RE: Update re: PA messaging

---

From: Clarke, Paul HLTH:EX <Paul.Clarke@gov.bc.ca>  
To: Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: December 9, 2022 2:57:44 PM PST  
Received: December 9, 2022 2:57:45 PM PST  
Attachments: image001.png

Hi Tanya  
Thanks for sharing!  
Paul

---

**From:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** December 9, 2022 2:14 PM  
**To:** Clarke, Paul HLTH:EX <Paul.Clarke@gov.bc.ca>; Johansen, Nadeen C HLTH:EX <Nadeen.Johansen@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Bringsli, Eric C HLTH:EX <Eric.Bringsli@gov.bc.ca>; Krystalowich, Katharine HLTH:EX <katharine.krystalowich@gov.bc.ca>; Feraru, Loredana HLTH:EX <Loredana.Feraru@gov.bc.ca>; Harrington, Carmen HLTH:EX <Carmen.Harrington@gov.bc.ca>; Ghesquiere, Breanne J HLTH:EX <Breanne.Ghesquiere@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** Update re: PA messaging

Hi all,

As I think folks from both Paul and Nadeen's team have prepared correspondence re: Physician Assistants (PAs) in the past, I am sharing this recent messaging update. I think I've included most of the regular PWD correspondence writers but please forward along if I've missed anyone!

The first attachment is very recent (Nov 28, 2022) with Mark Armitage approved messaging.

Yesterday there was a media request re: PAs and the messaging in the 2<sup>nd</sup> attachment was approved by both Kevin Brown and Mark MacKinnon this morning.

Kind regards,

Tanya

**Tanya Lorenz**, BScN, MSchQ | Senior Policy Analyst, Physician Workforce Development  
Physician Services Branch | Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services Division | Ministry of Health  
PO Box 9649 STN PROV GOVT | Victoria BC V8W 9P4  
E: [Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca) P: 236-478-1298



*I am thankful and privileged to live, work, and play on the traditional territories of the Lekwungen People – also known as the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations.*

---

This e-mail is intended solely for the person or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged information. Any review, dissemination, copying, printing or other use of this e-mail by persons or entities other than the addressee is prohibited. If you have received this e-mail in error, please contact the sender immediately and delete the material from any computer.



## RE: Article - PAs

---

From: Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX s.15  
s.15

To: Johansen, Nadeen C HLTH:EX <Nadeen.Johansen@gov.bc.ca>, Bringsli, Eric C HLTH:EX <Eric.Bringli@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: December 22, 2022 1:59:31 PM PST

Received: December 22, 2022 1:59:00 PM PST

I will await the incoming correspondence...(in January lol) 😊

---

**From:** Johansen, Nadeen C HLTH:EX <Nadeen.Johansen@gov.bc.ca>

**Sent:** December 22, 2022 11:50 AM

**To:** Bringsli, Eric C HLTH:EX <Eric.Bringli@gov.bc.ca>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>

**Subject:** RE: Article - PAs

Roger that

---

**From:** Bringsli, Eric C HLTH:EX <Eric.Bringli@gov.bc.ca>

**Sent:** December 22, 2022 11:40 AM

**To:** Johansen, Nadeen C HLTH:EX <Nadeen.Johansen@gov.bc.ca>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>

**Subject:** RE: Article - PAs

He writes well, but I think I sense an uptick in our correspondence volume coming.

---

**From:** Johansen, Nadeen C HLTH:EX <Nadeen.Johansen@gov.bc.ca>

**Sent:** December 22, 2022 9:58 AM

**To:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>; Bringsli, Eric C HLTH:EX <Eric.Bringli@gov.bc.ca>

**Subject:** Article - PAs

**Doctor says his one Christmas wish this year is for government to hire physician assistants**

North Island Gazette

Wednesday, December 21, 2022

By Dr Alex Nataros

Copyright

Story

## **ALERT - eApprovals Item ID: 72796 - Item Forwarded - Due 2023-02-02**

---

From: HLTH eApprovals <donotreply@sp.gov.bc.ca>  
To: Mhairi.Robertson-Jones@gov.bc.ca, Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX  
<Mhairi.Robertson-Jones@gov.bc.ca>  
Sender: HLTH eApprovals <donotreply@sp.gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: January 13, 2023 10:47:50 AM PST  
Received: January 13, 2023 10:48:06 AM PST

Takahashi, Junko HLTH:EX [Colleague of HSWBS Generic ] forwarded an eApprovals item to Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX for action

**Comment: Hi Mhairi, Please assign for response. It is regarding Physician Assistants from the article writer mentions. Please add PSB letter template since ADMO do not have one. Thank you.**

#: 1248665

Title: Why are trained medical assistants travelling out of province to work?

Full Name: s.22

Due Date: 2/2/2023

Category: Correspondence - Letter

[Go to item...](#)

## Conversation with Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX

---

From: Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX <mhairi.robertson-jones@gov.bc.ca>  
To: Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>, Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX <Mhairi.Robertson-Jones@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: January 13, 2023 1:42:47 PM PST  
Received: January 13, 2023 1:42:47 PM PST

Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX 1:37 PM:

Hi!

Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX 1:37 PM:

Question for you

Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX 1:37 PM:

about an eapp when you have a second

Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX 1:37 PM:

certainly

Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX 1:37 PM:

copy

Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX 1:38 PM:

we got an eapp regarding trained medical assistants travelling out of province for work

Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX 1:38 PM:

it talks about how bc doesn't recognize trained physician assistants

Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX 1:38 PM:

is that NPS?

Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX 1:38 PM:

val thought maybe

Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX 1:38 PM:

or you?

Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX 1:39 PM:

PAs aren't regulated in BC. So we could send it to Pro Reg

Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX 1:39 PM:

ahh ok!

Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX 1:39 PM:

we just do PHYSICIAN stuff, even though Pro Reg will try to send back to us

Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX 1:40 PM:

but good to send to them

Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX 1:40 PM:

ok!

Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX 1:40 PM:

we shall see

Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX 1:40 PM:

ok thank you for your assistance !

## RE: Physician Assistants and Associate Physicians

---

From: Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>  
To: Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca>, Hancock, Lynn HLTH:EX <Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca>, Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>, Mason, Miranda N HLTH:EX <Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca>, Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX <Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca>, Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: January 24, 2023 10:27:01 AM PST  
Received: January 24, 2023 10:27:02 AM PST  
I will pop down.  
Ryan

---

**From:** Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** January 24, 2023 10:17 AM  
**To:** Hancock, Lynn HLTH:EX <Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Mason, Miranda N HLTH:EX <Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca>; Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX <Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: Physician Assistants and Associate Physicians

Thanks Lynn

Tanya and/or Ryan can one of you come see me if you are in the office today. If you aren't in the office...we need to arrange a phone call please.

Steph

---

**From:** Hancock, Lynn HLTH:EX <Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** January 24, 2023 10:13 AM  
**To:** Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Mason, Miranda N HLTH:EX <Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca>; Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX <Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: Physician Assistants and Associate Physicians

Tanya Lorenz and Ryan Murray are most in the know.

---

**From:** Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** January 24, 2023 10:12 AM  
**To:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Mason, Miranda N HLTH:EX <Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca>; Hancock, Lynn HLTH:EX <Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca>; Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX <Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** Physician Assistants and Associate Physicians

Who leads this work??

I got a call from Steve and he has some questions.

Stephanie

## RE: Physician Assistants and Associate Physicians

---

From: MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca>  
To: Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca>, Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>, Hancock, Lynn HLTH:EX <Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca>, Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>, Mason, Miranda N HLTH:EX <Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca>, Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX <Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca>, Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>, Ty, Marie HLTH:EX <Marie.Ty@gov.bc.ca>  
Cc: Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: January 24, 2023 11:58:10 AM PST  
Received: January 24, 2023 11:58:10 AM PST  
Attachments: FW: Associate Physicians/Physician Assistant Bullets

Hi folks,

With thanks to Chris, I have attached the information we provided some time ago on this topic.<sup>s.13</sup>  
s.13

Thanks,

M

---

**From:** Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** January 24, 2023 11:53 AM  
**To:** MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>; Hancock, Lynn HLTH:EX <Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Mason, Miranda N HLTH:EX <Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca>; Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX <Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>; Ty, Marie HLTH:EX <Marie.Ty@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: Physician Assistants and Associate Physicians

Thanks everyone...

Stephanie

---

**From:** MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** January 24, 2023 11:25 AM  
**To:** Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>; Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca>; Hancock, Lynn HLTH:EX <Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Mason, Miranda N HLTH:EX <Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca>; Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX <Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>; Ty, Marie HLTH:EX <Marie.Ty@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca>; MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: Physician Assistants and Associate Physicians

Thanks folks,

s.13  
s.13 I've asked Chris to put together some of our thinking on this.

M

---

**From:** Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** January 24, 2023 11:13 AM

**To:** Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <[Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca)>; Hancock, Lynn HLTH:EX <[Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca)>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>; Mason, Miranda N HLTH:EX <[Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca)>; Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX <[Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca)>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>; MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <[Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca)>; Ty, Marie HLTH:EX <[Marie.Ty@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Marie.Ty@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: Physician Assistants and Associate Physicians

Hi Stephanie,

I've copied Mark MacKinnon in on this email. s.13; s.17  
s.13; s.17

I can provide a lot more info, but hopefully this is some good context for a response to the DM.

Thanks  
Ryan

---

**From:** Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <[Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** January 24, 2023 10:17 AM

**To:** Hancock, Lynn HLTH:EX <[Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca)>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>; Mason, Miranda N HLTH:EX <[Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca)>; Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX <[Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca)>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: Physician Assistants and Associate Physicians

Thanks Lynn

Tanya and/or Ryan can one of you come see me if you are in the office today. If you aren't in the office...we need to arrange a phone call please.

Steph

---

**From:** Hancock, Lynn HLTH:EX <[Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** January 24, 2023 10:13 AM

**To:** Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <[Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca)>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>; Mason, Miranda N HLTH:EX <[Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca)>; Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX <[Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: Physician Assistants and Associate Physicians

Tanya Lorenz and Ryan Murray are most in the know.

---

**From:** Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <[Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** January 24, 2023 10:12 AM

**To:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>; Mason, Miranda N HLTH:EX <[Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca)>; Hancock, Lynn HLTH:EX <[Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca)>; Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX <[Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** Physician Assistants and Associate Physicians

Who leads this work??

I got a call from Steve and he has some questions.

Stephanie



## RE: Physician Assistants and Associate Physicians

---

From: Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX s.15  
To: Ty, Marie HLTH:EX <Marie.Ty@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: January 24, 2023 1:39:44 PM PST  
Received: January 24, 2023 1:39:00 PM PST  
Attachments: MoH Draft DBNs.13; s.17 Jan 19, 2023.docx

Hi Marie, yes it is. I've attached here. Betty has indicated that the recommended approach would likely work.  
Ryan

---

**From:** Ty, Marie HLTH:EX <Marie.Ty@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** January 24, 2023 12:43 PM  
**To:** Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** FW: Physician Assistants and Associate Physicians

Hi Ryan. I'm having challenges keeping track of things. Is the DN on s.13; s.17 with me?

---

**From:** Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** January 24, 2023 11:13 AM  
**To:** Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca>; Hancock, Lynn HLTH:EX <Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Mason, Miranda N HLTH:EX <Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca>; Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX <Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>; MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca>; Ty, Marie HLTH:EX <Marie.Ty@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: Physician Assistants and Associate Physicians

Hi Stephanie,

I've copied Mark MacKinnon in on this email. s.13; s.17  
s.13; s.17

I can provide a lot more info, but hopefully this is some good context for a response to the DM.

Thanks  
Ryan

---

**From:** Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <[Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** January 24, 2023 10:17 AM  
**To:** Hancock, Lynn HLTH:EX <[Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca)>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>; Mason, Miranda N HLTH:EX <[Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca)>; Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX <[Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca)>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Physician Assistants and Associate Physicians

Thanks Lynn

Tanya and/or Ryan can one of you come see me if you are in the office today. If you aren't in the office...we need to arrange a phone call please.

Steph

---

**From:** Hancock, Lynn HLTH:EX <[Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** January 24, 2023 10:13 AM  
**To:** Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <[Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca)>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>; Mason, Miranda N HLTH:EX <[Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca)>; Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX <[Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Physician Assistants and Associate Physicians

Tanya Lorenz and Ryan Murray are most in the know.

---

**From:** Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <[Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** January 24, 2023 10:12 AM  
**To:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>; Mason, Miranda N HLTH:EX <[Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca)>; Hancock, Lynn HLTH:EX <[Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca)>; Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX <[Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** Physician Assistants and Associate Physicians

Who leads this work??

I got a call from Steve and he has some questions.

Stephanie

## Ministry of Health - Decision Briefing Note - Cliff XXXXXXXX

**Prepared for:** Mark Armitage, ADM – HSWBS Division – **For decision**

**Title:** s.13; s.17

**Purpose:** s.13; s.17

s.13; s.17

### **Background:**

Associate Physicians (“APs”) are a new classification of medical practitioner who, under Health Authority (HA) sponsorship, may practice under a restricted class of license in programs accredited by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of BC (CPSBC).

APs are sponsored by and are employees of the HA, and work as physician extenders under the supervision of attending physicians who act as the Most Responsible Physician (MRP). As physician extenders, APs may improve the quality of services provided, expand the capacity of the delivery of services, improve the efficiency of services provided, and support supervising physicians to work to their full scope of practice.

s.13; s.17

s.13; s.17

---

Approved/Not Approved  
Mark Armitage  
ADM – HSWBS Division, Ministry of Health

---

Date Signed

---

Program ADM/Division: Mark Armitage - HSWBS  
Program contact (for content): Ryan Murray  
Drafter: Ryan Murray  
Date: January 19, 2023

Phone number: 250-952-3519

## **FW: Status of Associate Physicians and Physician Assistants**

---

From: Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca>  
To: Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>, Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>  
Cc: Marsh, Jania HLTH:EX <Jania.Marsh@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: January 25, 2023 12:41:58 PM PST  
Received: January 25, 2023 12:41:59 PM PST  
Attachments: Dec 2022 AP Forecast.xlsx

Jania, Ryan and Kevin....

Here is what I sent up to the DM yesterday. I haven't heard from him requiring further information.

Just sharing in case this helps with the GCPE request....

Stephanie

s.13; s.17



## RE: Port Hardy full comms package

---

From: Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca  
To: Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca>, Hancock, Lynn HLTH:EX <Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca>, Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX <Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: January 27, 2023 8:49:06 AM PST  
Received: January 27, 2023 8:49:00 AM PST  
Attachments: QA\_Port Hardy\_DRAFT\_Jan 26\_811am.docx, NR\_Port Hardy\_Jan 26\_DRAFT\_829 am.docx

Hi both – my edits in the attached.

Steph – are you able to forward this to GCPE. My main note is that the Travel Resource Pool isn't really mentioned ... so I added it in

---

**From:** Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX <Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** January 26, 2023 8:14 PM  
**To:** Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca>; Hancock, Lynn HLTH:EX <Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca>; Mason, Miranda N HLTH:EX <Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Port Hardy full comms package

As this is happening tomorrow at 12:15 we will need a plan to inform stakeholders, we will likely have to split that up amongst us. Also I see we don't have an answer for Q8 ie the grievance question, I thought we settled that we were extending it to cover all. If that's the case then it's straight forward answer.

We should have a quick huddle/call first thing tomorrow, s.22

so it will need to be

before 8 or 9:15ish

---

**From:** Anderson, Kristy HLTH:EX <Kristy.Anderson@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 26, 2023 7:17 PM  
**To:** Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca>; Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX <Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Khaira, Manpreet HLTH:EX <Manpreet.Khaira@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** FW: Port Hardy full comms package

Thinking you should review as well.

### **Kristy Anderson**

ADM, Hospital and Provincial Health Services  
Ministry of Health  
(250) 920-6324 | [Kristy.Anderson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kristy.Anderson@gov.bc.ca)

### **Executive Administrative Assistant**

Katrina Wilson  
(778) 445-4716 | [katrina.wilson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:katrina.wilson@gov.bc.ca)

---

**From:** Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX <Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** January 26, 2023 7:09 PM  
**To:** Dube, Jonathan HLTH:EX <Jonathan.Dube@gov.bc.ca>; Anderson, Kristy HLTH:EX <Kristy.Anderson@gov.bc.ca>; Byers, Rob A HLTH:EX <Rob.Byers@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Brown, Stephen R HLTH:EX <Stephen.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Thouli, Sabreena GCPE:EX <Sabreena.Thouli@gov.bc.ca>; Maslova, Layma GCPE:EX <Layma.Maslova@gov.bc.ca>; Murray, Heather HLTH:EX <Heather.Murray@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** Port Hardy full comms package



Hi everyone, Minister and PO have approved this Port Hardy communications package in principle recognizing that MoH and Island Health need to validate and adjust language as needed.

You'll mostly care about the NR and QA attached, <sup>s.13</sup>  
s.13

Media avail is scheduled to start at 12:15 p.m. from the press theatre tomorrow, no technical briefing, and I will lead a pre-brief with speakers where I can give them fresh speaking notes. My team will focus on actioning NR and QA edits from you first; we'll deal with SNs later tomorrow morning. I'll also send this to Island Health, however, I've already talked to them about most of this and they say it's all workable on their end if it's OK with HLTH.

**Chris Shewchuk**

Communications Director, Ministry of Health GCPE

Mobile: 250.883.6895

[chris.shewchuk@gov.bc.ca](mailto:chris.shewchuk@gov.bc.ca)

## INTERNAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

### Port Hardy staffing supports

Jan. 27, 2023

#### Q1. What are you announcing today?

- People in Port Hardy and surrounding areas will continue to have access to emergency care as the Province takes several immediate actions to stabilize health care on northern Vancouver Island.
- As part of the stabilization, emergency department services will be available from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Port Hardy and 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Cormorant Island with 24/7 emergency department services in Port McNeil. These temporary hours are intended to bring certainty to the community, so patients and families know where and when emergency services are available.

#### Q2. What are the details of the supports and incentives?

- To address the ongoing challenges in accessing health care for residents of the North Island region we are taking immediate high-priority action.
- Immediate strategies include:
  - Implementing temporary staff recruitment and retention strategies, such as:
    - ~~Retention~~ recruitment incentives for existing staff
    - Travel wage supplement
    - Referral bonus for staff members who help secure new recruits
    - Travel Resource Pool coverage to fill nursing shifts
    - Extend the physician guaranteed income for emergency room and inpatient services at one of the acute care sites.
  - Offering more supports to staff who work in the North Island region, for example:
    - Upgrade accommodation for travelling staff with renovations and improved furnishings.
    - Establish dedicated daily transport shuttle service between Port Hardy and Port McNeil Hospitals as well as daily shuttle to Campbell River and Comox which will serve both staff and patients.
    - Enhancing safety for staff and patients by hiring contracted protection service officers.
  - Continuing our efforts to expand the core staffing at Port Hardy to decrease dependence on contract and agency staff over time.

**Commented [MMNH1]:** There is an important distinction between recruitment and retention incentives - want to emphasize this is for existing staff

## INTERNAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

- Enhancing local 24/7 mental health and substance use services by adding additional capacity to sobering and assessment centre to increase access to appropriate supportive care and reduce ED admissions.
- Increasing long-term care capacity at Port Hardy Hospital.
- Modernizing and upgrading the Port McNeill and Port Hardy hospitals. For example:
  - Modernizing and renovating existing spaces including the maternity spaces
  - Emergency department modernization and expansion
  - Upgrading nurse call, staff duress, medical gases
  - Increasing trauma room space
- Gradually increasing home health, home support and mental health and substance use services.
- Implementing mobile CT diagnostic services
- Adding additional modern short/medium term staff housing options in Port McNeil and Port Hardy and Cormorant Island communities

### Q3. How much will this cost?

- These initiatives will be funded with approximately \$30 million in onetime, capital, and ongoing operating funding provided from the Ministry of Health.

### Q4. Why are you doing this now?

- Efforts to improve health-care services in the North Island region have been ongoing.
- With staffing shortages at critical levels, we are implementing various solutions to stabilize staffing in the North Island.

### Q5. Where is the Province at in terms of introducing physician assistants?

- We recognize the contributions physician assistants can make to health-care delivery.
- We continue to monitor the implementation of physician assistants in other provinces and are actively exploring the potential to add them as a new classification of health-care worker in British Columbia.
- Introducing a new health profession requires careful consideration and management and significant resources to properly understand and address the inevitable team function issues that emerge from overlapping scopes of practice.

## INTERNAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

- We recently announced a new associate physician class of restricted registration with the College of Physicians and Surgeons of BC to help meet urgent and emergent patient care needs.
- The associate physician classification allows international medical graduates who are not otherwise eligible for licensure to care for patients under physician direction and supervision to increase health system capacity and service delivery.
- Associate physicians have a similar scope of practice as physician assistants.

**Q6.** Port Hardy ER doctor Dr. Alex Nataros said the fact that the Province hasn't approved his physician assistant amounts to "systemic racism." What is your response to that?

- The Ministry of Health is committed to ensuring that Indigenous people and First Nations communities have equitable access to health care.
- We are working with the First Nations Health Authority and local First Nations to improve primary care services on the north Island.
- Through our primary care strategy, we have been rolling out primary care networks that include budgets for Elders, traditional healers and mental health professionals across the province as well as opening First Nations-specific primary care clinics.

**Q7.** What is the timeline for implementing these changes and improvements?

- We are implementing solutions immediately to address the ongoing staffing challenges in the North Island region.

**Q8.** The Hospital Employees Union is currently grieving the retention incentives, as these incentives are not available to all HEU members. How will you address this?

- Answer needed.

**Q9.** You're adding a lot of incentives to the Mt. Waddington catchment area. What about other health centres in rural areas?

- For now, the incentives announced today apply to the Port Hardy and Port McNeill hospitals only as this is where the greatest need has been identified.

## INTERNAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

- We remain committed to ensuring that people living in remote and rural communities can access the health care they need and will work with health authorities on any future initiatives.

**Q10.** How long has the Port Hardy Hospital has been closed overnight now?

- Answer needed.

**Q11.** How long will the hospitals be closed overnight? When can residents expect to see the hospital return to 24/7 service?

- We are working hard on multiple approaches to stabilize staffing in the region.
- Once staffing can be maintained consistently, regular hours will resume as soon as possible across the North Island region.
- These temporary hours are intended to bring certainty to the community, so patients and families know where and when emergency services are available.

**Q12.** Why aren't you hiring back the unvaccinated health-care workers? That's 2,500 workers that could join our health workforce and help address the shortages.

- In order to protect the province's most vulnerable and the overall health-care system, COVID-19 vaccination requirements for health-care system workers remains in place.
- Consistent with current provincial health officer orders, health-care system workers will continue to be required to be vaccinated with a primary COVID-19 vaccine series, unless they have obtained an exemption from the provincial health officer.
- In B.C. and globally, measures taken to combat the ongoing public-health emergency remain important. The trajectory of the pandemic over the next few months is uncertain as there is still significant spread of the COVID-19 virus in the province and around the world.
- Vaccine mandates protect vulnerable populations, including older and immunocompromised patients in hospitals, residents in long-term care facilities, as well as health-care workers and the overall health-care system. It is critically important to maintain this layer of protection for all of them.
- All health professionals are encouraged to get vaccinated, including getting their booster.

## INTERNAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Page 043 of 286 to/à Page 045 of 286

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13

## FW: Physician Assistants and Associate Physicians

---

From: Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca  
To: Letkeman, Evan HLTH:EX <Evan.Letskeman@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: January 27, 2023 9:44:19 AM PST  
Received: January 27, 2023 9:44:19 AM PST  
Attachments: Dec 2022 AP Forecast.xlsx

Hi Evan – please see below some info about the Associate Physician deployment. Just to clarify I suspect we will be asked to report on these metrics on an ongoing basis.

Let's discuss next week.

Lynn

---

**From:** Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** January 24, 2023 4:24 PM  
**To:** Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Ty, Marie HLTH:EX <Marie.Ty@gov.bc.ca>; Hancock, Lynn HLTH:EX <Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>; MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: Physician Assistants and Associate Physicians

Hi Stephanie,

s.13; s.17

Does that help? I'm around and available if you need anything else.

Ryan



---

**From:** Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <[Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** January 24, 2023 3:59 PM

**To:** Hancock, Lynn HLTH:EX <[Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca)>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>; MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <[Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca)>; Ty, Marie HLTH:EX <[Marie.Ty@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Marie.Ty@gov.bc.ca)>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** FW: Physician Assistants and Associate Physicians

Hi Folks....didn't send this to the broader group...

I am hoping to reply to the DM this afternoon do any details on Associate Physicians would be really helpful.

Thanks

Stephanie

---

**From:** Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX

**Sent:** January 24, 2023 2:01 PM

**To:** Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: Physician Assistants and Associate Physicians

Hi Ryan,

Can you tell me:

s.13; s.17

Any more info will be helpful as I am preparing a response to the DM.

Stephanie

---

**From:** Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** January 24, 2023 11:13 AM

**To:** Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <[Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca)>; Hancock, Lynn HLTH:EX <[Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca)>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>; Mason, Miranda N HLTH:EX <[Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca)>; Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX <[Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca)>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>; MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <[Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca)>; Ty, Marie HLTH:EX <[Marie.Ty@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Marie.Ty@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: Physician Assistants and Associate Physicians

Hi Stephanie,

I've copied Mark MacKinnon in on this email<sup>s.13; s.17</sup>

s.13; s.17

I can provide a lot more info, but hopefully this is some good context for a response to the DM.

Thanks  
Ryan

---

**From:** Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <[Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** January 24, 2023 10:17 AM  
**To:** Hancock, Lynn HLTH:EX <[Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca)>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>; Mason, Miranda N HLTH:EX <[Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca)>; Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX <[Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca)>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Physician Assistants and Associate Physicians

Thanks Lynn

Tanya and/or Ryan can one of you come see me if you are in the office today. If you aren't in the office...we need to arrange a phone call please.

Steph

---

**From:** Hancock, Lynn HLTH:EX <[Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** January 24, 2023 10:13 AM  
**To:** Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <[Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca)>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>; Mason, Miranda N HLTH:EX <[Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca)>; Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX <[Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Physician Assistants and Associate Physicians

Tanya Lorenz and Ryan Murray are most in the know.

---

**From:** Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <[Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** January 24, 2023 10:12 AM  
**To:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>; Mason, Miranda N HLTH:EX <[Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca)>;

Hancock, Lynn HLTH:EX <[Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca)>; Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX <[Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** Physician Assistants and Associate Physicians

Who leads this work??

I got a call from Steve and he has some questions.

Stephanie

## Accreditation Status

HA	Program	Department	Division	Status	# to hire	Est Hire Date
PHSA	BCCH	Pediatrics	CTU	Accredited	4	1-Jan-23
PHSA	BCCH	Pediatrics	NICU	Accredited	2	1-Feb-23
PHSA	BCCH	Pediatrics	PICU	Accredited	2	1-Dec-22
PHSA	BCCH	Surgery	various	Accredited	6	1-Mar-23
PHSA	BCCH	Pediatrics	GI	Accredited	1	1-Mar-23
PHC	SPH	Surgery	various	Accredited	6	1-Mar-23
PHC	SPH	Medicine	various	Accredited	12	1-Mar-23
FHA	RCH	Surgery	Vascular	College assessment in progress	3	1-Apr-23
FHA	SMH	Obs	MICY	College assessment in progress	3	1-Apr-23
FHA	RCH	Surgery	HPB	College assessment in progress	1	1-Apr-23

## AP Submissions Status Updates

Program	Department	Division	Status	# to hire	Est Hire Date	Recruitment status
<b>PHSA Total</b>						
BCCH	Pediatrics	CTU	Accredited	4	01-Jan-23	
BCCH	Pediatrics	NICU	Accredited	2	01-Feb-23	
BCCH	Pediatrics	PICU	Accredited	2	01-Dec-22	
BCCH	Surgery	various	Accredited	6	01-Mar-23	
BCCH	Pediatrics	GI	Accredited	1	01-Mar-23	
BCMHSUS	Corrections		Program preparing application	5	01-Apr-23	
BC Cancer	Medical Oncology		Program preparing application	12	01-Apr-23	
BC Cancer	Radiation Oncology		Program preparing application	6	01-Apr-23	
BC Cancer	Diagnostic Imaging		Program preparing application	1	01-Apr-23	
BC Cancer	Pain and Symptom Managemnt/Palliative Care		Program preparing application	6	01-Apr-23	
<b>PHSA Total</b>				<b>45</b>		
<b>VCH</b>						
VGH	Surgery	various	Program preparing application	8	2023-04-01	
	Internal Medicine	CTU	Program preparing application	10	2023-04-01	
<b>VCH Total</b>				<b>18</b>		
<b>PHC</b>						
SPH	Surgery	various	Accredited	6	2023-03-01	
SPH	Medicine	various	Accredited	12	2023-03-01	
SPH	Critical Care	ICU	Program preparing application	4	2023-04-01	
<b>PHC Total</b>				<b>22</b>		
<b>IHA</b>						
KBRH	Critical Care	ICU	Program preparing application	3	2023-04-01	
KGH	Surgery	Cardiac Assist	Planning	2	2023-04-01	
<b>IHA Total</b>				<b>5</b>		
<b>NHA</b>						
UHNBC	Medicine	IM	Planning	1	2023-06-01	
	Emergency	ED	Planning	2	2023-06-01	
<b>NHA Total</b>				<b>3</b>		
<b>VIHA</b>						
	Critical Care	ICU	Planning	5	2023-04-01	
	Inpatient medicine	Medicine	Planning	5	2023-04-01	
	Surgery	various	Planning	5	2023-04-01	
<b>VIHA Total</b>				<b>15</b>		
<b>FHA</b>						
SMH	Obstretics - Maternity	MICY Family Birthing Unit	College Assessment in Process	3	2023-03-01	
RCH	Surgery	Vascular	College Assessment in Process	3	2023-03-01	
BH	Emergency	ED	Planning	2	2023-03-01	
CGH	Emergency	ED	Planning	2	2023-03-01	
RCH	Surgery	Neurosciences	Planning	2	2023-04-01	
RCH	Medicine	Clinical Teaching Unit	Planning	4	2023-06-01	
FHA	Medicine	Palliative Medicine	Planning	3	2023-06-01	
ARH	Medicine	Internal Medicine	Planning	2	2023-06-01	
BH	Medicine	Internal Medicine	Planning	1	2023-03-01	
CGH	Medicine	Internal Medicine	Planning	1	2023-03-01	
LMH	Medicine	Internal Medicine	Planning	1	2023-03-01	
RMH	Medicine	Internal Medicine	Planning	1	2023-03-01	
SMH	Medicine	Internal Medicine	Planning	5	2023-06-01	
SMH	Medicine	Infectious Diseases	Planning	2	2023-09-01	
		Hepatobiliary & Pancreas				
RCH	Cancer	Surgical Oncologist	College Assessment in Process	1	2023-03-01	
<b>FHA Total</b>				<b>33</b>		
<b>Provincial Total</b>				<b>141</b>		

## FW: Physician Assistants

---

From: Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>  
To: Silver, Liana S HLTH:EX <Liana.Silver@gov.bc.ca>, Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: January 27, 2023 9:55:07 AM PST  
Received: January 27, 2023 9:55:08 AM PST

---

**From:** Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca>

**Sent:** January 27, 2023 9:54 AM

**To:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>; MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca>; Ty, Marie HLTH:EX <Marie.Ty@gov.bc.ca>; Marsh, Jania HLTH:EX <Jania.Marsh@gov.bc.ca>; Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX <Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca>; Mason, Miranda N HLTH:EX <Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca>

**Cc:** Anderson, Karen HLTH:EX <Karen.1.Anderson@gov.bc.ca>

**Subject:** Physician Assistants

Hi everyone,

Evan was with the DM this morning and he gave direction s.13; s.17  
s.13; s.17

I am hoping we can have a short meeting today so Evan can download and we can get a go forward in place. Please forward meeting invite to anyone I may have missed.

Karen, can you book half hour this afternoon.

Thanks

Stephanie

## **FW\_ PA's.msg.ics**

---

**Sent:** January 27, 2023 10:02:52 AM PST

**Received:** January 27, 2023 10:02:55 AM PST

**Priority:** Normal (5)

**Calendar Item Type:** REQUEST

-----Original Appointment-----

From: Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: January 27, 2023 9:58 AM

To: Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX; MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX; Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX; Ty, Marie HLTH:EX; Marsh, Jania HLTH:EX; Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX

Subject: PA's

When: January 27, 2023 1:00 PM-1:30 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada).

Where: teams

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

Click here to join the meeting <<https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-s.15; s.17>>

Meeting ID:s.15; s.17

Passcodes.15; s.17

Download Teams <<https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoft-teams/download-app>> | Join on the web <<https://www.microsoft.com/microsoft-teams/join-a-meeting>>

Or call in (audio only)

+1 778-401-6289, s.15; s.17 <tel:+17784016289,, s.15; s.17> Canada, Victoria

Phone Conference ID: s.15; s.17

Find a local number <<https://dialin.teams.microsoft.com/1d2ee6b0-0212-4b1a-bc91-f2c7e4ecc3be?id:s.15; s.17>>  
Reset PIN <<https://dialin.teams.microsoft.com/usp/pstnconferencing>>

Toll-free (audio only): 1-888-600-3289

Learn More <<https://aka.ms/JoinTeamsMeeting>> | Meeting options

<[https://teams.microsoft.com/meetingOptions/?organizerId=0e53fc72-9ff5-4c23-9dfc-d554e69b53a6&tenantId=6fdb5200-3d0d-4a8a-b036-d3685e359adc&threadId=19\\_meeting\\_ODc1Zjg3MWMtY2VIYS00MzhkLThlNzMtMzUyNGRiZjg4MmY2@thread.v2&messageId=0&language=en-US](https://teams.microsoft.com/meetingOptions/?organizerId=0e53fc72-9ff5-4c23-9dfc-d554e69b53a6&tenantId=6fdb5200-3d0d-4a8a-b036-d3685e359adc&threadId=19_meeting_ODc1Zjg3MWMtY2VIYS00MzhkLThlNzMtMzUyNGRiZjg4MmY2@thread.v2&messageId=0&language=en-US)>



## FW: PA compensation - draft jurisdictional review from May 2022

---

From: Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX s.15  
To: Ty, Marie HLTH:EX <Marie.Ty@gov.bc.ca>, Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca>, Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>, Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX (Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca) <Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: January 27, 2023 11:23:29 AM PST  
Received: January 27, 2023 11:23:00 AM PST  
Attachments: image001.png, image002.png  
FYI

---

**From:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** January 27, 2023 11:20 AM  
**To:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Silver, Liana S HLTH:EX <Liana.Silver@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** PA compensation - draft jurisdictional review from May 2022

Hi Kevin and Ryan,

In case this is helpful for the 1 pm meeting today, below is an overview of funding, payment and employment models from the draft paper I compiled back in May 2022.

s.13



**Tanya Lorenz**, BScN, MSchQ | Senior Policy Analyst, Physician Workforce Development  
Physician Services Branch | Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services Division | Ministry of Health  
PO Box 9649 STN PROV GOVT | Victoria BC V8W 9P4  
E: [Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca) P: 236-478-1298



*I am thankful and privileged to live, work, and play on the traditional territories of the Lekwungen People – also known as the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations.*

---

This e-mail is intended solely for the person or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged information. Any review, dissemination, copying, printing or other use of this e-mail by persons or entities other than the addressee is prohibited. If you have received this e-mail in error, please contact the sender immediately and delete the material from any computer.

---

<sup>[1]</sup>Conference Board of Canada (2017). Funding Models for Physician Assistants. [Funding Models for Physician Assistants: Canadian and International Experiences \(capa-acam.ca\)](#)

<sup>[2]</sup> Canadian Association of Physician Assistants. (2019). Compensation Report. [PA-Compensation-2019.pdf \(capa-acam.ca\)](#)

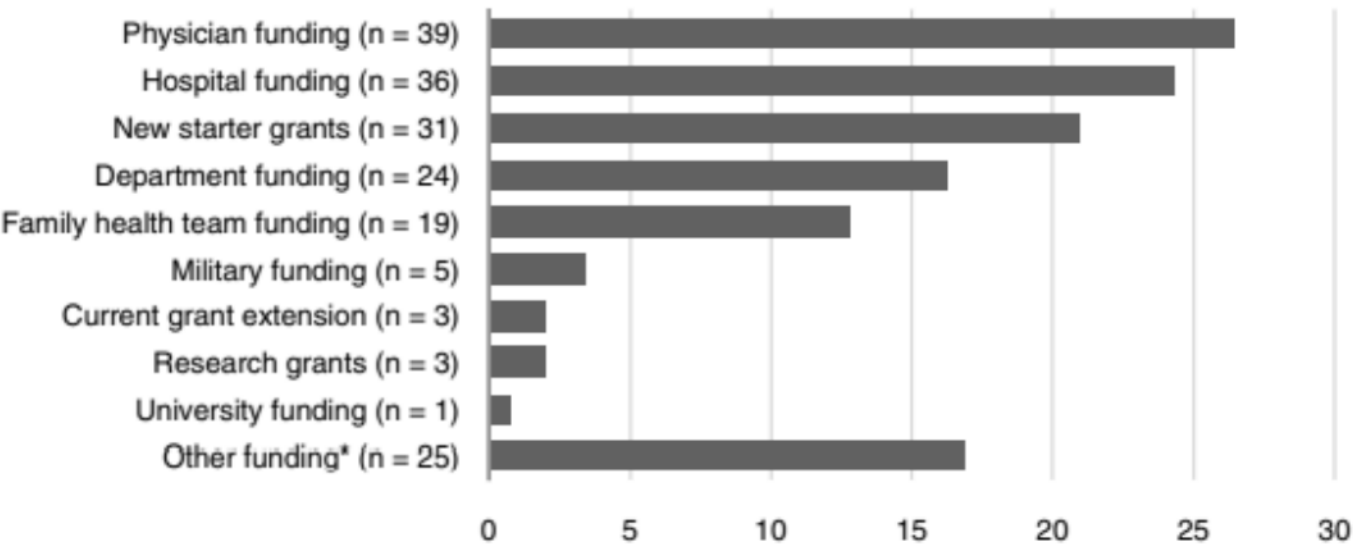
<sup>[3]</sup>Jones, I.W., Ives, R.R., Burrows, K., Jones, A.W., & St. Pierre, N. (2018). A Perspective on the Economic Sustainability of the Physician Assistant Profession in Canada. *Journal of Canada's Physician Assistants*. <https://ojs.lib.umanitoba.ca/index.php/jcpa/article/view/628/pdf> on April 19

<sup>[4]</sup> Ontario Ministry of Health (2021). Physician Assistant Career Start Program. [Physician Assistant Career Start Program - Physicians - Health Workforce Planning Branch - Health Care Professionals - MOHLTC \(gov.on.ca\)](#)

<sup>[5]</sup> Alberta Health Services. Physician Assistant Job Posting – May 7, 2022. [Physician Assistant - Alberta Health Services Careers](#)

# Funding Sources for PA Positions, 2016

(n = 148; per cent)



Note: The instrument return rate was 43.7 per cent (136 respondents for 311 Ontario PAs).

\*Identified subcategories include no LHIN funding, not working as a PA, community health centre, pay for performance, foundation, private community donation, private industry, and unsure.

Source: O'Leary and Kohout.

## RE: PA compensation - draft jurisdictional review from May 2022

---

From: Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>  
To: Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: January 27, 2023 11:23:43 AM PST  
Received: January 27, 2023 11:23:43 AM PST  
Attachments: image002.png, image001.png

Very timely! Thanks

---

**From:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** January 27, 2023 11:20 AM  
**To:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Silver, Liana S HLTH:EX <Liana.Silver@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** PA compensation - draft jurisdictional review from May 2022

Hi Kevin and Ryan,

In case this is helpful for the 1 pm meeting today, below is an overview of funding, payment and employment models from the draft paper I compiled back in May 2022.

s.13



**Tanya Lorenz**, BScN, MSChQ | Senior Policy Analyst, Physician Workforce Development  
Physician Services Branch | Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services Division | Ministry of Health  
PO Box 9649 STN PROV GOVT | Victoria BC V8W 9P4  
E: [Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca) P: 236-478-1298



*I am thankful and privileged to live, work, and play on the traditional territories of the Lekwungen People – also known as the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations.*

---

This e-mail is intended solely for the person or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged information. Any review, dissemination, copying, printing or other use of this e-mail by persons or entities other than the addressee is prohibited. If you have received this e-mail in error, please contact the sender immediately and delete the material from any computer.

---

<sup>[1]</sup>Conference Board of Canada (2017). Funding Models for Physician Assistants. [Funding Models for Physician Assistants: Canadian and International Experiences \(capa-acam.ca\)](#)

<sup>[2]</sup>Canadian Association of Physician Assistants. (2019). Compensation Report. [PA-Compensation-2019.pdf \(capa-acam.ca\)](#)

<sup>[3]</sup>Jones, I.W., Ives, R.R., Burrows, K., Jones, A.W., & St. Pierre, N. (2018). A Perspective on the Economic Sustainability of the Physician Assistant Profession in Canada. *Journal of Canada's Physician Assistants*. <https://ojs.lib.umanitoba.ca/index.php/jcpa/article/view/628/pdf> on April 19

<sup>[4]</sup>Ontario Ministry of Health (2021). Physician Assistant Career Start Program. [Physician Assistant Career Start Program - Physicians - Health Workforce Planning Branch - Health Care Professionals - MOHLTC \(gov.on.ca\)](#)

<sup>[5]</sup>Alberta Health Services. Physician Assistant Job Posting – May 7, 2022. [Physician Assistant - Alberta Health Services Careers](#)

## Re: PA compensation - draft jurisdictional review from May 2022

---

From: Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>  
To: Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>, Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>  
Cc: Silver, Liana S HLTH:EX <Liana.Silver@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: January 27, 2023 11:31:53 AM PST  
Received: January 27, 2023 11:31:54 AM PST  
Attachments: image001.png, image001.png, image002.png, image002.png

Perfect! Thx

**From:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>

**Sent:** Friday, January 27, 2023 11:19:44 AM

**To:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>

**Cc:** Silver, Liana S HLTH:EX <Liana.Silver@gov.bc.ca>

**Subject:** PA compensation - draft jurisdictional review from May 2022

Hi Kevin and Ryan,

In case this is helpful for the 1 pm meeting today, below is an overview of funding, payment and employment models from the draft paper I compiled back in May 2022.

s.13





---

**Tanya Lorenz**, BScN, MSchQ | Senior Policy Analyst, Physician Workforce Development  
 Physician Services Branch | Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services Division | Ministry of Health  
 PO Box 9649 STN PROV GOVT | Victoria BC V8W 9P4  
 E: [Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca) P: 236-478-1298



*I am thankful and privileged to live, work, and play on the traditional territories of the Lekwungen People – also known as the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations.*

---

This e-mail is intended solely for the person or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged information. Any review, dissemination, copying, printing or other use of this e-mail by persons or entities other than the addressee is prohibited. If you have received this e-mail in error, please contact the sender immediately and delete the material from any computer.

---

<sup>[1]</sup>Conference Board of Canada (2017). Funding Models for Physician Assistants. [Funding Models for Physician Assistants: Canadian and International Experiences \(capa-acam.ca\)](#)

<sup>[2]</sup>Canadian Association of Physician Assistants. (2019). Compensation Report. [PA-Compensation-2019.pdf \(capa-acam.ca\)](#)

<sup>[3]</sup>Jones, I.W., Ives, R.R., Burrows, K., Jones, A.W., & St. Pierre, N. (2018). A Perspective on the Economic Sustainability of the Physician Assistant Profession in Canada. *Journal of Canada's Physician Assistants*. <https://ojs.lib.umanitoba.ca/index.php/jcpa/article/view/628/pdf> on April 19

<sup>[4]</sup>Ontario Ministry of Health (2021). Physician Assistant Career Start Program. [Physician Assistant Career Start Program - Physicians - Health Workforce Planning Branch - Health Care Professionals - MOHLTC \(gov.on.ca\)](#)

<sup>[5]</sup>Alberta Health Services. Physician Assistant Job Posting – May 7, 2022. [Physician Assistant - Alberta Health Services Careers](#)

## link-Physician assistants

---

From: Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca>  
To: Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca>, Murray, Ryan  
HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>, Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX  
<Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>, Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX  
<Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca>, Mason, Miranda N HLTH:EX  
<Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca>, Ty, Marie HLTH:EX <Marie.Ty@gov.bc.ca>,  
MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: January 27, 2023 12:13:30 PM PST  
Received: January 27, 2023 12:13:30 PM PST

Hi

I am sure you all know way more than I do on this topic....but did find this website which outline education and scope of practice.

[What is a Physician Assistant? - Canadian PA](#)

Steph

## RE: Physician assistant training programs...

From: Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca>  
To: Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>, Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>  
Cc: Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX <Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: January 27, 2023 12:41:25 PM PST  
Received: January 27, 2023 12:41:26 PM PST  
Attachments: image001.png

Thanks Tanya

---

**From:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** January 27, 2023 12:37 PM  
**To:** Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX <Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: Physician assistant training programs...

Hi Stephanie,

Below is a summary of PA training programs in Canada (info retrieved in May 2022).

I believe that the Canadian Armed Forces previously had a PA training program, however, upon quick review of the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) website, it appears that there are two entry options:

1. **Direct Entry Option** - the recruit already has completed 1) Bachelors or Masters degree in an accredited PA program, 2) are a certified PA and 3) have current registration to practice as PA in a Canadian province or territory. CAF may place the recruit directly into on-the-job training following basic training.
2. **Paid Education Option** - CAF will pay successful recruits to complete a recognized Canadian University Physician Assistant program. Students already enrolled in a recognized Canadian University Bachelors of Science Physician Assistant program may also be eligible for this training plan.

Civilian PA Education in Canada		
Province/Program	Structure	Annual seats
Ontario - McMaster Physician Assistant Education Program	Two-year undergraduate degree (Physician Assistant). Requires a minimum of two years undergraduate study prior to admission into the program.	24 seats annually <sup>[1]</sup> .
Ontario - Consortium of PA Education (University of Toronto, Northern Ontario School of Medicine and the Michener Institute of Applied Health Sciences)	Two-year undergraduate degree (Physician Assistant). Requires a minimum of two years undergraduate study prior to admission into the program.	30 seats annually <sup>[2]</sup> .
Manitoba –Master of Physician Assistant Studies	Two-year (25 months) graduate level degree. Requires four-year Bachelors degree, preferably in a health sciences field, prior to admission to the program.	15 seats annually <sup>[3]</sup> .

Kind regards,

Tanya

**Tanya Lorenz**, BScN, MSchQ | Senior Policy Analyst, Physician Workforce Development  
Physician Services Branch | Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services Division | Ministry of Health



*I am thankful and privileged to live, work, and play on the traditional territories of the Lekwungen People – also known as the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations.*

---

This e-mail is intended solely for the person or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged information. Any review, dissemination, copying, printing or other use of this e-mail by persons or entities other than the addressee is prohibited. If you have received this e-mail in error, please contact the sender immediately and delete the material from any computer.

---

**From:** Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <[Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** January 27, 2023 12:08 PM  
**To:** Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX <[Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca)>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Physician assistant training programs...

Thanks...

We have determined...McMaster, U of T and University of Manitoba.

I don't think the Armed forces trains their own but am looking for confirmation ...if you or Tanya know ....that would be great.

S

---

**From:** Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** January 27, 2023 12:06 PM  
**To:** Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <[Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX <[Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca)>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Physician assistant training programs...

300 I believe.

Tanya might have a better idea.

---

**From:** Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <[Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** January 27, 2023 11:59 AM  
**To:** Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX <[Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** Physician assistant training programs...

Do you know how many there are in Canada?

Ontario, Manitoba and armed forces....anywhere else??

S

- <sup>[1]</sup> McMaster University (2022) Physician Assistant Education Program. [McMaster University > Physician Assistant Education Program > Physician Assistant Education Program](#)
- <sup>[2]</sup> University of Toronto (2022). Physician Assistant Acceptance. [Acceptance | PA Program \(paconsortium.ca\)](#)
- <sup>[3]</sup> Canadian PA (2022). Manitoba PA Program Overview. [University of Manitoba Physician Assistant Program Overview - Canadian PA](#)

## **FW: 1219392 - Banister - ED Email Response Updated - titleline - DRAFT**

---

**From:** MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca>  
**To:** Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca>, Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>, Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX <Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca>, Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>, Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>, Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Armitage, Mark W HLTH:EX <Mark.Armitage@gov.bc.ca>, MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** January 27, 2023 1:53:36 PM PST  
**Received:** January 27, 2023 1:53:37 PM PST  
**Attachments:** 1219392 - Banister - ED Email Response Updated - titleline - DRAFT.docx

FYI – recent correspondence that represented the Ministry’s perspective at the time. This may also be a relevant stakeholder to any change that results from our work.

M

---

**From:** MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX  
**Sent:** December 8, 2022 11:25 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** 1219392 - Banister - ED Email Response Updated - titleline - DRAFT

1219392

Marina Banister  
Manager, Advocacy and Stakeholder Relations – West  
Canadian Association of Physician Assistants  
[mbanister@capa-acam.ca](mailto:mbanister@capa-acam.ca)

Dear Marina Banister,

Thank you for your email and attached pilot project proposal dated December 17, 2021, in which you advocate on behalf of the Canadian Association of Physician Assistants (CAPA) for the Government to recognize the profession of physician assistants (PAs) in British Columbia (BC). I understand that CAPA's pilot project proposes that up to 10 certified PA's be allowed to work in specific industrial settings, and report directly to the project co-sponsor, International SOS, as a means of introducing PAs to the BC workforce at no cost to Government. I apologize for the delay in this response.

The introduction of a new health profession requires careful consideration and management, and significant resources in order to properly understand and address the inevitable team function issues that emerge from overlapping scopes of practice. The Ministry of Health (the Ministry) is committed to optimizing the scopes of practice of health care professionals to enable efficient and effective use of resources. This is reflected in the recently published BC Health Human Resources Strategy ([New health workforce strategy improves access to health care, puts people first | BC Gov News](#)), which identifies a wide range of strategies and objectives. As the Ministry works to implement this strategy, it will continue to assess the option of implementing additional professions and occupations, such as PAs.

I trust you will find this information helpful. Please let me know if you would like to meet and discuss the Ministry's status on these initiatives, and the potential implementation of PAs in the province. I would suggest targeting sometime in spring 2023 in order to have a better sense of how this may align with the Ministry's progress.

Sincerely,



Mark MacKinnon  
Executive Director  
Professional Regulation & Oversight  
Ministry of Health

**Warning:** This email is intended only for the use of the individual or organization to whom it is addressed. It may contain information that is privileged or confidential. Any distribution, disclosure, copying, or other use by anyone else is strictly prohibited. If you have received this in error, please telephone or e-mail the sender immediately and delete the message.



## FW: Physician Assistants

---

From: MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca>  
To: Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca>, Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>, Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>, Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>  
Cc: MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: January 27, 2023 1:55:42 PM PST  
Received: January 27, 2023 1:55:43 PM PST  
Attachments: FW: CAPA and International SOS Pilot Project, 1219392 - Banister - ED Email Response Updated - titleline - DRAFT.docx

And some further relevant correspondence.

M

---

**From:** MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** November 28, 2022 10:17 AM  
**To:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Mason, Miranda N HLTH:EX <Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca>; Westgate, Brian A HLTH:EX <Brian.Westgate@gov.bc.ca>; Younker, Katherine E HLTH:EX <Katherine.Younker@gov.bc.ca>; MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** Physician Assistants

Hi folks,

Just keeping you in the loop on my outgoing correspondence, approved by Mark A, that I'll be sending later today.

Thanks,

M



**Canadian Association of Physician Assistants**  
**Association canadienne des adjoints au médecin**

# **Pilot Project Proposal**

## **Introducing Physician Assistants in British Columbia**

---

Copyright

Page 073 of 286

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Copyright

## CONTACTS

**Marina Banister**  
**Manager, Advocacy and Stakeholder Relations,**  
**Western Canada**  
**Canadian Association of Physician Assistants**  
[mbanister@capa-acam.ca](mailto:mbanister@capa-acam.ca)  
780-721-6492  
Vancouver, BC

**Nic Buntmann**  
**Vice President Operations, Canada**  
**International SOS**  
[nic.buntmann@internationalsos.com](mailto:nic.buntmann@internationalsos.com)  
403-880-7166  
Leduc, AB

## EMAIL RESPONSE

1219392

Marina Banister  
Manager, Advocacy and Stakeholder Relations – West  
Canadian Association of Physician Assistants  
(mbanister@capa-acam.ca)

Dear Marina Banister,

Thank you for your email and attached pilot project proposal dated December 17, 2021, in which you advocate on behalf of the Canadian Association of Physician Assistants (CAPA) for the Government to recognize the profession of physician assistants (PAs) in British Columbia (BC). I understand that CAPA's pilot project proposes that up to 10 certified Physician Assistants (Pas) be allowed to work in specific industrial settings, and report directly to the project co-sponsor, International SOS, as a means of introducing PAs to the BC workforce at no cost to Government. I apologize for the delay in this response.

The introduction of a new health profession requires careful consideration and management, and significant resources in order to properly understand and address the inevitable team function issues that emerge from overlapping scopes of practice. The Ministry of Health (the Ministry) is committed to optimizing the scopes of practice of health care professionals to enable efficient and effective use of resources. This is reflected in the recently published BC Health Human Resources Strategy ([New health workforce strategy improves access to health care, puts people first | BC Gov News](#)), which identifies a wide range of strategies and objectives. As the Ministry works to implement this strategy, it will continue to assess the option of implementing additional professions and occupations, such as PAs.

I trust you will find this information helpful. Please let me know if you would like to meet and discuss the Ministry's status on these initiatives, and the potential implementation of PAs in the province. I would suggest targeting sometime in spring 2023 in order to have a better sense of how this may align with the Ministry's progress.

Sincerely,

Mark MacKinnon  
Executive Director  
Professional Regulation & Oversight  
Ministry of Health

bcc: Professional Regulation and Oversight inbox (PROREGADMIN@gov.bc.ca)

**Warning:** This email is intended only for the use of the individual or organization to whom it is addressed. It may contain information that is privileged or confidential. Any distribution, disclosure, copying, or other use by anyone else is strictly prohibited. If you have received this in error, please telephone or e-mail the sender immediately and delete the message.

## **ALERT - eApprovals Item ID: 73960 - Item Forwarded - Due 2023-02-17**

---

From: HLTH eApprovals <donotreply@sp.gov.bc.ca>  
To: Mhairi.Robertson-Jones@gov.bc.ca, Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX  
<Mhairi.Robertson-Jones@gov.bc.ca>  
Sender: HLTH eApprovals <donotreply@sp.gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: January 30, 2023 3:30:37 PM PST  
Received: January 30, 2023 3:30:54 PM PST

Owen, Rhys HLTH:EX [Colleague of HSWBS Generic ] forwarded an eApprovals item to Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX for action

**Comment: Hi Mhairi, please assign for PSB email response. Thanks!**

#: 1250140

Title: Suggesting to allow Physician Assistants to work in BC. Nurse Practitioners are not efficient to address shortage. Also suggesting to tax cosmetic procedures.

Full Name: s.22

Due Date: 2/17/2023

Category: Correspondence - Email

[Go to item...](#)

## **ALERT - eApprovals Item ID: 74181 - Item Forwarded - Due 2023-02-22**

---

From: HLTH eApprovals <donotreply@sp.gov.bc.ca>  
To: Mhairi.Robertson-Jones@gov.bc.ca, Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX  
<Mhairi.Robertson-Jones@gov.bc.ca>  
Sender: HLTH eApprovals <donotreply@sp.gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: February 2, 2023 8:19:14 AM PST  
Received: February 2, 2023 8:19:17 AM PST

Molina, Alfonso HLTH:EX [Colleague of HSWBS Generic ] forwarded an eApprovals item to Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX for action

**Comment: Good morning, Please upload letter template for PSB and assign for response. Thank you!**

#: 1249957

Title: Advocating for the use of Physician Assistants in Port Hardy

Full Name:<sup>s.22</sup>

Due Date: 2/22/2023

Category: Correspondence - Letter

[Go to item...](#)

## **FW: Surgical Q3 Report - updated with Zelin's research project**

---

From: Hancock, Lynn HLTH:EX <Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca>  
To: Mason, Miranda N HLTH:EX <Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca>, Gill, Laurabeth  
HLTH:EX <Laurabeth.Gill@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: February 2, 2023 4:56:29 PM PST  
Received: February 2, 2023 4:56:29 PM PST  
Attachments: FY22 Q3 - Surgical Workforce Report - DRAFT.docx

Hey Miranda,

A nice report here on the surgical workforce (quarterly and with lots of pithy insights) for your consideration. Will be sending this on to Paul et. all with your approval.

Lynn



# Surgical Workforce Report: FY2022/23 Q3 (P7 – P9)

Health Workforce Planning and Strategic Initiatives Branch; January 17, 2023

In “A Commitment to Surgical Renewal” (the Renewal Plan), the Ministry of Health established a plan for completing surgeries postponed in March and April 2020 due to the COVID-19 surgical shutdown and to significantly increase the number of surgeries performed beyond pre-COVID levels.

In the Renewal Plan, the Ministry sets out five steps to meet these ambitious targets:

1. Increasing surgeries
2. Increasing essential personnel
3. Focusing on patients
4. Adding more resources
5. Reporting on progress

This report focuses on progress towards increasing essential personnel (step 2) with a focus on nurses, medical device reprocessing technicians (MDRT), surgeons, anesthesiologists, and FP/GP-anesthesiologists.

This report contains data from surgical workforce reporting submitted by the regional health authorities and PHSA in FY20, FY21, and FY22 including data up to and including **Period 9 of FY22** (ending December 8, 2022).

## Contents

Analysis of Payroll Data .....	2
Figure 1. Surgical Nurse (Perioperative and Post Anesthetic Recovery RN) Payroll Data .....	2
Surgical Renewal Workforce Targets and Progress to Plan .....	3
Table 1. Workforce Targets Identified in the Surgical Renewal Plan, and Progress to Date .....	3
Table 2. Change in Active Employees .....	4
Insights on Surgical Occupations and Risks to Surgical Targets .....	4
Anesthesiologists .....	4
Surgical Nurses .....	5
Medical Device Reprocessing Technicians .....	5
Surgeons .....	6
Anesthesia Assistants .....	6
Appendix A: Additional Insights from Surgical Data .....	6
Casualization .....	6
Physician FTEs .....	6

## Analysis of Payroll Data

Data in Figure 1 indicate that staffing, productive hours, and overtime all briefly stabilized after the COVID-19 shutdown in March and April 2020 (Q4 2019 and Q1 2020) but have since shifted. Current trends reveal:

- **Lower productive hours per employee and lower total productive hours, despite more total employees.**
- Higher overtime per employee and higher overtime in total.
- Fluctuations in the payroll data are larger than before the pandemic.

Figure 1. Surgical Nurse (Perioperative and Post Anesthetic Recovery RN) Payroll Data<sup>1</sup>

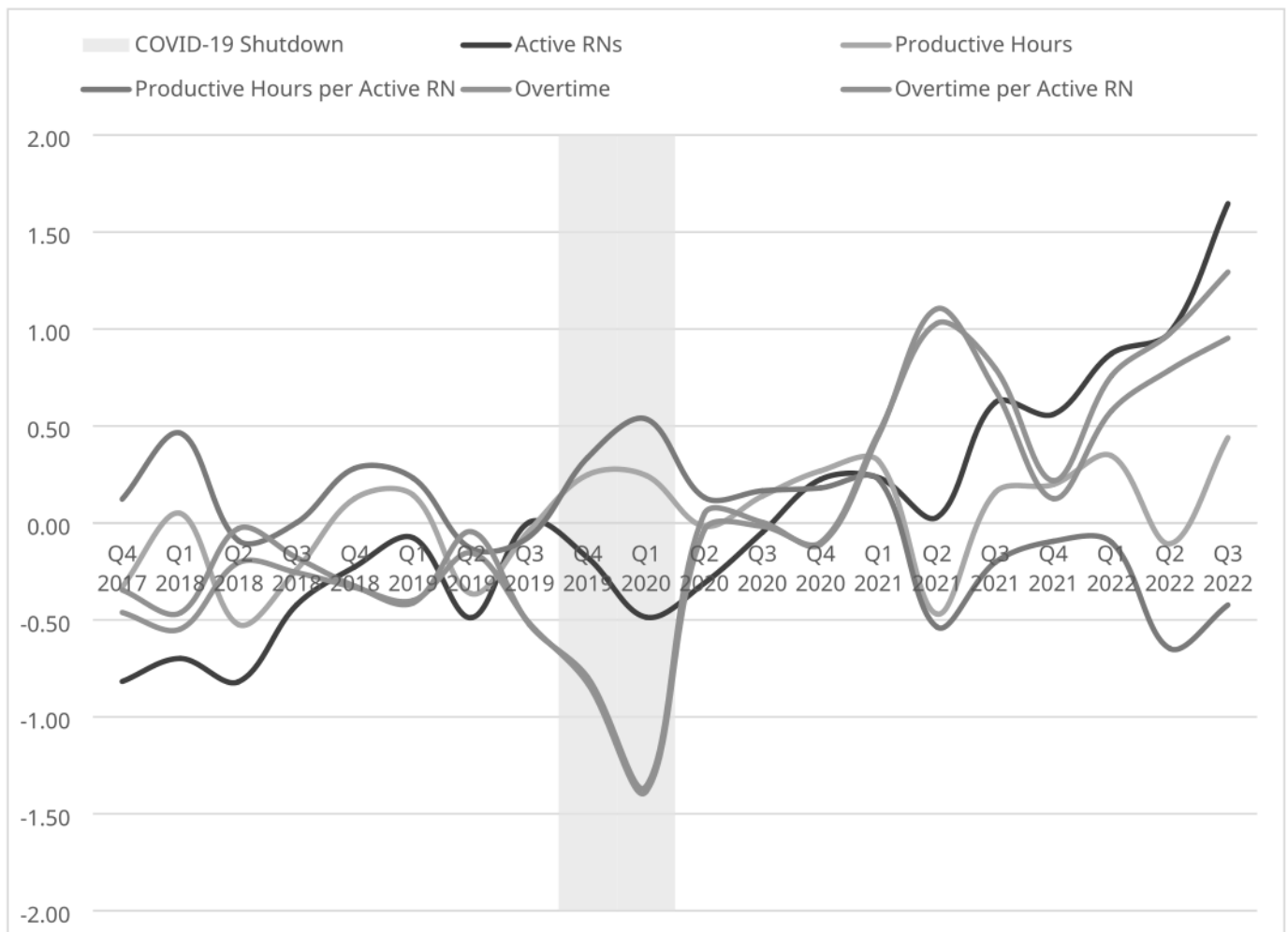


Figure 1 plots standard deviations from the mean over the fiscal year for Surgical RNs.

- **When the line is below 0, the value for that quarter is below average (e.g., overtime in Q1 2020).**
- **When the line is above 0, the value for that quarter is above average (e.g., overtime in Q2 2021).**
- Distance from 0 indicates the magnitude of the difference from the average. When the line is far below 0, the value for that period is far below the average of all periods.

<sup>1</sup> RNs are used for this figure because the population size is large enough that small deviations in the data do not throw off the overall trend, unlike the other occupations for which we have data, but it is likely that this trend also extends to the other surgical occupations.

## Surgical Renewal Workforce Targets and Progress to Plan

Table 1. Workforce Targets Identified in the Surgical Renewal Plan, and Progress to Date

Category	Target	Progress Since April 2020
<b>Complete Actions</b>		
Nurse	Train 400 surgical specialty nurses (in addition to usual training volumes) to staff additional operating room time.	886 nurses have finished training as of FY22 Q3.
	Hire 1,550 nursing graduates, with a focus on surgery as a priority	B.C. has met and exceeded its' goal of hiring 1,550 nursing graduates and continues to hire new graduates.
Allied Health	Train approximately 100 new MDRTs to manage new surgical capacity	B.C. has met its' goal of training 100 new MDRTs and continues to ramp up training.
Surgeon	Assess current physician supply and recruit additional surgeons to meet demand.	118 surgeons have been recruited by health authorities.
<b>Ongoing Actions</b>		
Surgeon	Explore models of care that involve associate physicians, physician assistants, etc.	Action 23 of the Provincial Health Human Resources strategy provides renumeration support to 100 associate physicians in acute and specialty care settings across B.C., starting with 50 in 2023/24.
Anesthesiologist	Support rollout of the provincial anesthesiology contract to stabilize anesthesia services.	12 contracts are in place across 14 hospitals. 5 contracts at 4 private surgical facilities.
	Develop a clinical fellowship program for board certified US-trained Anesthesiologists	On track to help candidates meet the national licensure requirements. Developing two-year return-of-service placements.
	Begin a targeted and proactive anesthesia and FP-anesthesia recruitment campaign	125 anesthesiologists and 8 FP/GP-anesthesiologists have been added to the provincial workforce since April 2020.
	Explore anesthesia models including care teams, anesthesia assistants (AA), and nurse anesthesia.	Anesthesia Care Team working group is in place within the Ministry to support the integration of anesthesia care team members.

Table 2. Change in Active Employees

**The number of active employees in surgical has increased since this quarter last year as well as since April 2020.** There is typically normal seasonal variation in the number of active employees from quarter to quarter. For example, more people take vacation in the summer, so the number of active employees drops from quarter 1 to quarter 2. Examining the change from the same quarter last year accounts for this seasonal variation, and more accurately shows that the workforce has changed.

These increased personnel have **increased surgical capacity** across the province. Surgical specialty nurse productive hours were **4% higher** than this time last year, with an increase of 6800 hours of surgical nursing in Quarter 3 of 2022 when compared to Quarter 3 of 2021.

	Change in Regular Active Employees		
	Since Surgical Renewal (April 2020)	Since last quarter (FY22 Q2)	Since the same quarter last year (FY21 Q3)
<b>Nursing</b>	<b>+339</b>	<b>+161</b>	<b>+138</b>
Perioperative LPNs	+57	+24	+19
Perioperative RNs	+177	+81	+54
Post-Anesthetic Recovery RNs	+106	+56	+65
<b>Allied Health</b>	<b>+77</b>	<b>+2</b>	<b>+48</b>
Medical Device Reprocessing Technicians	+77	+2	+48
<b>Physicians</b>			
Anesthesiologists	+125	+18	+42
FP-Anesthesia / GP-Anesthesia	+8 <sup>2</sup>	+5	+2
Surgeons	+134	+9	+85

### Insights on Surgical Occupations and Risks to Surgical Targets

Risk assessments by occupation have remained the same since last quarter. Health authorities assess most professions as posing a low or moderate risk to service delivery, except Interior and Northern Health who continue to assess most surgical occupations as posing a high risk to service delivery.

Vancouver Coastal has also noted that physicians required to meet surgical targets are not just surgeons, anesthesiologists, and FP/GP-anesthesiologists, and our templates are missing key physician specialties which impact the gap and risk assessment.<sup>s.13</sup>

s.13

<sup>2</sup> Last quarter there was a typo. Last quarter total GP-A headcount was 80, not change in total headcount.

<sup>3</sup> For more detail on HWPI's analysis of the difference between health authority projections and actual need, please see the Surgical Workforce: Physician Projections and Need report.

## Anesthesiologists

An overall shortage of anesthesiologists remains. Immigration delays have resulted in **further delays for international recruits**.<sup>s.17</sup>

s.17

## Surgical Nurses

**Fatigue, burnout, preceptor shortages, and competition with other service delivery areas** and jurisdictions continue to compound the existing surgical specialty nurse supply challenges across the province. Interior, PHSA, Vancouver Coastal, s.17

s.17 and training opportunities are widely available leading to fewer applicants for each program.

New strategies in action:

- Vancouver Coastal has developed a preceptorship program to recruit new graduates to the perioperative RN training program and is launching a standardized onboarding and internal movement program.
- Interior Health is developing a virtual option of their regional preceptor workshop to allow employees at smaller sites to attend without travelling and has found that their preceptor support position was effective in retaining preceptors new to teaching.

## Medical Device Reprocessing Technicians

As previously reported, baseline staffing and training are both challenging, with associated risks from sick leave, overtime, stress, and fatigue. Smaller sites and rural and remote locations are having **difficulty recruiting and housing MDRTs**. Additionally, some MDRT staff only want to work daytime and weekday hours or remain as casual employees (because of their ability to take shifts in private industry), impacting coverage.

MDRT education cohorts were successfully increased in 2020/21 and into 2021/2022,<sup>s.17</sup>

s.17 . In Vancouver Coastal, the high cost of living is impacting recruitment and training cohorts.

## Surgeons

Specialty areas and rural and remote sites remain a concern, but **overall risk remains moderate** as surgical positions have not historically been difficult to fill.

## Anesthesia Assistants

**Concerns remain about the pool of qualified applicants** s.13

s.13

New strategies in action:

- Provincial Anesthesia Assistant practice standardization progress continues with the College now updating the bylaws according to feedback received during consultation.

## Appendix A: Additional Insights from Surgical Data

We've had an opportunity to take deeper dives into the surgical data; a summary of the results is below, and full reports will follow separately.

### Casualization

**Question:** How do casual workers contribute to the surgical workforce?

**Method:** Casualization was assessed by calculating the proportion of total productive surgical hours contributed by casual workers.

**Results:**

- s.17 Rates routinely peaked in Quarter 2, implying workers' preference for flexibility in the summer months.
- MDRTs, and RNs with both PACU and Perioperative training had high casual rates, with averages of 18.7% and 24.8% respectively. This is consistent with research suggesting multi-skilled nurses are more likely to turn to casual work, as they report elevated workloads and burnout more often than nurses working in a singular role.
- Health authorities with more rural areas (Fraser, Interior, and Northern) are consistently more reliant on casual workers than the other HAs, suggesting that rural areas may require more support.

### Physician FTEs

**Question:** How do physician Full Time Equivalents (FTEs) compare to physician headcount?

**Method:** Physician FTEs were assessed against physician headcount among surgeons, anesthesiologists, and FP/GP-anesthesiologists.

**Results:**

- Most physicians are working at less than 1 FTE across the province, s.13
- Since April 1, 2020, the ratio of FTE to headcount has decreased slightly for all surgical professions even as active headcount and FTEs have increased, which may suggest that physicians were previously working to capacity.
- Surgeons decreased their hours the least out of the three occupations (0.85 FTE/head to 0.84 FTE/head) and anesthesiologists have decreased their hours the most (0.84 FTE/head to 0.78 FTE/head).
- Northern Health specifically had significantly lower FTE/headcount ratios for Anesthesiologists compared to the other Health Authorities. s.13

### Training Completions and Net New Capacity

**Question:** Have larger training cohorts for MDRTs, Perioperative RNs and LPNs, and PACU RNs impacted the surgical workforce?

**Method:** Training completion data (provided by the health authorities) was assessed against active employee numbers (from payroll data).

**Results:**

- 1008 surgical employees (MDRTs, perioperative RNs and LPNs, and post-anesthetic recovery RNs) completed their training between April 1, 2020, and December 22, 2022.
- s.13

**RE: PA** s.13; s.17

---

**From:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX s.15

f-

**To:** Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca>

**Cc:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>, Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>, MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca>

**Sent:** February 3, 2023 10:38:53 AM PST

**Received:** February 3, 2023 10:38:00 AM PST

Thank you, Chris. I'll review these options and get back to you with some initial comments/considerations re: s.13; s.17  
Perhaps once I've put some thoughts together we could connect for a quick chat.

Kind regards,

Tanya

---

**From:** Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca>

**Sent:** February 3, 2023 10:19 AM

**To:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>

**Cc:** MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>

**Subject:** PA s.13; s.17

Hi Tanya,

Further to discussions earlier this week on routes to enable practice of Physician Assistants (PAs), we've had several chats with the College of Physicians and Surgeon about s.13; s.17  
s.13; s.17

I spoke with Kevin yesterday and he advised connecting with you on this.

I've also included a draft doc from the college that covers their perspectives on a few of the below options.

Thanks,

Chris

s.13; s.17

Page 086 of 286

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13 ; s.17





From: Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX<sup>s.15</sup>  
s.15  
|  
To: Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca>  
Cc: Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>, Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX  
<Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>, MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX  
<Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: February 3, 2023 1:21:57 PM PST  
Received: February 3, 2023 1:21:00 PM PST  
Hi Chris –

I've primarily focused my comments below on the recommended short-term option (option #2) noted in your earlier email. Happy to discuss further. Kind regards, Tanya

s.13; s.17

---

**From:** Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** February 3, 2023 10:19 AM  
**To:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** PA s.13; s.17

Hi Tanya,

Further to discussions earlier this week on routes to enable practice of Physician Assistants (PAs), we've had several chats with the College of Physicians and Surgeon about s.13; s.17

I spoke with Kevin yesterday and he advised connecting with you on this.

I've also included a draft doc from the college that covers their perspectives on a few of the below options.

Thanks,

Chris



## **ALERT - eApprovals Item ID: 74403 - Item Forwarded - Due 2023-02-24**

---

From: HLTH eApprovals <donotreply@sp.gov.bc.ca>  
To: Mhairi.Robertson-Jones@gov.bc.ca, Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX  
<Mhairi.Robertson-Jones@gov.bc.ca>  
Sender: HLTH eApprovals <donotreply@sp.gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: February 3, 2023 2:30:51 PM PST  
Received: February 3, 2023 2:30:54 PM PST

Takahashi, Junko HLTH:EX [Colleague of HSWBS Generic ] forwarded an eApprovals item to Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX for action

**Comment: Hi Mhairi, Please assign for draft Min-sig. Thank you.**

#: 1250264

Title: In strong support of Canadian Association of Physician Assistants' request for the authorization to undertake a trial project employing physician assistant in Port Hardy beginning June 1, 2023.

Full Name: Corbett-Labatt, Pat (Mayor, District of Port Hardy)

Due Date: 2/24/2023

Category: Correspondence - Email

[Go to item...](#)

## **ALERT - eApprovals Item ID: 74451 - Item Forwarded - Due 2023-02-27**

---

From: HLTH eApprovals <donotreply@sp.gov.bc.ca>  
To: Mhairi.Robertson-Jones@gov.bc.ca, Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX  
<Mhairi.Robertson-Jones@gov.bc.ca>  
Sender: HLTH eApprovals <donotreply@sp.gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: February 6, 2023 9:13:43 AM PST  
Received: February 6, 2023 9:13:47 AM PST

Molina, Alfonso HLTH:EX [Colleague of HSWBS Generic ] forwarded an eApprovals item to Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX for action

**Comment: Good morning, Please assign for response. Thank you!**

#: 1250688

Title: Wondering what is being done for certifying immigrant doctors, and why physician assistants are not allowed in BC

Full Name:<sup>s.22</sup>

Due Date: 2/27/2023

Category: Correspondence - Email

[Go to item...](#)

Page 094 of 286 to/à Page 097 of 286

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13 ; s.17



## QP Summary Tuesday February 7, 2023

---

From: Marsh, Jania HLTH:EX <Jania.Marsh@gov.bc.ca>  
To: Ty, Marie HLTH:EX <Marie.Ty@gov.bc.ca>, Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca>, Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>, Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX <Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca>, Vowles, Wendy M HLTH:EX <Wendy.Vowles@gov.bc.ca>, Mason, Miranda N HLTH:EX <Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca>, MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca>, Matieschyn, Zachary HLTH:EX <Zachary.Matieschyn@gov.bc.ca>, Cramb, Lorrie HLTH:EX <Lorrie.Cramb@gov.bc.ca>, Westgate, Brian A HLTH:EX <Brian.Westgate@gov.bc.ca>, Van Gylswyk, Haley HLTH:EX <Haley.VanGylswyk@gov.bc.ca>, White, Robyn S HLTH:EX <Robyn.White@gov.bc.ca>, Puckett, Kate HLTH:EX <Kate.Puckett@gov.bc.ca>, Bryanton, Sarah HLTH:EX <Sarah.Bryanton@gov.bc.ca>, Bringsli, Eric C HLTH:EX <Eric.Bringli@gov.bc.ca>, Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>, Silver, Liana S HLTH:EX <Liana.Silver@gov.bc.ca>, Pavlovic, Jelena HLTH:EX <Jelena.Pavlovic@gov.bc.ca>, Hancock, Lynn HLTH:EX <Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca>, Hildebrandt, Colleen HLTH:EX <Colleen.Hildebrandt@gov.bc.ca>, Woodward, Elaine HLTH:EX <Elaine.Woodward@gov.bc.ca>, Fernando, Leah HLTH:EX <Leah.Fernando@gov.bc.ca>, Younker, Katherine E HLTH:EX <Katherine.Younker@gov.bc.ca>, Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca>, Morrison, Kerry HLTH:EX <Kerry.Morrison@gov.bc.ca>, Murdock, Melissa HLTH:EX <Melissa.Murdock@gov.bc.ca>, Anderson, Karen HLTH:EX <Karen.1.Anderson@gov.bc.ca>, Sharma, Anita HLTH:EX <Anita.Sharma@gov.bc.ca>, West, Niya HLTH:EX <Niya.West@gov.bc.ca>, Riddell, Sarah K HLTH:EX <Sarah.Riddell@gov.bc.ca>, Eagle, Elanna HLTH:EX <Elanna.Eagle@gov.bc.ca>, Johnston, Rory N HLTH:EX <Rory.Johnston@gov.bc.ca>, Johansen, Nadeen C HLTH:EX <Nadeen.Johansen@gov.bc.ca>, Swan, Rebecca HLTH:EX <Rebecca.Swan@gov.bc.ca>, Clarke, Paul HLTH:EX <Paul.Clarke@gov.bc.ca>, Fiege, Kimber-Lea HLTH:EX <Kimber.Lea.Fiege@gov.bc.ca>, Perren, Michelle HLTH:EX <Michelle.Perren@gov.bc.ca>, Ronse, Kara L HLTH:EX <Kara.Ronse@gov.bc.ca>, Pudwell, Carol HLTH:EX <Carol.Pudwell@gov.bc.ca>, Turnquist, Woodrow HLTH:EX <Woody.Turnquist@gov.bc.ca>, Hutchison, Fiona HLTH:EX <Fiona.Hutchison@gov.bc.ca>, Armitage, Mark W HLTH:EX <Mark.Armitage@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: February 7, 2023 1:58:41 PM PST  
Received: February 7, 2023 1:58:42 PM PST  
Attachments: image001.png  
FYI

### Jania Marsh | Executive Coordinator |

Assistant Deputy Minister's Office | Health Sector Workforce & Beneficiary Services Division  
Ministry of Health | PO Box 9649 STN PROV GOVT | Victoria, BC | V8W 9P4  
P: 250-952-2402 | C: 778-679-6410 | E: [Jania.Marsh@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jania.Marsh@gov.bc.ca)

*Grateful to live, work, and play within the traditional territories of the Lekwungen speaking people – also known as the Esquimalt and Songhees First Nations.*



**WARNING - CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE** Government confidentiality and privilege requirements apply to this message and any attachments. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any review, retransmission, conversion to hard copy, copying, circulation or

**From:** HLTH Health Issues HLTH:EX <HealthIssues@gov.bc.ca>

**Sent:** February 7, 2023 11:17 AM

**To:** Achampong, Bernard HLTH:EX <Bernard.Achampong@gov.bc.ca>; Adams, Alix HLTH:EX <Alix.Adams@gov.bc.ca>; Anderson, Karen HLTH:EX <Karen.1.Anderson@gov.bc.ca>; Anderson, Kristy HLTH:EX <Kristy.Anderson@gov.bc.ca>; Arscott, Lindsay HLTH:EX <Lindsay.Arscoth@gov.bc.ca>; Baade, Leah J HLTH:EX <Leah.Baade@gov.bc.ca>; Bedford, Sue HLTH:EX <Sue.Bedford@gov.bc.ca>; Benn, Jennifer MMHA:EX <Jennifer.Benn@gov.bc.ca>; Bianco, Catherine HLTH:EX <Catherine.Bianco@gov.bc.ca>; Biran, Kiran HLTH:EX <Kiran.Biran@gov.bc.ca>; Blemings, Roxanne HLTH:EX <Roxanne.Blemings@gov.bc.ca>; Bouma, Susan HLTH:EX <Susan.Bouma@gov.bc.ca>; Bragg, Jacquelynn HLTH:EX <Jacquelynn.Bragg@gov.bc.ca>; Bryan, Frances HLTH:EX <Frances.Bryan@gov.bc.ca>; Bryden, Allison HLTH:EX <Allison.Bryden@gov.bc.ca>; Butler, Ally MMHA:EX <Ally.Butler@gov.bc.ca>; Cairns, Leann HLTH:EX <Leann.Cairns@gov.bc.ca>; Cameron, Mary HLTH:EX <Mary.Cameron@gov.bc.ca>; Capelli, John HLTH:EX <John.Capelli@gov.bc.ca>; Casanova, Tamara MMHA:EX <Tamara.Casanova@gov.bc.ca>; Cascaden, Lori R HLTH:EX <Lori.Cascaden@gov.bc.ca>; Champoux, Ken HLTH:EX <Ken.Champoux@gov.bc.ca>; Chandler, Breanna HLTH:EX <Breanna.Chandler@gov.bc.ca>; Clarke, Diana HLTH:EX <Diana.Clarke@gov.bc.ca>; Clow, Holly MMHA:EX <Holly.Clow@gov.bc.ca>; Clucas, Amy HLTH:EX <Amy.Clucas@gov.bc.ca>; Cook, Heather G HLTH:EX <Heather.G.Cook@gov.bc.ca>; Czapska, Joanna HLTH:EX <Joanna.Czapska@gov.bc.ca>; Dalzell, Kacey HLTH:EX <Kacey.Dalzell@gov.bc.ca>; Davison, Carolyn J MMHA:EX <Carolyn.Davison@gov.bc.ca>; Day, Meghan HLTH:EX <Meghan.Day@gov.bc.ca>; Den, Donald HLTH:EX <Donald.Den@gov.bc.ca>; Diacu, Mariana HLTH:EX <Mariana.Diacu@gov.bc.ca>; Downey, Gayle F HLTH:EX <Gayle.Downey@gov.bc.ca>; Drlik, Taryn HLTH:EX <Taryn.Drlik@gov.bc.ca>; Dube, Jonathan HLTH:EX <Jonathan.Dube@gov.bc.ca>; Estiverne, Bethany MMHA:EX <Bethany.Estiverne@gov.bc.ca>; Fauman, Sheila HLTH:EX <Sheila.Fauman@gov.bc.ca>; Fazlagic, Tijana HLTH:EX <Tijana.Fazlagic@gov.bc.ca>; Fisher, Kiersten D HLTH:EX <Kiersten.Fisher@gov.bc.ca>; Frost, Andrea HLTH:EX <Andrea.Frost@gov.bc.ca>; Fuder, Leah S HLTH:EX <Leah.Fuder@gov.bc.ca>; Galt, Jamie HLTH:EX <Jamie.Galt@gov.bc.ca>; Garner, Sarah FIN:EX <Sarah.Garner@gov.bc.ca>; Garnham, Shelley HLTH:EX <Shelley.Garnham@gov.bc.ca>; GCPE Communications - Health <CommH@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>; Gillespie, Jennifer HLTH:EX <Jennifer.Gillespie@gov.bc.ca>; Gold, Crystal HLTH:EX <Crystal.Gold@gov.bc.ca>; Gough, Jennifer HLTH:EX <Jennifer.Gough@gov.bc.ca>; Greenaway, Shelley E HLTH:EX <Shelley.Greenaway@gov.bc.ca>; Gudaitis, Paul HLTH:EX <Paul.Gudaitis@gov.bc.ca>; Gudmunson, Kathryn HLTH:EX <Kathryn.Gudmunson@gov.bc.ca>; Guerrero, Thomas HLTH:EX <Thomas.Guerrero@gov.bc.ca>; Hall, Shana A HLTH:EX <Shana.Hall@gov.bc.ca>; Halston, Leslie HLTH:EX <Leslie.Halston@gov.bc.ca>; Hammond, Kendall HLTH:EX <Kendall.Hammond@gov.bc.ca>; Harper, Therese HLTH:EX <Therese.Harper@gov.bc.ca>; Heinze, Laura R HLTH:EX <Laura.Heinze@gov.bc.ca>; Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>; hlth Executive Committee <hlthexec@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>; hlth Key Contacts <hlthkeycontacts@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>; Ho, Hilary HLTH:EX <Hilary.Ho@gov.bc.ca>; s.22 <Dominic.Tan@gov.bc.ca>; Holoiday, Leah GCPE:EX <Leah.Holoiday@gov.bc.ca>; Jayanthan, Janaki HLTH:EX <Janaki.Jayanthan@gov.bc.ca>; Jepsen, Donna HLTH:EX <Donna.Jepsen@gov.bc.ca>; Johnson, Eugene HLTH:EX <Eugene.Johnson@gov.bc.ca>; Khalaileh, Aygul GCPE:EX <Aygul.Khalaileh@gov.bc.ca>; Kirke, Julie HLTH:EX <Julie.Kirke@gov.bc.ca>; Kolluru, Soumya HLTH:EX <Soumya.Kolluru@gov.bc.ca>; Kuo, I Fan HLTH:EX <IFan.Kuo@gov.bc.ca>; Lo, Clifford HLTH:EX <Clifford.Lo@gov.bc.ca>; Logan, Katherine HLTH:EX <Katherine.Logan@gov.bc.ca>; Lyster, Leesa HLTH:EX <Leesa.Lyster@gov.bc.ca>; Maharaj, Raj HLTH:EX <Raj.Maharaj@gov.bc.ca>; Marsh, Jania HLTH:EX <Jania.Marsh@gov.bc.ca>; Maxson, Sandra OHCS:EX <Sandra.Maxson@gov.bc.ca>; Mazza, Amie HLTH:EX <Amie.Mazza@gov.bc.ca>; McConnan, Kelly MMHA:EX <Kelly.McConnan@gov.bc.ca>; McLachlan, Debbie HLTH:EX <Debbie.McLachlan@gov.bc.ca>; McLay, Jeremy HLTH:EX <Jeremy.McLay@gov.bc.ca>; McMullen, Bethany S C HLTH:EX <Bethany.McMullen@gov.bc.ca>; McQuillen, Kelly HLTH:EX <Kelly.McQuillen@gov.bc.ca>; Miramontes, Lara HLTH:EX <Lara.Miramontes@gov.bc.ca>; MMHA EXECUTIVE <MMHAEXEC@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>; Neilson, Karen HLTH:EX <Karen.Neilson@gov.bc.ca>; North, Naomi HLTH:EX <Naomi.North@gov.bc.ca>; Okwengu, Mariam AG:EX <Mariam.Okwengu@gov.bc.ca>; Ooms, Shana HLTH:EX <Shana.Ooms@gov.bc.ca>; Pang, Walton HLTH:EX <Walton.Pang@gov.bc.ca>; Parte, Maura HLTH:EX <Maura.Parte@gov.bc.ca>; Patterson, Catherine M HLTH:EX <Catherine.Patterson@gov.bc.ca>; Perzoff, Lara HLTH:EX <Lara.Perzoff@gov.bc.ca>; Poilievre, Tricia MMHA:EX <Tricia.Poilievre@gov.bc.ca>; Pop, Sorin HLTH:EX <Sorin.Pop@gov.bc.ca>; Prpich, Danielle HLTH:EX <Danielle.Prpich@gov.bc.ca>; Rinta, Darcy HLTH:EX <Darcy.Rinta@gov.bc.ca>; Robinson, Jonathan M HLTH:EX <Jonathan.Robinson@gov.bc.ca>; Rudden, Carolyn HLTH:EX <Carolyn.Rudden@gov.bc.ca>; Russo, Geneen HLTH:EX <Geneen.Russo@gov.bc.ca>; Sagar, Brian HLTH:EX <Brian.Sagar@gov.bc.ca>; Sayani, Fatma HLTH:EX <Fatma.Sayani@gov.bc.ca>; Sharma, Anita HLTH:EX <Anita.Sharma@gov.bc.ca>; Sharma, Yashna HLTH:EX

<Yashna.Sharma@gov.bc.ca>; Shaver, Julie HLTH:EX <Julie.Shaver@gov.bc.ca>; Shields, Sara HLTH:EX <Sara.Shields@gov.bc.ca>; Shust, Susan D HLTH:EX <Susan.Shust@gov.bc.ca>; Sivananthan, Panmoli HLTH:EX <Panmoli.Sivananthan@gov.bc.ca>; Smith, Leah M EMCR:EX <Leah.Smith@gov.bc.ca>; Smith, Stephen HLTH:EX <Stephen.Smith@gov.bc.ca>; Stanker, Cheryl HLTH:EX <Cheryl.Stanker@gov.bc.ca>; Sterloff, Trish HLTH:EX <Trish.Sterloff@gov.bc.ca>; Strachan, Brande L HLBC:EX <Brande.Strachan@gov.bc.ca>; Sundhu, Sandra HLBC:EX <Sandra.Sundhu@gov.bc.ca>; Therrien, Darlene HLTH:EX <Darlene.Therrien@gov.bc.ca>; Thistle-Walker, Carlene CITZ:EX <Carlene.ThistleWalker@gov.bc.ca>; Thomas, Gerald HLTH:EX <Gerald.Thomas@gov.bc.ca>; Tiwari, Deepika HLTH:EX <Deepika.Tiwari@gov.bc.ca>; Treacher, Noah MCF:EX <Noah.Treacher@gov.bc.ca>; Tupper, Kenneth HLTH:EX <Kenneth.Tupper@gov.bc.ca>; Uyeno, Kelly HLTH:EX <Kelly.Uyeno@gov.bc.ca>; van der Leer, Gerrit HLTH:EX <Gerrit.vanderLeer@gov.bc.ca>; Warren, Leanne HLTH:EX <Leanne.Warren@gov.bc.ca>; Watt, Rebecca HLTH:EX <Rebecca.Watt@gov.bc.ca>; Will, Jordan HLTH:EX <Jordan.Will@gov.bc.ca>; Williams, Courtney L HLTH:EX <Courtney.Williams@gov.bc.ca>; Wiman, Holly A MMHA:EX <Holly.Wiman@gov.bc.ca>; Wong, Kendra GCPE:EX <Kendra.Wong@gov.bc.ca>; YeungThompson, Rachel HLTH:EX <Rachel.YeungThompson@gov.bc.ca>; Youngs, Kirsten R HLTH:EX <Kirsten.Youngs@gov.bc.ca>

**Cc:** HLTH Health Issues HLTH:EX <HealthIssues@gov.bc.ca>; HLTH Health Issues HLTH:EX <HealthIssues@gov.bc.ca>

**Subject:** QP Summary Tuesday February 7, 2023

**QP Summary Thursday February 7:** Health related topics / no MMHA related topics

- Leader of the Official Opposition Kevin Falcon spoke about our Mental health care system. Over 11,000 lives lost. A broken system that is costly, and impossible to navigate for desperate families. The NDP don't even track the funded beds available or the outcomes from the investments they're making. Will the government admit that the status quo of the last 6 years has utterly failed? Minister of Mental Health and Addictions Jennifer Whiteside said that many of us have been impacted by the MHSU crisis in our province, that is experienced in all jurisdictions of the country and province. The approach is articulated in the pathway to hope, that the vision unites investments in Indigenous led solutions, Child and youth services, etc. There is no question that the progress in 2019 we saw was impacted by the covid 19 pandemic and impacted the ground that was made at that time. Leader of the Official Opposition Kevin Falcon asked a supplemental question – things are getting markedly worse and yet the Minister continues to defend the status quo. It has become a hallmark of this government, there has to be a dramatic shift away from the current approach. We need to focus on helping people recover from their addictions, to get better. We also have an obligation where necessary to take involuntary care when necessary to be put into proper care. Your own Premier paid lip service to this idea and now nobody knows where government's position is on this issue. Will somebody clarify, do you support involuntary treatment for adults and youth who are at risk to themselves or others? Minister of Mental Health and Addictions Jennifer Whiteside responded that the work is focused on the continuum of care. We invested 500 million in 2021 to build out an integrated system. We have worked to increase detox beds, after care supports, etc. There are tools that physicians have access to and that they use when it comes to involuntary care. Leader of the Official Opposition Kevin Falcon – second supplemental question – not getting us to where we need to go which is improved outcomes. Every day, there is no body who thinks the system we have now is working. Every day desperate parents are not getting the help they need. The number of children and youth who have died from an OD has more than doubled in the last 2 years to 65 deaths. Minister of Mental Health and Addictions Jennifer Whiteside responded.
- Surrey South MLA Elenore Sturko asked a question about a constituent who admitted his daughter to Peace Arch hospital for substance use issues. What is this governments position on involuntary treatment and will the government commit to reintroducing legislation? Minister of Mental Health and Addictions Jennifer Whiteside responded that there have been more than 28,000 children and youth received mental health and substance use services. Surrey south MLA Elenore Sturko asked a supplemental question about her constituents daughter getting treatment and said they were told there was a 6 month wait. Minister of Mental Health and Addictions Jennifer Whiteside responded that they need to do more work on seamless process for individuals when it comes to accessing treatment. That is work that our Premier has committed to, and first talked about that seamless approach in the safer communities action plan. We agree that there is more work that needs to be done and are thankful for the cooperation across all parties of this house, that's important collaborative work we need to do together in our communities to face this crisis.
- Leader of the third party Sonia Furstenuau asked a question about the CBC's townhall where people shared stories while a senior health official sat at the back shaking her head. A leaked employee satisfaction survey said less than half of staff felt satisfied with their management in Island Health. The 2022 DOBC report said Island Health physicians have the lowest satisfaction. Doctors speaking out about patient safety are

punished and silenced. The patients going without care are the ones the minister needs to be accountable to. Does the minister have confidence in island health? Minister of Health Adrian Dix responded that he does have confidence in Island health because they have delivered over the last 3 years, and that means that island health's doctors, workers, etc. have delivered an extraordinary response to a pandemic that has faced the entire world. There is a new practice contract to bring doctors in, working to increase diagnostics and surgery. We are working hard to deliver care everywhere. Rejects idea that when people raise concerns they are not heard. We always have to do better and work harder with staffing and teams but has confidence in Island health to do so. Leader of the third party Sonia Furstenau asked a supplemental question – when the island health employee survey comes out and shows that fewer than half are satisfied with management she would hope that the Minister would be concerned about that and as the representative for people that they would demonstrate some concern about this. There used to be 4 doctors for Port Hardy, come this summer there is one. Dr. Alex Nataros has suggested that hiring physician assistants would be a solution to help people who are deeply underserved but his solutions are being rejected. Will the minister agree to meet with the representatives for Island health in the next two weeks? Minister Adrian Dix responded that they are increasing supports to that region and those came because they did listen to communities.

- Member for Prince George Valemount Shirley Bond spoke about decriminalization of drugs and the list of requirements, specifically the requirement that says they must insure that individuals that desire treatment can access treatment when needed. Does the MMHA satisfied that this very specific requirement has been met? And that people right across BC can access treatment when they need it? Minister of Mental Health and Addictions Jennifer Whiteside responded. Member for Price George Valemount said families do not have the access requirement that is required before decriminalization can happen. The situation that families across this province are facing, she hears from families that are desperate and there are no services or treatment options. The letter of requirement also specifically says that this gov must meet the unique needs of people living in rural communities. How can the Minister stand here and pretend that families that live in rural BC have access to treatment when they need it because they simply do not. Minister of Mental Health and Addictions Jennifer Whiteside responded that we all know there are gaps in the system and we have work to do that we have been doing since 2017 to build an integrated system of care out of fragmented services. When we talk about introducing complex care in rural communities, that is part of the answer to this. Also expanding sobering beds in prince George and the North Island.
- West Vancouver Capilano MLA Karin Kirkpatrick said this is a two term government that has had 6 years to put services in place and they have failed to do this work. No wonder there was no mention of decriminalization in yesterday's throne speech. Data collection will need to start immediately to establish a baseline. Is the Minister satisfied that this very specific requirement from the Federal government that this has been met to move forward and will she explain to us what the baseline metrics actually are? Government house leader Ravi Kahlon responded that there is a commitment to support decriminalization. Appreciates leader of opposition that this important work will require investments.

**Angela Thorneloe** (she/her)

*Risk and Issues Analyst*

*Corporate Issues and Client Relations Branch*

*Ministry of Health*

D: 236-478-3044 C: 250-812-1362 | [Angela.Thorneloe@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Angela.Thorneloe@gov.bc.ca)

*Grateful to live and work on the traditional territories of the WSÁNEĆ and Lekwungen people.*

*This email is intended only for the use of the individual or organization to whom it is addressed. It may contain information that is privileged or confidential. Distribution, disclosure, copying, or other use by anyone else is strictly prohibited. If you received this in error, please contact the sender and delete the material from any computer.*

## RE: PT/AP Fact Sheet(s)

---

From: Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX [s.15](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)  
To: Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)>  
Cc: Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>  
Sent: February 7, 2023 2:49:01 PM PST  
Received: February 7, 2023 2:49:00 PM PST  
Attachments: image001.png

Thanks Chris. Just an FYI that I've received four eApps re: PAs in the past couple of days, one of which is from the Mayor of Port Hardy. Just wondering if you're starting to receive increased PA correspondence in Pro Reg too? <sup>s.13</sup>  
s.13

Thanks!

Tanya

---

**From:** Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** February 7, 2023 7:38 AM  
**To:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: PT/AP Fact Sheet(s)

Hi Tanya,

Apologies for the delay getting back to you. That sound good from my perspective. Ryan already sent me over the Associate Physician FS, looked all good from my perspective.  
s.13

Thanks,

Chris

---

**From:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** February 2, 2023 9:07 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: PT/AP Fact Sheet(s)

Thanks so much, Chris.

Currently we have two existing fact sheets:

- Pathways to Practice for International Medical Graduates
- Associate Physicians

What I've done for now is incorporate brief info on the USA certified class on the Pathways to Practice fact sheet. The Pathways fact sheet also contains brief information on associate physicians as well.

In talking with Kevin yesterday morning, I understand that Mark A. was going to be following up with Steven Brown re: direction on PAs. Are you aware of any new development since we had met with the larger group on Friday last week?

Right now I don't think the PA content can fit within the 2-page limit on the AP fact sheet. Perhaps I could draft a supplemental/back-pocket fact sheet on PAs and if there's further direction that an official PA fact sheet should be created then we can do that.

I can also have the AP & Pathways fact sheets sent through Pro Reg for review/input as well – I believe that's happened in the past, although I'm not sure how consistently.

Happy to hear your thoughts on the above!

Kind regards,

Tanya

**Tanya Lorenz**, BScN, MSchQ | Senior Policy Analyst, Physician Workforce Development  
Physician Services Branch | Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services Division | Ministry of Health  
PO Box 9649 STN PROV GOVT | Victoria BC V8W 9P4  
E: [Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca) P: 236-478-1298



*I am thankful and privileged to live, work, and play on the traditional territories of the Lekwungen People – also known as the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations.*

---

This e-mail is intended solely for the person or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged information. Any review, dissemination, copying, printing or other use of this e-mail by persons or entities other than the addressee is prohibited. If you have received this e-mail in error, please contact the sender immediately and delete the material from any computer.

---

**From:** Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** February 1, 2023 10:40 AM  
**To:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: PT/AP Fact Sheet(s)

Hi Tanya,

Further to my last email, forwarding over some materials we have on Associate Physicians and Physician Assistants from a regulatory/bylaws perspective.

#### **Associate Physicians**

- On May 29, 2020, the College of Physicians and Surgeons amended their bylaws to create a registration category for Associate Physicians.

- Upon creation, this license category was limited to physicians in certain acute care settings. This class of restricted registration allows a pathway to practice of certain individuals (typically International Medical Graduates), who have a medical degree, passed Part 1 of the Medical Council of Canada's qualifying exam and met other qualifications required by College, but who do not meet the requirements for full licensure in BC.
- On January 13, 2023, the CPSBC amended their bylaws to expand the Associate Physician class of registration to include community physicians. Additionally, on the same day the CPSBC amended its bylaws to create a new restricted class of registration for certain USA certified physicians in the specialties of pediatrics, internal medicine and emergency medicine. Both of these restricted classes of registration are intended as expedited pathways to restricted licensure for individuals who do not meet the requirements for full licensure in BC.

### Physician Assistants

- Currently do not practice in BC. Are only trained and practice in specific regions of Canada and the US (i.e. they do not exist internationally)
- Have limited training (2 year program) and work as physician extenders, working under the direction and supervision of the attending physician via delegation/authorization of services from the attending physician only.
- Only three public training programs in Canada (located in Manitoba and Ontario)
- In Canada, currently are only authorized to practice in some regions of Canada including New Brunswick, Manitoba, Alberta, Ontario and with the Canadian Forces. <https://capa-acam.ca/about-pas/pa-fact-sheet/>

Let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks

Chris

---

**From:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** January 31, 2023 8:43 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** FW: PT/AP Fact Sheet(s)

Hi Chris –

Please see Ryan's message below – inadvertently went to the wrong Chris 😊

Thanks,

Tanya

---

**From:** Chris Kinkaid <[Chris.Kinkaid@heabc.bc.ca](mailto:Chris.Kinkaid@heabc.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** January 30, 2023 9:21 AM  
**To:** Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: PT/AP Fact Sheet(s)

**[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.**

Hi ryan – I think you meant this to go to bennet rather than me

---

**From:** Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 27, 2023 3:51 PM  
**To:** Chris Kinkaid <[Chris.Kinkaid@heabc.bc.ca](mailto:Chris.Kinkaid@heabc.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** FW: PT/AP Fact Sheet(s)

Thanks Chris, yes can send to us.

s.13

---

**From:** Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** January 27, 2023 3:47 PM  
**To:** Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** PT/AP Fact Sheet(s)

Hi Ryan,

Just looking at the fact sheet lists, will you guys be putting together a sheet for PAs too in addition to APs or maybe a combined PAs/AP sheet?

I'd be happy to send you over any regulatory/bylaw language we have on these.

Thanks,

Chris

**WARNING:** This email originated **outside of HEABC**. **DO NOT CLICK** links or attachments unless you recognize the sender's email address, name and know the content is safe.



## **ALERT - eApprovals Item ID: 74650 - Item Forwarded - Due 2023-03-01**

---

From: HLTH eApprovals <donotreply@sp.gov.bc.ca>  
To: Mhairi.Robertson-Jones@gov.bc.ca, Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX  
<Mhairi.Robertson-Jones@gov.bc.ca>  
Sender: HLTH eApprovals <donotreply@sp.gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: February 8, 2023 10:38:28 AM PST  
Received: February 8, 2023 10:39:00 AM PST

Molina, Alfonso HLTH:EX [Colleague of HSWBS Generic ] forwarded an eApprovals item to Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX for action

**Comment: Good morning Mhairi, Please assign for response with Minister signature. Thank you!**

#: 1250959

Title: Letter re: Supporting the use of Physician Assistants and the CAPA proposal.

Full Name:<sup>s.22</sup>

Due Date: 3/1/2023

Category: Correspondence - Letter

[Go to item...](#)

## **ALERT - eApprovals Item ID: 74689 - Item Forwarded - Due 2023-03-01**

---

From: HLTH eApprovals <donotreply@sp.gov.bc.ca>  
To: Mhairi.Robertson-Jones@gov.bc.ca, Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX  
<Mhairi.Robertson-Jones@gov.bc.ca>  
Sender: HLTH eApprovals <donotreply@sp.gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: February 8, 2023 3:18:57 PM PST  
Received: February 8, 2023 3:19:08 PM PST

Molina, Alfonso HLTH:EX [Colleague of HSWBS Generic ] forwarded an eApprovals item to Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX for action

**Comment: Hi Mhairi, Please assign for response, Thank you!**

#: 1251054

Title: Please allow the use of physician assistants immediately.

Full Name:<sup>s.22</sup>

Due Date: 3/1/2023

Category: Correspondence - Email

[Go to item...](#)

## FW: Update re: PA advocacy eApps

---

From: Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>  
To: Armitage, Mark W HLTH:EX <Mark.Armitage@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: February 8, 2023 4:05:57 PM PST  
Received: February 8, 2023 4:05:58 PM PST  
Just fyi on PA advocacy. s.13 . K

---

**From:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** February 8, 2023 3:56 PM  
**To:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Bringsli, Eric C HLTH:EX <Eric.Bringsli@gov.bc.ca>; Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** Update re: PA advocacy eApps

Hi all,

Just an FYI – I have now received 6 eApps in the last couple of days advocating for Physician Assistants:

1. Citizen (Vancouver Island) – 2 incoming emails
2. Member of Parliament for North Island - - Powell River
3. Citizen (Vancouver Island)
4. Mayor of Port Hardy
5. Citizen (Vancouver Island)
6. Emergency Room Physician (South Vancouver Island) – forwarded to the Ministry at the suggestion of Honourable Murray Rankin's constituency office.

I've not yet started drafting responses but wanted to keep you all informed.

Kind regards,

Tanya



## RE: Update re: PA advocacy eApps

---

From: Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca>  
To: Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: February 9, 2023 8:11:58 AM PST  
Received: February 9, 2023 8:11:58 AM PST

Thanks for the heads up Tanya—I checked with our admin and we haven't received any correspondence on PAs recently.

Chris

---

**From:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** February 8, 2023 3:56 PM  
**To:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Bringsli, Eric C HLTH:EX <Eric.Bringsli@gov.bc.ca>; Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** Update re: PA advocacy eApps

Hi all,

Just an FYI – I have now received 6 eApps in the last couple of days advocating for Physician Assistants:

1. Citizen (Vancouver Island) – 2 incoming emails
2. Member of Parliament for North Island - - Powell River
3. Citizen (Vancouver Island)
4. Mayor of Port Hardy
5. Citizen (Vancouver Island)
6. Emergency Room Physician (South Vancouver Island) – forwarded to the Ministry at the suggestion of Honourable Murray Rankin's constituency office.

I've not yet started drafting responses but wanted to keep you all informed.

Kind regards,

Tanya

## FW: QP Summary Thursday February 9, 2023

---

From: Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>  
To: Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>, Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>, Silver, Liana S HLTH:EX <Liana.Silver@gov.bc.ca>, Bringsli, Eric C HLTH:EX <Eric.Bringsli@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: February 9, 2023 12:56:21 PM PST  
Received: February 9, 2023 12:56:23 PM PST  
Attachments: image001.png

Note the q and response on PAs, as well as the Ben Williams piece...

---

**From:** Marsh, Jania HLTH:EX <Jania.Marsh@gov.bc.ca>

**Sent:** February 9, 2023 12:21 PM

**To:** Ty, Marie HLTH:EX <Marie.Ty@gov.bc.ca>; Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX <Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca>; Vowles, Wendy M HLTH:EX <Wendy.Vowles@gov.bc.ca>; Mason, Miranda N HLTH:EX <Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca>; MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca>; Matieschyn, Zachary HLTH:EX <Zachary.Matieschyn@gov.bc.ca>; Cramb, Lorrie HLTH:EX <Lorrie.Cramb@gov.bc.ca>; Westgate, Brian A HLTH:EX <Brian.Westgate@gov.bc.ca>; Van Gylswyk, Haley HLTH:EX <Haley.VanGylswyk@gov.bc.ca>; White, Robyn S HLTH:EX <Robyn.White@gov.bc.ca>; Puckett, Kate HLTH:EX <Kate.Puckett@gov.bc.ca>; Bryanton, Sarah HLTH:EX <Sarah.Bryanton@gov.bc.ca>; Bringsli, Eric C HLTH:EX <Eric.Bringsli@gov.bc.ca>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>; Silver, Liana S HLTH:EX <Liana.Silver@gov.bc.ca>; Pavlovic, Jelena HLTH:EX <Jelena.Pavlovic@gov.bc.ca>; Hancock, Lynn HLTH:EX <Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca>; Hildebrandt, Colleen HLTH:EX <Colleen.Hildebrandt@gov.bc.ca>; Woodward, Elaine HLTH:EX <Elaine.Woodward@gov.bc.ca>; Fernando, Leah HLTH:EX <Leah.Fernando@gov.bc.ca>; Younker, Katherine E HLTH:EX <Katherine.Younker@gov.bc.ca>; Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca>; Morrison, Kerry HLTH:EX <Kerry.Morrison@gov.bc.ca>; Murdock, Melissa HLTH:EX <Melissa.Murdock@gov.bc.ca>; Anderson, Karen HLTH:EX <Karen.1.Anderson@gov.bc.ca>; Sharma, Anita HLTH:EX <Anita.Sharma@gov.bc.ca>; West, Niya HLTH:EX <Niya.West@gov.bc.ca>; Riddell, Sarah K HLTH:EX <Sarah.Riddell@gov.bc.ca>; Eagle, Elanna HLTH:EX <Elanna.Eagle@gov.bc.ca>; Johnston, Rory N HLTH:EX <Rory.Johnston@gov.bc.ca>; Johansen, Nadeen C HLTH:EX <Nadeen.Johansen@gov.bc.ca>; Swan, Rebecca HLTH:EX <Rebecca.Swan@gov.bc.ca>; Clarke, Paul HLTH:EX <Paul.Clarke@gov.bc.ca>; Fiege, Kimber-Lea HLTH:EX <Kimber.Lea.Fiege@gov.bc.ca>; Perren, Michelle HLTH:EX <Michelle.Perren@gov.bc.ca>; Ronse, Kara L HLTH:EX <Kara.Ronse@gov.bc.ca>; Pudwell, Carol HLTH:EX <Carol.Pudwell@gov.bc.ca>; Turnquist, Woodrow HLTH:EX <woody.turnquist@gov.bc.ca>; Hutchison, Fiona HLTH:EX <Fiona.Hutchison@gov.bc.ca>; Armitage, Mark W HLTH:EX <Mark.Armitage@gov.bc.ca>; Manuel, Vanessa HLTH:EX <Vanessa.Manuel@gov.bc.ca>

**Subject:** QP Summary Thursday February 9, 2023

FYI

**Jania Marsh | Executive Coordinator |**

Assistant Deputy Minister's Office | Health Sector Workforce & Beneficiary Services Division  
Ministry of Health | PO Box 9649 STN PROV GOVT | Victoria, BC | V8W 9P4  
P: 250-952-2402 | C: 778-679-6410 | E: [Jania.Marsh@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jania.Marsh@gov.bc.ca)

*Grateful to live, work, and play within the traditional territories of the Lekwungen speaking people – also known as the Esquimalt and Songhees First Nations.*



**WARNING - CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE** Government confidentiality and privilege requirements apply to this message and any attachments. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any review, retransmission, conversion to hard copy, copying, circulation or other use is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender immediately, and delete this message and any attachments from both your inbox and deleted items folder. Thank You.

**From:** HLTH Health Issues HLTH:EX <[HealthIssues@gov.bc.ca](mailto:HealthIssues@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** February 9, 2023 12:19 PM

**To:** Achampong, Bernard HLTH:EX <[Bernard.Achampong@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Bernard.Achampong@gov.bc.ca)>; Adams, Alix HLTH:EX

<[Alix.Adams@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Alix.Adams@gov.bc.ca)>; Anderson, Karen HLTH:EX <[Karen.1.Anderson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Karen.1.Anderson@gov.bc.ca)>; Anderson, Kristy HLTH:EX <[Kristy.Anderson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kristy.Anderson@gov.bc.ca)>; Arscott, Lindsay HLTH:EX <[Lindsay.Arscott@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Lindsay.Arscott@gov.bc.ca)>; Baade, Leah J HLTH:EX <[Leah.Baade@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Leah.Baade@gov.bc.ca)>; Bedford, Sue HLTH:EX <[Sue.Bedford@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Sue.Bedford@gov.bc.ca)>; Benn, Jennifer MMHA:EX <[Jennifer.Benn@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jennifer.Benn@gov.bc.ca)>; Bianco, Catherine HLTH:EX <[Catherine.Bianco@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Catherine.Bianco@gov.bc.ca)>; Biran, Kiran HLTH:EX <[Kiran.Biran@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kiran.Biran@gov.bc.ca)>; Blemings, Roxanne HLTH:EX <[Roxanne.Blemings@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Roxanne.Blemings@gov.bc.ca)>; Bouma, Susan HLTH:EX <[Susan.Bouma@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Susan.Bouma@gov.bc.ca)>; Bragg, Jacquelynn HLTH:EX <[Jacquelynn.Bragg@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jacquelynn.Bragg@gov.bc.ca)>; Bryan, Frances HLTH:EX <[Frances.Bryan@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Frances.Bryan@gov.bc.ca)>; Bryden, Allison HLTH:EX <[Allison.Bryden@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Allison.Bryden@gov.bc.ca)>; Butler, Ally MMHA:EX <[Ally.Butler@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ally.Butler@gov.bc.ca)>; Cairns, Leann HLTH:EX <[Leann.Cairns@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Leann.Cairns@gov.bc.ca)>; Cameron, Mary HLTH:EX <[Mary.Cameron@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mary.Cameron@gov.bc.ca)>; Capelli, John HLTH:EX <[John.Capelli@gov.bc.ca](mailto:John.Capelli@gov.bc.ca)>; Carnegie, Lynn HLTH:EX <[Lynn.Carnegie@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Lynn.Carnegie@gov.bc.ca)>; Casanova, Tamara MMHA:EX <[Tamara.Casanova@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tamara.Casanova@gov.bc.ca)>; Cascaden, Lori R HLTH:EX <[Lori.Cascaden@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Lori.Cascaden@gov.bc.ca)>; Champoux, Ken HLTH:EX <[Ken.Champoux@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ken.Champoux@gov.bc.ca)>; Chandler, Breanna HLTH:EX <[Breanna.Chandler@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Breanna.Chandler@gov.bc.ca)>; Clarke, Diana HLTH:EX <[Diana.Clarke@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Diana.Clarke@gov.bc.ca)>; Clow, Holly MMHA:EX <[Holly.Clow@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Holly.Clow@gov.bc.ca)>; Clucas, Amy HLTH:EX <[Amy.Clucas@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Amy.Clucas@gov.bc.ca)>; Cook, Heather G HLTH:EX <[Heather.G.Cook@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Heather.G.Cook@gov.bc.ca)>; Czapska, Joanna HLTH:EX <[Joanna.Czapska@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Joanna.Czapska@gov.bc.ca)>; Dalzell, Kacey HLTH:EX <[Kacey.Dalzell@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kacey.Dalzell@gov.bc.ca)>; Davison, Carolyn J MMHA:EX <[Carolyn.Davison@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Carolyn.Davison@gov.bc.ca)>; Day, Meghan HLTH:EX <[Meghan.Day@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Meghan.Day@gov.bc.ca)>; Den, Donald HLTH:EX <[Donald.Den@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Donald.Den@gov.bc.ca)>; Diacu, Mariana HLTH:EX <[Mariana.Diacu@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mariana.Diacu@gov.bc.ca)>; Downey, Gayle F HLTH:EX <[Gayle.Downey@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Gayle.Downey@gov.bc.ca)>; Drlik, Taryn HLTH:EX <[Taryn.Drlik@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Taryn.Drlik@gov.bc.ca)>; Dube, Jonathan HLTH:EX <[Jonathan.Dube@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jonathan.Dube@gov.bc.ca)>; Elderfield, Andrew HLTH:EX <[Andrew.Elderfield@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Andrew.Elderfield@gov.bc.ca)>; Essa, Noren A HLTH:EX <[Noren.Essa@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Noren.Essa@gov.bc.ca)>; Estiverne, Bethany MMHA:EX <[Bethany.Estiverne@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Bethany.Estiverne@gov.bc.ca)>; Fauman, Sheila HLTH:EX <[Sheila.Fauman@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Sheila.Fauman@gov.bc.ca)>; Fazlagic, Tijana HLTH:EX <[Tijana.Fazlagic@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tijana.Fazlagic@gov.bc.ca)>; Fisher, Kiersten D HLTH:EX <[Kiersten.Fisher@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kiersten.Fisher@gov.bc.ca)>; Frost, Andrea HLTH:EX <[Andrea.Frost@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Andrea.Frost@gov.bc.ca)>; Fuder, Leah S HLTH:EX <[Leah.Fuder@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Leah.Fuder@gov.bc.ca)>; Galt, Jamie HLTH:EX <[Jamie.Galt@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jamie.Galt@gov.bc.ca)>; Garner, Sarah FIN:EX <[Sarah.Garner@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Sarah.Garner@gov.bc.ca)>; Garnham, Shelley HLTH:EX <[Shelley.Garnham@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Shelley.Garnham@gov.bc.ca)>; GCPE Communications - Health <[CommH@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca](mailto:CommH@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca)>; Gillespie, Jennifer HLTH:EX <[Jennifer.Gillespie@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jennifer.Gillespie@gov.bc.ca)>; Gold, Crystal HLTH:EX <[Crystal.Gold@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Crystal.Gold@gov.bc.ca)>; Gough, Jennifer HLTH:EX <[Jennifer.Gough@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jennifer.Gough@gov.bc.ca)>; Greenaway, Shelley E HLTH:EX <[Shelley.Greenaway@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Shelley.Greenaway@gov.bc.ca)>; Gudaitis, Paul HLTH:EX <[Paul.Gudaitis@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Paul.Gudaitis@gov.bc.ca)>; Gudmunson, Kathryn HLTH:EX <[Kathryn.Gudmunson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kathryn.Gudmunson@gov.bc.ca)>; Guerrero, Thomas HLTH:EX <[Thomas.Guerrero@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Thomas.Guerrero@gov.bc.ca)>; Hall, Shana A HLTH:EX <[Shana.Hall@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Shana.Hall@gov.bc.ca)>; Halston, Leslie HLTH:EX <[Leslie.Halston@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Leslie.Halston@gov.bc.ca)>; Harper, Therese HLTH:EX <[Therese.Harper@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Therese.Harper@gov.bc.ca)>; Heinze, Laura R HLTH:EX <[Laura.Heinze@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Laura.Heinze@gov.bc.ca)>; Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <[Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca)>; hlth Executive Committee <[hlthexec@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca](mailto:hlthexec@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca)>; hlth Key Contacts <[hlthkeycontacts@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca](mailto:hlthkeycontacts@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca)>; Ho, Hilary HLTH:EX <[Hilary.Ho@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Hilary.Ho@gov.bc.ca)>;s.22 <[Dominic.Tan@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Dominic.Tan@gov.bc.ca)>; Holoiday, Leah GCPE:EX <[Leah.Holoiday@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Leah.Holoiday@gov.bc.ca)>; Jayanthan, Janaki HLTH:EX <[Janaki.Jayanthan@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Janaki.Jayanthan@gov.bc.ca)>; Jepsen, Donna HLTH:EX <[Donna.Jepsen@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Donna.Jepsen@gov.bc.ca)>; Johnson, Eugene HLTH:EX <[Eugene.Johnson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Eugene.Johnson@gov.bc.ca)>; Khalaileh, Aygul GCPE:EX <[Aygul.Khalaileh@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Aygul.Khalaileh@gov.bc.ca)>; Kirke, Julie HLTH:EX <[Julie.Kirke@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Julie.Kirke@gov.bc.ca)>; Kolluru, Soumya HLTH:EX <[Soumya.Kolluru@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Soumya.Kolluru@gov.bc.ca)>; Kuo, I Fan HLTH:EX <[IFan.Kuo@gov.bc.ca](mailto:IFan.Kuo@gov.bc.ca)>; Larson, Eric HLTH:EX <[Eric.Larson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Eric.Larson@gov.bc.ca)>; Lo, Clifford HLTH:EX <[Clifford.Lo@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Clifford.Lo@gov.bc.ca)>; Logan, Katherine HLTH:EX <[Katherine.Logan@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Katherine.Logan@gov.bc.ca)>; Lyster, Leesa HLTH:EX <[Leesa.Lyster@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Leesa.Lyster@gov.bc.ca)>; Maharaj, Raj HLTH:EX <[Raj.Maharaj@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Raj.Maharaj@gov.bc.ca)>; Marsh, Jania HLTH:EX <[Jania.Marsh@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jania.Marsh@gov.bc.ca)>; Maxson, Sandra OHCS:EX <[Sandra.Maxson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Sandra.Maxson@gov.bc.ca)>; Mazza, Amie HLTH:EX <[Amie.Mazza@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Amie.Mazza@gov.bc.ca)>; McConnan, Kelly MMHA:EX <[Kelly.McConnan@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kelly.McConnan@gov.bc.ca)>; McLachlan, Debbie HLTH:EX <[Debbie.McLachlan@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Debbie.McLachlan@gov.bc.ca)>; McLay, Jeremy HLTH:EX <[Jeremy.McLay@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jeremy.McLay@gov.bc.ca)>; McMullen, Bethany S C HLTH:EX <[Bethany.McMullen@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Bethany.McMullen@gov.bc.ca)>; McQuillen, Kelly HLTH:EX <[Kelly.McQuillen@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kelly.McQuillen@gov.bc.ca)>; Miramontes, Lara HLTH:EX <[Lara.Miramontes@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Lara.Miramontes@gov.bc.ca)>; MMHA EXECUTIVE <[MMHAEXEC@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca](mailto:MMHAEXEC@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca)>; Neilson, Karen HLTH:EX <[Karen.Neilson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Karen.Neilson@gov.bc.ca)>; North, Naomi HLTH:EX <[Naomi.North@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Naomi.North@gov.bc.ca)>; Ogilvy, Lenore HLTH:EX <[Lenore.Ogilvy@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Lenore.Ogilvy@gov.bc.ca)>; Okwengu, Mariam AG:EX <[Mariam.Okwengu@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mariam.Okwengu@gov.bc.ca)>; Ooms, Shana HLTH:EX <[Shana.Ooms@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Shana.Ooms@gov.bc.ca)>; Pang, Walton HLTH:EX <[Walton.Pang@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Walton.Pang@gov.bc.ca)>; Parte, Maura HLTH:EX <[Maura.Parte@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Maura.Parte@gov.bc.ca)>; Patterson, Catherine M HLTH:EX <[Catherine.Patterson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Catherine.Patterson@gov.bc.ca)>; Perzoff, Lara HLTH:EX <[Lara.Perzoff@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Lara.Perzoff@gov.bc.ca)>; Poilievre, Tricia MMHA:EX <[Tricia.Poilievre@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tricia.Poilievre@gov.bc.ca)>; Pop, Sorin HLTH:EX <[Sorin.Pop@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Sorin.Pop@gov.bc.ca)>; Prpich, Danielle HLTH:EX <[Danielle.Prpich@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Danielle.Prpich@gov.bc.ca)>; Richards, Heather A HLTH:EX <[Heather.Richards@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Heather.Richards@gov.bc.ca)>; Rinta, Darcy HLTH:EX <[Darcy.Rinta@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Darcy.Rinta@gov.bc.ca)>; Robinson, Jonathan M HLTH:EX <[Jonathan.Robinson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jonathan.Robinson@gov.bc.ca)>; Rudden, Carolyn HLTH:EX <[Carolyn.Rudden@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Carolyn.Rudden@gov.bc.ca)>; Russo, Geneen HLTH:EX <[Geneen.Russo@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Geneen.Russo@gov.bc.ca)>; Sagar, Brian HLTH:EX <[Brian.Sagar@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Brian.Sagar@gov.bc.ca)>; Sayani, Fatma HLTH:EX <[Fatma.Sayani@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Fatma.Sayani@gov.bc.ca)>; Sharma, Anita HLTH:EX <[Anita.Sharma@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Anita.Sharma@gov.bc.ca)>; Sharma, Yashna HLTH:EX <[Yashna.Sharma@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Yashna.Sharma@gov.bc.ca)>; Shaver, Julie HLTH:EX

<Julie.Shaver@gov.bc.ca>; Shewchuk, Jack VSA:EX <Jack.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca>; Shields, Sara HLTH:EX <Sara.Shields@gov.bc.ca>; Shust, Susan D HLTH:EX <Susan.Shust@gov.bc.ca>; Sivananthan, Panmoli HLTH:EX <Panmoli.Sivananthan@gov.bc.ca>; Smith, Leah M EMCR:EX <Leah.Smith@gov.bc.ca>; Smith, Stephen HLTH:EX <Stephen.Smith@gov.bc.ca>; Stanker, Cheryl HLTH:EX <Cheryl.Stanker@gov.bc.ca>; Sterloff, Trish HLTH:EX <Trish.Sterloff@gov.bc.ca>; Strachan, Brande L HLBC:EX <Brande.Strachan@gov.bc.ca>; Sundhu, Sandra HLBC:EX <Sandra.Sundhu@gov.bc.ca>; Therrien, Darlene HLTH:EX <Darlene.Therrien@gov.bc.ca>; Thistle-Walker, Carlene CITZ:EX <Carlene.ThistleWalker@gov.bc.ca>; Thomas, Gerald HLTH:EX <Gerald.Thomas@gov.bc.ca>; Tiwari, Deepika HLTH:EX <Deepika.Tiwari@gov.bc.ca>; Treacher, Noah MCF:EX <Noah.Treacher@gov.bc.ca>; Tupper, Kenneth HLTH:EX <Kenneth.Tupper@gov.bc.ca>; Uyeno, Kelly HLTH:EX <Kelly.Uyeno@gov.bc.ca>; van der Leer, Gerrit HLTH:EX <Gerrit.vanderLeer@gov.bc.ca>; Voggenreiter, Christine HLTH:EX <Christine.Voggenreiter@gov.bc.ca>; Warren, Leanne HLTH:EX <Leanne.Warren@gov.bc.ca>; Watt, Rebecca HLTH:EX <Rebecca.Watt@gov.bc.ca>; Will, Jordan HLTH:EX <Jordan.Will@gov.bc.ca>; Williams, Courtney L HLTH:EX <Courtney.Williams@gov.bc.ca>; Wiman, Holly A MMHA:EX <Holly.Wiman@gov.bc.ca>; Wong, Kendra GCPE:EX <Kendra.Wong@gov.bc.ca>; Wong, Shirley M HLTH:EX <Shirley.Wong@gov.bc.ca>; Wright, Martin P HLTH:EX <Martin.P.Wright@gov.bc.ca>; YeungThompson, Rachel HLTH:EX <Rachel.YeungThompson@gov.bc.ca>; Youngs, Kirsten R HLTH:EX <Kirsten.Youngs@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** HLTH Health Issues HLTH:EX <HealthIssues@gov.bc.ca>; HLTH Health Issues HLTH:EX <HealthIssues@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** QP Summary Thursday February 9, 2023

## **QP Summary Thursday February 7:** Health related topics / MMHA related topics

- Surrey South MLA Elenore Sturko spoke about the requirements from the federal government that this government hasn't met including timely access to treatment. The province is supposed to ensure that individuals can access treatment when they need it. Why is the government proceeding with the decriminalization of dangerous drugs without first ensuring timely access to treatments as promised? Premier Eby responded that the toxic drug crisis is top of mind for all members. The goal of these initiatives is to keep people alive so that they are then able to get treatment. When we meet with families who have lost loved ones they wished that person was still with them so they could get treatment and the first step is keeping them alive. It is vital that we have a public network of treatment and that is what we're building and we are following the recommendations of the all-party committee on that. Early intervention is key here and I am encouraged that the opposition is embracing this idea and supports this. We all need to work together on these important issues. Supplemental from MLA Elenore Sturko. The Premier acknowledges that this work is underway and that they didn't have the work completed prior to decriminalization. British Columbians have good reason to be skeptical when it comes to decriminalization. High school students are now accessing addictive hard drugs via vending machines through a process called diversion. The NDP has failed to provide oversight to ensure that addictive drugs don't get diverted to teenagers. How can families ensure their children and youth are safe? Premier Eby responded that everyone came together through the all-party committee and that it is best to put a healthcare worker between kids and predatory drug dealers. These healthcare workers help remove the stigma and have conversations and deal with the addiction, and this helps to keep people alive and have conversations about treatment. We support Foundry Youth Services and have opened 24 of these. We have doubled beds for youth treatment. People can go direct to treatment after leaving the emergency department so that we don't lose people after they've been seen in emergency. There are new treatments and stabilizations beds in Interior Health and we still have more to do but we are working together to support folks struggling with addiction.
- West Vancouver Capilano MLA Karin Kirkpatrick spoke about the federal letter of requirements that says there is an obligation to have beds and treatment available at the same time as decriminalization which we are not seeing. Instead of an awareness campaign the NDP are letting allies do that education. Pivot Legal and a Vancouver area network of drug users are working to discourage people from seeking treatment. To the Premier, why is it that the only information about decriminalization and its harm coming from Pivot Legal instead of public safety information coming from this government? Minister of Mental Health and Addictions Jennifer Whiteside responded that the supposition in the question is simply wrong. The requirements from the federal government and the application we made in collaboration with providers and public health officials with respect to how we communicate this has been discussed with multiple groups. We are working with youth groups, such as Foundry and groups that work directly with kids. There is a robust curriculum in our K-12 system and those are the primary mechanism we were using to communicate with children and youth. Supplemental from MLA Karin Kirkpatrick. The province has committed to ensure that individuals who desire treatment can access it when needed but what we're hearing is that it's in process when it should be



happening at the same time as decriminalization. The letter also calls for comprehensive consultation with communities, but communities are being forced to act on their own. Campbell Rives has passed a bylaw to give enforcement tools to address the use of hard drugs. To the Premier, why are communities being left on their own to manage the impact of open drug use in their parks and public areas? Minister of Mental Health and Addictions Jennifer Whiteside responded that the core planning table that met for years leading up to the exemption included BC Union of Municipalities and we've been working closely with respect to impacts in their communities. I understand that some communities are taking preventative measures to look at what they think may be problems down the road. Our conversations with municipalities have been to pull together to support individuals who need access to care and supports. We are working with 9000 frontline police officers to have training and education as to what decriminalization means and to reduce stigma, which is what we hear is most valuable from loved ones who have lost family members to drugs. We are working with municipalities to be there for problems that arise for them and we will continue to work with them.

- Saanich North and the Islands MLA Adam Olsen asked the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, does the Minister characterize the enforcement of environmental fractions of energy projects in BC? Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy George Heyman responded that there are district and outlined responsibilities for enforcement of regulations and conditions on permits. There are administrative procedures and administrative fairness in each regime. There's an escalating patterns of warning of penalties of orders that precede penalties and they are applied in an escalating process. One supplemental.
- Surrey White Rock MLA Trevor Halford spoke about the delays in our healthcare system. Last October the leader of the Opposition raised a case from White Rock about Farad who faced delay after delay and her cancer was missed. Now she's been undergoing radiation and she know needs a feeding tube. She was told she faced a 4-week delay to get her feeding tube. IF her weight continues to drop she will be forced to stop radiation which is affecting her ability to live. The Health minister has known about this case and it requires immediate action. Will this Minister give Farad and her family a chance and ensure that no other family has to go through something like this? Minister of Health Adrian Dix responded that anyone who is struggling with cancer deserves care and gets care in BC. In this case and others, we all care including all the healthcare workers, so of course I will look into the issue. This reminds us of our continuing need to invest in our healthcare system and provide more supports for people. That is what we will continue to do. When cases are brought to my attention I look into them and these very difficult situations have our compassion and support.
- Prince George MLA Shirley Bond said the situation MLA Trevor Halford raised was brought to the Ministers attention months ago. It is unbelievable that the Minister of Health thinks that we can keep bringing these individual cases to his attention. It's a symptom of the problems with our healthcare system. There are reports of toxic work places where doctors and nurses face retaliation for speaking out and healthcare workers are resigning and there are critical staffing levels. There is a proposal on the Minister's desk to get help in Port Hardy Hospital and has support from the Government members. Physician assistants can't currently work here in BC and could start almost immediately. Will the Premier take what is a seemingly immediate step and direct the Health Minister to approve the proposal that will provide desperately needed help? Minister of Health Adrian Dix responded that the government has taken unprecedented action to build out healthcare teams. We have more than doubled the number of nurse practitioners and have built out teams with addictions specialists. Physician assistants have not been approved in past because the previous government repeatedly rejected it. This is a training issue. Their scope of practice has to be regulated and is being looked at by the College but when it comes to be team based care we have made unprecedented progress.
- Kamloops—South Thompson MLA Todd Stone spoke about how doctors should be practicing medicine instead of being muzzled by the NDP. Dr. Nataros can't get a physician assistant and instead has been suspended. He called for the Kamloops – North Thompson MLA Peter Milobar spoke about the toxic work environments in healthcare facilities. The Minister brushes those concerns off. We've heard about how people who are raising issues are threatened with muzzling and suspensions. Why do they feel that this is happening? What happens if you're in the administrative side of government? The former Chief Medical Officer for Interior Health was just convicted of sexual interference and sexual assault and it is disturbing to learn that after he was accused there was no suspension. A vile criminal was simply reassigned to other duties and continued to receive pay. To the Premier, why does the Ministry of Health continue to foster a toxic healthcare workplace by muzzling doctors, nurses and healthcare professionals while protecting the employment of someone convicted of the sexual assault of children? Minister of Health Adrian Dix responded that the opposition have put into question the ethics of one of our senior doctors and to attempt

to juxtapose those two issues is disgraceful. Dr de Villiers is rightfully gone as he should be. People do have the right and always have the right to speak up and that is ensured by the legislative action in this chamber. The member is wrong as to the facts and to make such serious allegations when you're wrong speaks of the opposition and not of the government. We expect our public health officials to act with the highest standards and they do and we support people in their efforts to protect public safety, such as Dr Ben Williams.

Farrah Wiltshire  
A/Team Lead, Issues & Risk Management  
Corporate Issues & Client Relations Branch  
Ministry of Health  
778 698 4766  
She/Her

*With respect I acknowledge that I live and work on the traditional territory of the Lekwungen peoples known today as the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations.*

*This email is intended only for the use of the individual or organization to whom it is addressed. It may contain information that is privileged or confidential. Distribution, disclosure, copying, or other use by anyone else is strictly prohibited. If you received this in error, please contact the sender and delete the material from any computer.*

## **ALERT - eApprovals Item ID: 74805 - Item Forwarded - Due 2023-03-02**

---

From: HLTH eApprovals <donotreply@sp.gov.bc.ca>  
To: Mhairi.Robertson-Jones@gov.bc.ca, Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX  
<Mhairi.Robertson-Jones@gov.bc.ca>  
Sender: HLTH eApprovals <donotreply@sp.gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: February 10, 2023 8:07:23 AM PST  
Received: February 10, 2023 8:07:26 AM PST

Takahashi, Junko HLTH:EX [Colleague of HSWBS Generic ] forwarded an eApprovals item to Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX for action

**Comment: Hi Mhairi, Please assign for response Thank you.**

#: 1251215

Title: When will Physician Assistants be added to health care teams in BC?

Full Name:<sup>s.22</sup>

Due Date: 3/2/2023

Category: Correspondence - Email

[Go to item...](#)

## New pathways overview (draft 1 pager)

---

From: Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EXs.15  
s.15  
-Lorenz, Tanya HLT>  
To: Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>  
Cc: Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: February 10, 2023 5:18:22 PM PST  
Received: February 10, 2023 5:18:00 PM PST  
Attachments: New Pathways\_draft overview.docx  
Hi Ryan,

As requested by Mark A. earlier this week, please see attached draft 1-pager for your review.

It's actually a two pager (but could very easily be made a 1-pager) depending on whether the preference is for a table format or more of a narrative format.

I haven't had a chance to validate this with anyone yet (ie. Chris Bennett) but wanted to sent it along for initial review.

I also have<sup>s.13</sup>

If different information is preferred (ie. including key implementation updates) I can adjust as needed.

I need to look at it again with fresh eyes next week – so it's quite draft for now 😊

Cc'd Kevin just for a status update re: where this is at.

Hope you had/have a great weekend!

Tanya



## New Pathways

USA Certified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On January 13, 2023, the College of Physicians and Surgeons of BC (CPSBC) amended their bylaws to create a new 'USA certified' class of registration for eligible US-trained physicians who have completed <b>three years of ACGME-accredited postgraduate training</b> and who hold American Board of Medical Specialists (ABMS) certification in emergency medicine, internal medicine, or pediatrics to practice medicine with limits and conditions granted by the CPSBC.</li> <li>Prior to this bylaw change, these ABMS-certified physicians did not have a route to licensure in BC as their training is not substantially equivalent to Canadian specialty training as determined by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC). As such, USA-certified registrants must comply with scope of practice requirements and cannot hold themselves out as RCPSC-certified specialists.</li> <li>A registrant in the USA certified class is responsible and accountable for their medical practice and can <b>practice independently</b> within their scope of practice.</li> <li>It is anticipated that USA certified physicians will work in community-based or in emergency room/urgent care settings.</li> <li>Since USA certified physicians are not recognized by the CPSBC as RCPSC-certified specialists, it is anticipated that USA certified physicians will be compensated consistent with existing GP-eligible categories (APP) or family medicine fee codes (FFS).</li> </ul>
Associate Physician: Acute Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The 'associate physician – acute care' class of restricted registration provides a pathway for practitioners with specialty medical training, acceptable to the CPSBC, to <b>work under physician supervision</b> in acute care settings to increase capacity and service delivery.</li> <li>This class of registration supports international medical graduates (IMGs), who are not eligible for licensure as independent medical practitioners, to find employment opportunities that meet priority health-system gaps.</li> <li>This category of restricted licensure provides a pathway for eligible practitioners who have a medical degree, passed Part 1 of the Medical Council of Canada's qualifying exam (or CPSBC approved equivalent), complete a minimum of <b>two years accredited training as a medical or surgical specialist</b>, HA-sponsorship, and meet all other qualifications required by the CPSBC, but who do not meet the criteria for full or provisional licensure in BC.</li> </ul>
Associate Physician: Community Primary Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On January 13, 2023, the CPSBC amended their bylaws to expand the associate physician class of registration to include community primary care.</li> <li>The 'associate physician – community primary care' class of restricted registration provides a pathway for practitioners with family medicine training, acceptable to the CPSBC, to <b>work under physician supervision</b> in community primary care settings to increase capacity and service delivery.</li> <li>This category of registration provides a pathway for eligible practitioners who have a medical degree, passed Part 1 of the Medical Council of Canada's qualifying exam (or CPSBC approved equivalent), complete a minimum of <b>one year of accredited training as a general practitioner</b>, HA-sponsorship, and meet all other qualifications required by the CPSBC, but who do not meet the criteria for full or provisional licensure in BC.</li> </ul>

#### Current situation:

- Stakeholders, including physicians and the Canadian Association of Physician Assistants (CAPA) advocate for the introduction of Physician Assistants (PAs) in BC.
- The Ministry is committed to optimizing the scopes of practice of health care professionals to enable efficient and effective use of resources. This is reflected in the recently published BC Health Human Resources Strategy which identifies a wide range of strategies and objectives.
- As the Ministry works to implement this strategy,<sup>s.13</sup>  
s.13

#### Key Facts

- PAs are health care professionals that work under the direction and supervision of a licensed physician to provide a board range of health services.
- PAs act as 'physician extenders' that complement existing health services and are not independent practitioners.
- A PAs scope of practice is physician delegated, and the medical services assigned to the PA must be within the scope of the supervising physician. In Canada, a PAs degree of autonomy will depend on the rules and regulations of the provincial jurisdiction where they practice.
- PAs are trained as generalists whose scope of practice is determined on an individual basis and outlined in a practice contract or agreement between the supervising physician, the PA, and often the facility or service where the PA will work.
- PAs can work in any healthcare setting and their activities may include conducting patient interviews, histories, and physical examinations; performing selected diagnostic and therapeutic interventions or procedures; and counseling patients on preventative health care<sup>1</sup>.
- PAs are a relatively new health profession in Canada, although their introduction to Canada began in Canadian Armed Forces in the 1950's<sup>2</sup>.
- There are approximately 800 PAs across Canada<sup>3</sup>.
- Ontario, Alberta, Manitoba, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia have introduced PAs into their health workforces.
- BC does not currently have a PA training program. There are three PA training programs in Canada: 1) University of Manitoba 2) McMaster University 3) The Consortium of PA Education (University of Toronto in collaboration with the Northern Ontario School of Medicine and the Michener Institute at University Health Network (UHN)).
- The PA training program extends over a 24-month period. Graduates of accredited Canadian PA program are eligible to write the Physician Assistant Certification Council of Canada (PACCC) PA Certification Exam. Individuals who successfully pass the exam are awarded the Canadian Certified Physician Assistant Designation.
- The CAPA is the professional association representing PAs nationally.

---

<sup>1</sup> Burrows, K., Vanstone, M., & Jones, I. Physician Assistants. [18 Physician Assistants.pdf \(hhr-rhs.ca\)](#) (accessed Feb 13, 2023)

<sup>2</sup> Canadian Association of Physician Assistants. <https://capa-acam.ca/about-pas/pa-fact-sheet/>. (accessed Feb 13, 2023)

<sup>3</sup> Canadian Association of Physician Assistants. <https://capa-acam.ca/about-pas/pa-fact-sheet/>. (accessed Feb 13, 2023)

## draft supplemental FS - PAs

---

From: Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX<sup>s.15</sup>  
s.15  
-Lorenz, Tanya HLT>  
To: Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: February 14, 2023 3:54:26 PM PST  
Received: February 14, 2023 3:54:00 PM PST  
Attachments: draft\_supplemental FS\_PAs.docx

Hi Ryan,

As discussed, draft supplemental/back pocket info/fact sheet for your review. I've kept it fairly limited in content for now (s.13). Following your review I will send it to Chris Bennett.

Thanks!

Tanya



## Supplemental Fact Sheet (draft) – Physician Assistants

### Issue:

Introduction of Physician Assistants to the BC healthcare system.

### Current situation:

- Stakeholders, including physicians and the Canadian Association of Physician Assistants (CAPA) advocate for the introduction of Physician Assistants (PAs) in BC.
- The Ministry is committed to optimizing the scopes of practice of health care professionals to enable efficient and effective use of resources. This is reflected in the recently published BC Health Human Resources Strategy which identifies a wide range of strategies and objectives.
- As the Ministry works to implement this strategy, s.13

### Financial Implications:

N/A

### Key Background:

- PAs are health care professionals that work under the direction and supervision of a licensed physician to provide a board range of health services.
- PAs act as ‘physician extenders’ that complement existing health services and are not independent practitioners.
- A PAs scope of practice is physician delegated, and the medical services assigned to the PA must be within the scope of the supervising physician. PAs are trained as generalists whose scope of practice is determined on an individual basis and outlined in a practice contract or agreement between the supervising physician, the PA, and often the facility or service where the PA will work. In Canada, a PAs degree of autonomy will also depend on the rules and regulations of the provincial jurisdiction where they practice.
- PAs can work in any healthcare setting and their activities may include conducting patient interviews, histories, and physical examinations; performing selected diagnostic and therapeutic interventions or procedures; and counseling patients on preventative health care<sup>1</sup>.
- PAs are a relatively new health profession in Canada, although their introduction to Canada began in Canadian Armed Forces in the 1950’s<sup>2</sup>.
- There are approximately 800 PAs across Canada<sup>3</sup>.
- Ontario, Alberta, Manitoba, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia have introduced PAs into their health workforces.
- BC does not currently have a PA training program. There are three PA training programs in Canada: 1) University of Manitoba 2) McMaster University 3) The Consortium of PA Education

---

<sup>1</sup> Burrows, K., Vanstone, M., & Jones, I. Physician Assistants. 18 Physician\_Assistants.pdf (hhr-rhs.ca) (accessed Feb 13, 2023)

<sup>2</sup> Canadian Association of Physician Assistants. <https://capa-acam.ca/about-pas/pa-fact-sheet/>. (accessed Feb 13, 2023)

<sup>3</sup> Canadian Association of Physician Assistants. <https://capa-acam.ca/about-pas/pa-fact-sheet/>. (accessed Feb 13, 2023)

(University of Toronto in collaboration with the Northern Ontario School of Medicine and the Michener Institute at University Health Network (UHN).

- The PA training program extends over a 24-month period. Graduates of accredited Canadian PA program are eligible to write the Physician Assistant Certification Council of Canada (PACCC) PA Certification Exam. Individuals who successfully pass the exam are awarded the Canadian Certified Physician Assistant Designation.
- The CAPA is the professional association representing PAs nationally.

**Last updated:**

**Approvals:**

## **RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval due 1230 PM**

From: Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX s.15  
To: Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>, Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: February 15, 2023 11:14:32 AM PST  
Received: February 15, 2023 11:14:00 AM PST  
Thanks Tanya, and good idea to connect with Chris.

s.13

---

**From:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** February 15, 2023 11:10 AM  
**To:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval due 1230 PM

Thanks Kevin. I was just about to loop in Chris Bennett to ensure he has no changes/updates for this response. If he doesn't, s.13

s.13

Tanya

---

**From:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 15, 2023 11:01 AM  
**To:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** FW: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval due 1230 PM

Given timeline, let me know if you think we need to add anything further. s.13  
s.13

---

**From:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 15, 2023 10:56 AM  
**To:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval due 1230 PM

Hello!

Please see the below media request. Inserted in the recommended response section is our stock response which broadly covers the reporter's questions. I was wondering if there are any bullets you could provide regarding specific questions raised by the reporter.

Looking for input by 1230! Thanks and let me know if you have any questions.

#### **Reporter**

Bridgette Watson, Producer

CBC - Vancouver

[Bridgette.watson@cbc.ca](mailto:Bridgette.watson@cbc.ca)

604-662-6102 c: 604-220-5862

**Deadline** ASAP

#### **Request**

In light of the doctor shortage in B.C., as well as long walk-in clinic wait times and slammed emergency rooms, I am interested in hearing how progress is coming along concerning assessing the option of using physician assistants in B.C.

In December, the ministry said it was assessing the option and I am wondering if you have any updates since then.

1. Why does B.C. not use physician assistants?
2. What concerns does the ministry have about using physician assistants?
3. Has the ministry been in touch with health care leaders in other provinces (Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario and New Brunswick) where physician assistants are employed and what feedback have you heard from those leaders?
4. Nova Scotia and Newfoundland are running pilot projects. Is B.C. considering doing the same? What benchmarks would B.C. set to monitor the success of such a pilot program?
5. If B.C. were to utilize physician assistants, what process would need to take place? Will it require new legislation?

#### **Recommendation**

**Background**

Approved media response

/cs

**Calvin Simpson**

Public Affairs Officer, Health Communications

Government Communications and Public Engagement

Government of British Columbia | 250-880-5179

## RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval FOLLOW UP due 1230 PM Feb 16

---

From: Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca>  
To: Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>, Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>, Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca>  
Cc: Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: February 16, 2023 10:45:16 AM PST  
Received: February 16, 2023 10:45:17 AM PST  
No problem. Do you think we could do 1:45 PM?

---

**From:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** February 16, 2023 10:39 AM  
**To:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>; Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval FOLLOW UP due 1230 PM Feb 16

Hi Calvin –

Thanks for your message - we'll have get back to you with some further thoughts/messaging on that. There are similarities between PAs/APs but some key differences. I think that PSB (Tanya) and Pro Reg (Chris) will need to first connect to ensure we're aligned on messaging as well.

Any flexibility around the 12 pm deadline? 😊

Kind regards,

Tanya

---

**From:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 16, 2023 10:25 AM  
**To:** Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>; Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval FOLLOW UP due 1230 PM Feb 16

Christopher, Tanya—able to expand on the highlighted below?

---

**From:** Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** February 16, 2023 10:23 AM  
**To:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>; Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval FOLLOW UP due 1230 PM Feb 16

Sorry, I'm in an all day meeting today so can't add much here.

s.13

Ryan

---

**From:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** February 16, 2023 10:14 AM  
**To:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>; Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval FOLLOW UP due 1230 PM Feb 16  
**Importance:** High

Hi Tanya and Christopher,

Apologies for not replying yesterday. We met the deadline and the quick turnaround was very much appreciated. The reporter came back with a follow-up and I was wondering if you could provide additional bullets in response to her questions highlighted below. I think the follow-up serves as a good opportunity to flush out some messaging for future requests. We have heard a lot along the lines of "Well if PAs and Aps do the same thing, why don't we just let them work."

If you are able to provide bullets by 12PM, I would be very appreciative.

**Reporter**

Bridgette Watson, Producer  
CBC - Vancouver  
[Bridgette.watson@cbc.ca](mailto:Bridgette.watson@cbc.ca)  
604-662-6102 c: 604-220-5862

**Deadline ASAP**

**Request**

Thank you Calvin for this rapid response.

For clarity, can the Ministry tell me what a physician assistant can do that an associate physician cannot?

You say they "work to a similar scope" and I am wondering if you can specify what the differences are?

Many thanks,

**Recommendation For Program Input**

**Background**

This is a follow-up to a media request from February 15, 2023.

**REQUEST:**

In light of the doctor shortage in B.C., as well as long walk-in clinic wait times and slammed emergency rooms, I am interested in hearing how progress is coming along with regards to assessing the option of using physician assistants in B.C.

In December, the ministry said it was assessing the option and I am wondering if you have any updates since then.

Any answers you can provide to the following questions would be greatly appreciated.

1. Why does B.C. not use physician assistants?
2. What concerns does the ministry have about using physician assistants?
3. Has the ministry been in touch with health care leaders in other provinces (Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario and New Brunswick) where physician assistants are employed and what feedback have you heard from those leaders?
4. Nova Scotia and Newfoundland are running pilot projects. Is B.C. considering doing the same? What benchmarks would B.C. set to monitor the success of such a pilot program?

5. If B.C. were to utilize physician assistants, what process would need to take place? Will it require new legislation?

*RESPONSE:*

s.13

---

**From:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** February 15, 2023 11:46 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>;  
Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval due 1230 PM

Thanks Chris!

Calvin<sup>s.13</sup>

s.13

Kind regards,

Tanya

---

**From:** Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 15, 2023 11:32 AM  
**To:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>;  
Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval due 1230 PM

Thanks Tanya.

A few comments listed below in red.<sup>s.13</sup>

s.13



Cheers,

Chris

**Recommendation**

s.13

---

**From:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 15, 2023 11:14 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>;  
Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval due 1230 PM

Hi Chris,

As discussed, please see media request below re: PAs. Do you have any updates or changes to the standard messaging provided by Calvin below?

Kind regards,

Tanya

---

**From:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 15, 2023 10:56 AM  
**To:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval due 1230 PM

Hello!

Please see the below media request. Inserted in the recommended response section is our stock response which broadly covers the reporter's questions. I was wondering if there are any bullets you could provide regarding specific questions raised by the reporter.

Looking for input by 1230! Thanks and let me know if you have any questions.

**Reporter**

Bridgette Watson, Producer

CBC - Vancouver

[Bridgette.watson@cbc.ca](mailto:Bridgette.watson@cbc.ca)

604-662-6102 c: 604-220-5862

**Deadline** ASAP

**Request**

In light of the doctor shortage in B.C., as well as long walk-in clinic wait times and slammed emergency rooms, I am interested in hearing how progress is coming along concerning assessing the option of using physician assistants in B.C.

In December, the ministry said it was assessing the option and I am wondering if you have any updates since then.

1. Why does B.C. not use physician assistants?
2. What concerns does the ministry have about using physician assistants?
3. Has the ministry been in touch with health care leaders in other provinces (Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario and New Brunswick) where physician assistants are employed and what feedback have you heard from those leaders?
4. Nova Scotia and Newfoundland are running pilot projects. Is B.C. considering doing the same? What benchmarks would B.C. set to monitor the success of such a pilot program?
5. If B.C. were to utilize physician assistants, what process would need to take place? Will it require new legislation?

**Recommendation**

s.13

**Background**

Approved media response  
/cs

**Calvin Simpson**

Public Affairs Officer, Health Communications  
Government Communications and Public Engagement  
Government of British Columbia | 250-880-5179

## RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval FOLLOW UP due 1230 PM Feb 16

---

From: Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>  
To: Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>, Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca>, Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: February 16, 2023 11:26:35 AM PST

Received: February 16, 2023 11:26:35 AM PST

Thanks all! Appreciate the collaboration. K

---

**From:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>

**Sent:** Thursday, February 16, 2023 11:19 AM

**To:** Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>

**Cc:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>

**Subject:** RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval FOLLOW UP due 1230 PM Feb 16

FYI - I just had a chat with Calvin to discuss and provide additional background. He's going to take the info below and discussed and craft into a couple of bullets for our review.

Tanya

---

**From:** Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca>

**Sent:** Thursday, February 16, 2023 10:47 AM

**To:** Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>; Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>

**Cc:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>

**Subject:** RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval FOLLOW UP due 1230 PM Feb 16

Hi Calvin,

There are lot of nuances to the question, but here are some of the general differences.

Further to Ryan's comment Associate Physicians have medical degrees (from outside Canada), though have not met all of the qualifications required to become full physician registrants in BC (examinations, residency, etc.). The scope of practice for each of them would vary depending on the parameters of the sponsorship letter that they have with the Health Authority and their competency/previous experience. There is no one scope of practice for all associate physicians. As is outlined in the College of Physicians bylaws they may work in acute settings and community primary care settings, but scope of practice would vary depend the sponsorship letter and established supervision requirements.

Physician assistants do not have a medical degree (much more limited training), but take a typically take a 2 year program (three in Canada, more the US) in addition to some undergrad training that allows them to work as physicians assistants/extenders. The services they provide are delegated from and under the direction of the attending physician (i.e. they are physician extenders), they are not independent practitioners.

Hope this is helpful.

Tanya/Ryan feel free to jump in if you have any other understandings.

Thanks,

Chris

## Chris Bennett

Director, Regulatory Initiatives  
Professional Regulation and Oversight  
Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services Division  
Ministry of Health  
[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)  
Office: 250.952.1991  
Cell: 778.584.5931

---

**From:** Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 16, 2023 10:23 AM  
**To:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>; Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval FOLLOW UP due 1230 PM Feb 16

Sorry, I'm in an all day meeting today so can't add much here.

s.13

Ryan

---

**From:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** February 16, 2023 10:14 AM  
**To:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>; Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval FOLLOW UP due 1230 PM Feb 16  
**Importance:** High

Hi Tanya and Christopher,

Apologies for not replying yesterday. We met the deadline and the quick turnaround was very much appreciated. The reporter came back with a follow-up and I was wondering if you could provide additional bullets in response to her questions highlighted below. I think the follow-up serves as a good opportunity to flush out some messaging for future requests. We have heard a lot along the lines of "Well if PAs and Aps do the same thing, why don't we just let them work."

If you are able to provide bullets by 12PM, I would be very appreciative.

### Reporter

Bridgette Watson, Producer  
CBC - Vancouver  
[Bridgette.watson@cbc.ca](mailto:Bridgette.watson@cbc.ca)  
604-662-6102 c: 604-220-5862

**Deadline** ASAP

**Request**

Thank you Calvin for this rapid response.

For clarity, can the Ministry tell me what a physician assistant can do that an associate physician cannot?

You say they "work to a similar scope" and I am wondering if you can specify what the differences are?

Many thanks,

### **Recommendation For Program Input**

#### **Background**

This is a follow-up to a media request from February 15, 2023.

#### **REQUEST:**

In light of the doctor shortage in B.C., as well as long walk-in clinic wait times and slammed emergency rooms, I am interested in hearing how progress is coming along with regards to assessing the option of using physician assistants in B.C.

In December, the ministry said it was assessing the option and I am wondering if you have any updates since then.

Any answers you can provide to the following questions would be greatly appreciated.

1. Why does B.C. not use physician assistants?
2. What concerns does the ministry have about using physician assistants?
3. Has the ministry been in touch with health care leaders in other provinces (Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario and New Brunswick) where physician assistants are employed and what feedback have you heard from those leaders?
4. Nova Scotia and Newfoundland are running pilot projects. Is B.C. considering doing the same? What benchmarks would B.C. set to monitor the success of such a pilot program?
5. If B.C. were to utilize physician assistants, what process would need to take place? Will it require new legislation?

#### **RESPONSE:**

s.13

---

**From:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** February 15, 2023 11:46 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>;  
Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval due 1230 PM

Thanks Chris!

Calvin <sup>s.13</sup>  
s.13

Kind regards,

Tanya

---

**From:** Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 15, 2023 11:32 AM  
**To:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>;  
Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval due 1230 PM

Thanks Tanya.

A few comments listed below in red.<sup>s.13</sup>  
s.13

Cheers,

Chris

#### **Recommendation**

*Statement attributable to a spokesperson for the Ministry of Health*

s.13

---

**From:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 15, 2023 11:14 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval due 1230 PM

Hi Chris,

As discussed, please see media request below re: PAs. Do you have any updates or changes to the standard messaging provided by Calvin below?

Kind regards,

Tanya

---

**From:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 15, 2023 10:56 AM  
**To:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval due 1230 PM

Hello!

Please see the below media request. Inserted in the recommended response section is our stock response which broadly covers the reporter's questions. I was wondering if there are any bullets you could provide regarding specific questions raised by the reporter.

Looking for input by 1230! Thanks and let me know if you have any questions.

**Reporter**

Bridgette Watson, Producer  
CBC - Vancouver  
[Bridgette.watson@cbc.ca](mailto:Bridgette.watson@cbc.ca)  
604-662-6102 c: 604-220-5862  
**Deadline** ASAP

**Request**

In light of the doctor shortage in B.C., as well as long walk-in clinic wait times and slammed emergency rooms, I am interested in hearing how progress is coming along concerning assessing the option of using physician assistants in B.C.

In December, the ministry said it was assessing the option and I am wondering if you have any updates since then.

1. Why does B.C. not use physician assistants?
2. What concerns does the ministry have about using physician assistants?



3. Has the ministry been in touch with health care leaders in other provinces (Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario and New Brunswick) where physician assistants are employed and what feedback have you heard from those leaders?

4. Nova Scotia and Newfoundland are running pilot projects. Is B.C. considering doing the same? What benchmarks would B.C. set to monitor the success of such a pilot program?

5. If B.C. were to utilize physician assistants, what process would need to take place? Will it require new legislation?

## **Recommendation**

s.13

## **Background**

Approved media response

/cs

## **Calvin Simpson**

Public Affairs Officer, Health Communications

Government Communications and Public Engagement

Government of British Columbia | 250-880-5179

**RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval FOLLOW UP  
due 1230 PM Feb 16**

---

From: Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca>  
To: Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>, Bennett, Christopher  
HLTH:EX <Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca>, Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX  
<Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>  
Cc: Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: February 16, 2023 12:48:00 PM PST  
Received: February 16, 2023 12:48:01 PM PST

Fantastic, thanks for all the help team.

---

**From:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** February 16, 2023 12:19 PM  
**To:** Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca>; Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX  
<Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval FOLLOW UP due 1230 PM Feb 16

Thanks Calvin and Chris!

I've made a few minor suggestions in purple below.

It appears that all of the PA training programs in Canada are currently 24 months (in addition to some additional undergraduate training prior to entry): Source: [https://capa-acam.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/CAPA-Information-Brief-on-Physician-Assistants\\_December-2022.pdf](https://capa-acam.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/CAPA-Information-Brief-on-Physician-Assistants_December-2022.pdf).

Thanks!

Tanya

-  
Associate Physicians

s.13

-  
Physician assistants

s.13

---

**From:** Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 16, 2023 11:59 AM  
**To:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval FOLLOW UP due 1230 PM Feb 16

Hi Calvin,

Looks good from my perspective, a couple minor proposed changes noted below in red.

Thanks,

Chris

---

**From:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 16, 2023 11:41 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval FOLLOW UP due 1230 PM Feb 16

Hi team,

How is this:

Associate Physicians

s.13

-  
Physician assistants

---

**From:** Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** February 16, 2023 10:47 AM  
**To:** Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>; Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval FOLLOW UP due 1230 PM Feb 16

Hi Calvin,

There are lot of nuances to the question, but here are some of the general differences.

Further to Ryan's comment Associate Physicians have medical degrees (from outside Canada), though have not met all of the qualifications required to become full physician registrants in BC (examinations, residency, etc.). The scope of practice for each of them would vary depending on the parameters of the sponsorship letter that they have with the Health Authority and their competency/previous experience. There is no one scope of practice for all associate physicians. As is outlined in the College of Physicians bylaws they may work in acute settings and community primary care settings, but scope of practice would vary depend the sponsorship letter and established supervision requirements.

Physician assistants do not have a medical degree (much more limited training), but take a typically take a 2 year program (three in Canada, more the US) in addition to some undergrad training that allows them to work as physicians assistants/extenders. The services they provide are delegated from and under the direction of the attending physician (i.e. they are physician extenders), they are not independent practitioners.

Hope this is helpful.

Tanya/Ryan feel free to jump in if you have any other understandings.

Thanks,

Chris

## Chris Bennett

Director, Regulatory Initiatives  
Professional Regulation and Oversight  
Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services Division  
Ministry of Health  
[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)  
Office: 250.952.1991  
Cell: 778.584.5931

---

**From:** Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 16, 2023 10:23 AM  
**To:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>; Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval FOLLOW UP due 1230 PM Feb 16

Sorry, I'm in an all day meeting today so can't add much here.

s.13

Ryan

---

**From:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** February 16, 2023 10:14 AM

**To:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>; Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval FOLLOW UP due 1230 PM Feb 16

**Importance:** High

Hi Tanya and Christopher,

Apologies for not replying yesterday. We met the deadline and the quick turnaround was very much appreciated. The reporter came back with a follow-up and I was wondering if you could provide additional bullets in response to her questions highlighted below. I think the follow-up serves as a good opportunity to flush out some messaging for future requests. We have heard a lot along the lines of "Well if PAs and Aps do the same thing, why don't we just let them work."

If you are able to provide bullets by 12PM, I would be very appreciative.

**Reporter**

Bridgette Watson, Producer

CBC - Vancouver

[Bridgette.watson@cbc.ca](mailto:Bridgette.watson@cbc.ca)

604-662-6102 c: 604-220-5862

**Deadline** ASAP

**Request**

Thank you Calvin for this rapid response.

For clarity, can the Ministry tell me what a physician assistant can do that an associate physician cannot?

You say they "work to a similar scope" and I am wondering if you can specify what the differences are?

Many thanks,

**Recommendation For Program Input**

**Background**

This is a follow-up to a media request from February 15, 2023.

**REQUEST:**

In light of the doctor shortage in B.C., as well as long walk-in clinic wait times and slammed emergency rooms, I am interested in hearing how progress is coming along with regards to assessing the option of using physician assistants in B.C.

In December, the ministry said it was assessing the option and I am wondering if you have any updates since then.

Any answers you can provide to the following questions would be greatly appreciated.

1. Why does B.C. not use physician assistants?
2. What concerns does the ministry have about using physician assistants?
3. Has the ministry been in touch with health care leaders in other provinces (Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario and New Brunswick) where physician assistants are employed and what feedback have you heard from those leaders?
4. Nova Scotia and Newfoundland are running pilot projects. Is B.C. considering doing the same? What benchmarks would B.C. set to monitor the success of such a pilot program?
5. If B.C. were to utilize physician assistants, what process would need to take place? Will it require new legislation?

*RESPONSE:*

s.13

---

**From:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** February 15, 2023 11:46 AM

**To:** Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval due 1230 PM

Thanks Chris!

Calvin —s.13  
s.13

Kind regards,

Tanya

---

**From:** Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 15, 2023 11:32 AM  
**To:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>;  
Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval due 1230 PM

Thanks Tanya.

A few comments listed below in red. <sup>s.13</sup>  
s.13

Cheers,

Chris

**Recommendation**

s.13

---

**From:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 15, 2023 11:14 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>;  
Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval due 1230 PM

Hi Chris,

As discussed, please see media request below re: PAs. Do you have any updates or changes to the standard messaging provided by Calvin below?

Kind regards,

Tanya

---

**From:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, February 15, 2023 10:56 AM

**To:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval due 1230 PM

Hello!

Please see the below media request. Inserted in the recommended response section is our stock response which broadly covers the reporter's questions. I was wondering if there are any bullets you could provide regarding specific questions raised by the reporter.

Looking for input by 1230! Thanks and let me know if you have any questions.

#### **Reporter**

Bridgette Watson, Producer

CBC - Vancouver

[Bridgette.watson@cbc.ca](mailto:Bridgette.watson@cbc.ca)

604-662-6102 c: 604-220-5862

**Deadline** ASAP

#### **Request**

In light of the doctor shortage in B.C., as well as long walk-in clinic wait times and slammed emergency rooms, I am interested in hearing how progress is coming along concerning assessing the option of using physician assistants in B.C.

In December, the ministry said it was assessing the option and I am wondering if you have any updates since then.

1. Why does B.C. not use physician assistants?
2. What concerns does the ministry have about using physician assistants?
3. Has the ministry been in touch with health care leaders in other provinces (Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario and New Brunswick) where physician assistants are employed and what feedback have you heard from those leaders?
4. Nova Scotia and Newfoundland are running pilot projects. Is B.C. considering doing the same? What benchmarks would B.C. set to monitor the success of such a pilot program?
5. If B.C. were to utilize physician assistants, what process would need to take place? Will it require new legislation?

#### **Recommendation**

s.13



**Background**

Approved media response  
/cs

**Calvin Simpson**

Public Affairs Officer, Health Communications  
Government Communications and Public Engagement  
Government of British Columbia | 250-880-5179

## Physician Assistants

---

From: Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>  
To: Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>, Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: February 18, 2023 7:26:54 AM PST  
Received: February 18, 2023 7:26:55 AM PST

Just cleaning a few things up before taking off, and I forgot coming out of my 1:1 with Mark we talked about PAs. He talked to the Minister, and we are holding on them for now. So the messaging that Tanya/Chris did is perfect going forward. s.13

s.13            Now back to the weekend...

## RE: Extension Request: 1250140 and 1249957

---

From: Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services HLTH:EX <HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca>  
To: Welby, Andrew HLTH:EX <Andrew.Welby@gov.bc.ca>, Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX <Mhairi.Robertson-Jones@gov.bc.ca>  
Cc: Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>, Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services HLTH:EX <HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: February 21, 2023 11:28:04 AM PST  
Received: February 21, 2023 11:28:05 AM PST  
Attachments: image002.png, image001.png, image003.png

Hi Andrew,

Thank you for sending interim for 1250140.

Please send interim letter for the log 1249957.

Thank you,

Junko Takahashi  
Documents Coordinator  
Assistant Deputy Minister's Office  
Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services Division  
PO Box 9649, STN PROV GOVT, Victoria BC V8W 9P4  
Phone: 778-405-2719 Fax: 250-952-3131

*Grateful to live, work, and play within the traditional territories of the Lekwungen speaking people – also known as the Esquimalt and Songhees First Nations.*



**WARNING - CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE** Government confidentiality and privilege requirements apply to this message and any attachments. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any review, retransmission, conversion to hard copy, copying, circulation or other use is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender immediately, and delete this message and any attachments from both your inbox and deleted items folder. Thank You.

---

**From:** Welby, Andrew HLTH:EX <Andrew.Welby@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 21, 2023 11:18 AM  
**To:** Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services HLTH:EX <HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca>; Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX <Mhairi.Robertson-Jones@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: Extension Request: 1250140 and 1249957

Hi Junko,

I sent an interim response for log 1250140 on Friday.

Log 1249957 was a handwritten letter. There is no email address. To confirm, do you want an interim response mailed?

With regards,

Andrew

Andrew Welby  
Program Assistant  
Physician Services Branch | Ministry of Health

---

**From:** Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services HLTH:EX <[HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca](mailto:HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 16, 2023 3:44 PM  
**To:** Welby, Andrew HLTH:EX <[Andrew.Welby@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Andrew.Welby@gov.bc.ca)>; Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX <[Mhairi.Robertson-Jones@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mhairi.Robertson-Jones@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services HLTH:EX <[HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca](mailto:HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca)>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** FW: Extension Request: 1250140 and 1249957

Hello,

Extension has been granted to March 2, 2023 for both log 1250140 and 1249957.  
Please send interim responses for both and notify ADMO once completed and uploaded to eAp and CLIFF.

Thank you,

Junko Takahashi  
Documents Coordinator  
Assistant Deputy Minister's Office  
Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services Division  
PO Box 9649, STN PROV GOVT, Victoria BC V8W 9P4  
Phone: 778-405-2719 Fax: 250-952-3131

*Grateful to live, work, and play within the traditional territories of the Lekwungen speaking people – also known as the Esquimalt and Songhees First Nations.*



**WARNING - CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE** Government confidentiality and privilege requirements apply to this message and any attachments. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any review, retransmission, conversion to hard copy, copying, circulation or other use is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender immediately, and delete this message and any attachments from both your inbox and deleted items folder. Thank You.

---

**From:** Health, HLTH HLTH:EX <[HLTH.Health@gov.bc.ca](mailto:HLTH.Health@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 16, 2023 3:38 PM  
**To:** Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services HLTH:EX <[HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca](mailto:HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** HLTH Corporate Operations HLTH:EX <[HLTH.Corporate.Operations@gov.bc.ca](mailto:HLTH.Corporate.Operations@gov.bc.ca)>; Health, HLTH HLTH:EX <[HLTH.Health@gov.bc.ca](mailto:HLTH.Health@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Extension Request: 1250140 and 1249957

Good afternoon,

Both items have been extended to March 2, 2023. Please provide an interim response to both writers.

These assignments have been updated on both CLIFF and eApprovals.

Thank you,

Eimrin

**Eimrin Kaloti** (he/him)  
Correspondence and Information Systems Analyst  
Corporate Operations Unit | Corporate Issues & Client Relations  
Ministry of Health  
Ph: 778 974-3946



This e-mail is intended solely for the person or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged information. Any review, dissemination, copying, printing or other use of this e-mail by persons or entities other than the addressee is prohibited. If you have received this e-mail in error, please contact the sender immediately and delete the material from any computer.

I acknowledge my presence as a settler upon the unceded lands of the Coast Salish Territories, specifically of the Lekwungen and W\_SÁNEC peoples, as I work towards further decolonizing this relationship.

---

**From:** Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services HLTH:EX <[HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca](mailto:HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** February 14, 2023 10:30 AM  
**To:** HLTH Corporate Operations HLTH:EX <[HLTH.Corporate.Operations@gov.bc.ca](mailto:HLTH.Corporate.Operations@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services HLTH:EX <[HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca](mailto:HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** Extension Request: 1250140 and 1249957

Hello,

We would like to request extension on the following 2 logs.

CLIFF 1250140 /eAp 73960 - Suggesting to allow Physician Assistants to work in BC. Nurse Practitioners are not efficient to address shortage. Also suggesting to tax cosmetic procedures.

CLIFF 1249957/eAp 74181 - Advocating for the use of Physician Assistants in Port Hardy

s.13

Thank you,

Junko Takahashi  
Documents Coordinator  
Assistant Deputy Minister's Office  
Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services Division  
PO Box 9649, STN PROV GOVT, Victoria BC V8W 9P4  
Phone: 778-405-2719 Fax: 250-952-3131

*Grateful to live, work, and play within the traditional territories of the Lekwungen speaking people – also known as the Esquimalt and Songhees First Nations.*



**WARNING - CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE** Government confidentiality and privilege requirements apply to this message and any attachments. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any review, retransmission, conversion to hard copy, copying, circulation or other use is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender immediately, and delete this message and any attachments from both your inbox and deleted items folder. Thank You.

---

**From:** Welby, Andrew HLTH:EX <[Andrew.Welby@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Andrew.Welby@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2023 4:34 PM  
**To:** Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX <[Mhairi.Robertson-Jones@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mhairi.Robertson-Jones@gov.bc.ca)>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>; Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services HLTH:EX <[HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca](mailto:HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: eApp extension request

Hi HSWBS Team,

May there please be an extension for CLIFFs 1250140 and 1249957 as per Tanya:

*The Ministry's current position on this matter is to be determined. As such, additional time will likely be needed to ensure an appropriate response is provided.*

With regards,

Andrew

**Andrew Welby**

Program Assistant

Physician Services Branch | Ministry of Health

1515 Blanshard Street | Victoria, BC | V8W 3C8

778-405-3176

---

**From:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2023 12:10 PM

**To:** Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX <[Mhairi.Robertson-Jones@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mhairi.Robertson-Jones@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** eApp extension request

Hi Mhairi –

Wondering if you could request an extension for Cliff #s: 1250140 and #1249957.

The Ministry's current position on this matter is to be determined. As such, additional time will likely be needed to ensure an appropriate response is provided.

Thanks!

Tanya

**Tanya Lorenz**, BScN, MSchQ | Senior Policy Analyst, Physician Workforce Development

Physician Services Branch | Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services Division | Ministry of Health

PO Box 9649 STN PROV GOVT | Victoria BC V8W 9P4

E: [Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca) P: 236-478-1298



*I am thankful and privileged to live, work, and play on the traditional territories of the Lekwungen People – also known as the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations.*

---

This e-mail is intended solely for the person or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged information. Any review, dissemination, copying, printing or other use of this e-mail by persons or entities other than the addressee is prohibited. If you have received this e-mail in error, please contact the sender immediately and delete the material from any computer.

## FW: Article on Physician Assistants

---

From: Feraru, Loredana HLTH:EX <Loredana.Feraru@gov.bc.ca>  
To: Clarke, Paul HLTH:EX <Paul.Clarke@gov.bc.ca>, Kogan, George S HLTH:EX <George.Kogan@gov.bc.ca>, Ghesquiere, Breanne J HLTH:EX <Breanne.Ghesquiere@gov.bc.ca>, Harrington, Carmen HLTH:EX <Carmen.Harrington@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: February 21, 2023 12:36:50 PM PST  
Received: February 21, 2023 12:36:51 PM PST  
Thought id share this below.

**Loredana Feraru, BA, MA**

Senior Policy Analyst, Medical Education and Partnerships  
(250) 952-1172 | [Loredana.Feraru@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Loredana.Feraru@gov.bc.ca)

---

**From:** Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>

**Sent:** February 21, 2023 10:48 AM

**To:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>; Bringsli, Eric C HLTH:EX <Eric.Bringli@gov.bc.ca>; Clarke, Paul HLTH:EX <Paul.Clarke@gov.bc.ca>; Feraru, Loredana HLTH:EX <Loredana.Feraru@gov.bc.ca>; Silver, Liana S HLTH:EX <Liana.Silver@gov.bc.ca>; Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca>

**Subject:** Article on Physician Assistants

Interesting article below on Physician Assistants. Includes a reference to Kevin.

Wonder how many physicians would share the following views stated in this article:

- Physician assistants -- who have so far not been licensed to practise in B.C. -- would be roughly 30 to 40 per cent cheaper for the health-care system than physicians, Sun and Moran said, yet the patient receives "physician-quality care."
- They can typically tend to about 80 per cent of the daily patient load for family doctors, said Sun.
- Moran, a UBC associate clinical professor in the Faculty of Medicine, likens a physician assistant to a chief resident who has trained with a physician for five years and is ready to work independently. "A physician assistant is a chief resident who never leaves your practice," said Moran.
- Physician assistants are educated under the same medical model as doctors through a 24-month graduate program, making them a more immediate solution to the health-care crisis, Sun said.
- Moran maintains physician assistants are "best suited" to rural areas, given that they can independently interpret X-rays, set a fracture, put a cast on, sew a laceration, intubate a patient, and remove foreign bodies from ears and noses.

Ryan

-----

### West Shore doctors call for physician-assistant pilot project

Times Colonist (Victoria)

Sunday, February 19, 2023

Page A01

By Cindy E. Harnett

Copyright

Page 153 of 286 to/à Page 154 of 286

Withheld pursuant to/removal as

Copyright



-----  
Ryan Murray BA, MBA  
Director, Physician Partnerships  
Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services Division | Ministry of Health  
PO Box 9649 STN PROV GOVT | Victoria BC V8W 9P4  
Ph: 250 952-1262 | Email: [ryan.murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:ryan.murray@gov.bc.ca) |

**Warning:** This email is intended only for the use of the individual or organization to whom it is addressed. It may contain information that is privileged or confidential. Any distribution, disclosure, copying, or other use by anyone else is strictly prohibited. If you have received this in error, please telephone or e-mail the sender immediately and delete the message.

## RE: INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY PROGRAM (IMP) – PROPOSED NEW STREAM FOR THE HEALTH CARE SECTOR |

---

From: Relf, Michelle HLTH:EX <Michelle.Relf@gov.bc.ca>  
To: Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>, Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>, Bains, Jasmine MUNI:EX <Jasmine.1.Bains@gov.bc.ca>, Swan, Rebecca HLTH:EX <Rebecca.Swan@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: February 23, 2023 11:27:18 AM PST  
Received: February 23, 2023 11:27:19 AM PST  
Attachments: image001.png  
Will do, thank you for that feedback 😊

---

**From:** Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 23, 2023 11:25 AM  
**To:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>; Relf, Michelle HLTH:EX <Michelle.Relf@gov.bc.ca>; Bains, Jasmine MUNI:EX <Jasmine.1.Bains@gov.bc.ca>; Swan, Rebecca HLTH:EX <Rebecca.Swan@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY PROGRAM (IMP) – PROPOSED NEW STREAM FOR THE HEALTH CARE SECTOR |

Thanks Tanya, good catch. And yes,<sup>s.13</sup>

Ryan

---

**From:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** February 23, 2023 10:04 AM  
**To:** Relf, Michelle HLTH:EX <Michelle.Relf@gov.bc.ca>; Bains, Jasmine MUNI:EX <Jasmine.1.Bains@gov.bc.ca>; Swan, Rebecca HLTH:EX <Rebecca.Swan@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY PROGRAM (IMP) – PROPOSED NEW STREAM FOR THE HEALTH CARE SECTOR |

Whoops - I've cc'd Ryan this time 😊

Ryan – please see below.

Thanks!

Tanya

---

**From:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 23, 2023 10:03 AM  
**To:** Relf, Michelle HLTH:EX <Michelle.Relf@gov.bc.ca>; Bains, Jasmine MUNI:EX <Jasmine.1.Bains@gov.bc.ca>; Swan, Rebecca HLTH:EX <Rebecca.Swan@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY PROGRAM (IMP) – PROPOSED NEW STREAM FOR THE HEALTH CARE SECTOR |

Hi Michelle,

Thank you kindly for sharing the draft. The associate physician information looks great! I wonder if we might want to  
s.13

I've cc'd Ryan in-case he has a different perspective on this.

Many thanks!

Tanya

**Tanya Lorenz**, BScN, MSchQ | Senior Policy Analyst, Physician Workforce Development  
Physician Services Branch | Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services Division | Ministry of Health  
PO Box 9649 STN PROV GOVT | Victoria BC V8W 9P4  
E: [Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca) P: 236-478-1298



*I am thankful and privileged to live, work, and play on the traditional territories of the Lekwungen People – also known as the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations.*

---

This e-mail is intended solely for the person or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged information. Any review, dissemination, copying, printing or other use of this e-mail by persons or entities other than the addressee is prohibited. If you have received this e-mail in error, please contact the sender immediately and delete the material from any computer.

---

**From:** Relf, Michelle HLTH:EX <[Michelle.Relf@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Michelle.Relf@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 23, 2023 9:48 AM  
**To:** Bains, Jasmine MUNI:EX <[Jasmine.1.Bains@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jasmine.1.Bains@gov.bc.ca)>; Swan, Rebecca HLTH:EX <[Rebecca.Swan@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Rebecca.Swan@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY PROGRAM (IMP) – PROPOSED NEW STREAM FOR THE HEALTH CARE SECTOR  
|

Hello Jasmine and Rebecca (cc Tanya),

Here is a rough first draft of the reply to IRCC for review. Please note, I am still waiting to have feedback from the Allied Health Policy Secretariat and so there will likely be a few more occupations/information included in the final reply. Jasmine, please feel free to add anything that I may not have captured from your area's perspective. Rebecca/Tanya, if there is anything that I have missed, please let me know - happy to hear feedback 😊

Thank you!  
M.

**Draft Email Reply:**

-  
Thank you for the email and the opportunity to provide feedback on the possible creation of a new stream under the International Mobility Program (IMP) for Canadian employers to facilitate the hiring of temporary foreign workers in health care positions.

1. Which occupations should be prioritized for inclusion in this new stream, or alternatively those that should NOT be included.

BC advocates for the following occupations to be prioritized for inclusion:

- Associate Physicians/Clinical Associates – as an emerging occupation there is currently not a NOC code for this group
  - Associate physicians practice under the direction and supervision of attending physicians in acute care and community primary care settings.
  - Associate Physicians in BC are placed on a salary grid ranging from \$96,429 - \$138,617, dependent on qualifications and experience, internal equity, and the extent of after-hours work required.

- [Link](#) to an example of Associate Physician job postings in BC
- Nurse Practitioners – 31302

s.13

---

**From:** Visneskie, Natasha (HC/SC) <[natasha.visneskie@hc-sc.gc.ca](mailto:natasha.visneskie@hc-sc.gc.ca)> **On Behalf Of** chw / ces (HC/SC)  
**Sent:** February 6, 2023 11:24 AM  
**To:** Arbuckle, Jake (DH/MS <[Jake.Arbuckle@gnb.ca](mailto:Jake.Arbuckle@gnb.ca)>; Isabelle.Duguay2@gnb.ca; Anna.Ditablan@health.gov.sk.ca; dastageer.sakhizai@health.gov.sk.ca; Lori.Fontaine@gov.mb.ca; gabrielle.racine-lupien.cpnsss@ssss.gouv.qc.ca; nmmaclean@ihis.org; Jessica\_jonasson@gov.nt.ca; CNolan@gov.nu.ca; Lamb, David (MOH) <[David.Lamb@ontario.ca](mailto:David.Lamb@ontario.ca)>; Annjanette Risdale-Weddell <[Annjanette.Risdale-Weddell@gov.ab.ca](mailto:Annjanette.Risdale-Weddell@gov.ab.ca)>; Rosemary.Adesanwo@gov.ab.ca; Brad Ledgerwood <[bledgerwood@ihis.org](mailto:bledgerwood@ihis.org)>; maxime.labrecque.recherche@msss.gouv.qc.ca; Cheryl.berkers@yukon.ca; Katharina.Marcin <[Katharina.Marcin@yukon.ca](mailto:Katharina.Marcin@yukon.ca)>; Swan, Rebecca HLTH:EX <[Rebecca.Swan@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Rebecca.Swan@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Owen, Michelle (HC/SC) <[michelle.owen@hc-sc.gc.ca](mailto:michelle.owen@hc-sc.gc.ca)>; Thakkar, Bhavik (HC/SC) <[bhavik.thakkar@hc-sc.gc.ca](mailto:bhavik.thakkar@hc-sc.gc.ca)>; chw / ces (HC/SC) <[chw-ces@hc-sc.gc.ca](mailto:chw-ces@hc-sc.gc.ca)>; Chapman, Leigh (HC/SC) <[Leigh.Chapman@hc-sc.gc.ca](mailto:Leigh.Chapman@hc-sc.gc.ca)>; Noorbhai, Aalia (HC/SC) <[Aalia.Noorbhai@hc-sc.gc.ca](mailto:Aalia.Noorbhai@hc-sc.gc.ca)>; erin.connell@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca; Gabriela.DeJager@cic.gc.ca; magali.stretch@cic.gc.ca; Tracy.Clarke@gov.ab.ca; Ian.Gillespie@cic.gc.ca; Christine.Sarafian@cic.gc.ca; Sheila.Jain@cic.gc.ca; Cyr, Patrick (HC/SC) <[Patrick.Cyr@hc-sc.gc.ca](mailto:Patrick.Cyr@hc-sc.gc.ca)>; Weston, Susan (HC/SC) <[susan.weston@hc-sc.gc.ca](mailto:susan.weston@hc-sc.gc.ca)>; King, Elisabeth (HC/SC) <[elisabeth.king@hc-sc.gc.ca](mailto:elisabeth.king@hc-sc.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY PROGRAM (IMP) – PROPOSED NEW STREAM FOR THE HEALTH CARE SECTOR | CRITÈRES DU PROGRAMME DE MOBILITÉ INTERNATIONALE – SECTEUR DES SOINS DE LA SANTÉ

**[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.**

*Le français suit.*

Dear IEHP Sub-committee members,

As discussed at the January 26, 2023 meeting of the Internationally Educated Health Professionals (IEHP) sub-committee (of the FPT Committee on Health Workforce (CHW)), IRCC is exploring the creation of a new stream under the International Mobility Program (IMP) for Canadian employers to facilitate the hiring of temporary foreign workers in health care positions. This new stream is meant to help health care employers fill critical labour shortages in the health care sector, by streamlining the process for health employers by exempting them from the need for a Labour Market Impact Assessment (LMIA) under the Temporary Foreign Worker Program (TFWP), enabling foreign nationals to apply for a work permit directly to IRCC via the IMP. The deck presented at that meeting is attached for information, and we are following up to request formal feedback from the IEHP subcommittee members.

This new stream would be for temporary residence (i.e. to obtain a work permit) only, and would not feature a pathway to permanent residence for applicants – rather, applicants could apply to existing permanent residence pathways if they meet eligibility criteria. As is currently the case, applicants to this new stream would still need to demonstrate they can work in the occupation (i.e. meet credential/licensing requirements, or show that they can do so within a relatively short timeframe) as well as meet all other regulatory criteria.

To be eligible, applicants (foreign nationals) would require an offer of employment in one of the identified health occupations, and the employer would be required to offer the prevailing wage or higher<sup>[1]</sup> to the foreign worker (which is the current requirement of the TFWP).

IRCC is formally seeking feedback from provinces and territories on which health care occupations should be included in this new stream, using the attached list as a starting point. **IRCC would greatly appreciate your review and feedback from your jurisdiction's perspective on:**

5. **Which occupations should be prioritized for inclusion in this new stream, or alternatively those that should NOT be included.**
6. **Criteria or considerations used to advise on which occupations should be included/excluded**
7. **Whether the prevailing wage (or higher) criteria would be appropriate, and if not, recommendations for alternative wage methodology**
8. **Whether any additional criteria should be included in the proposed IMP stream**

**Please note that any employers seeking to fill positions in occupations not found on the list would still be able to apply for an LMIA to hire foreign nationals on work permits via the TFWP.**

IRCC encourages you to consult with other provincial/territorial ministries in your respective jurisdictions who may have views on this proposed stream, noting that IRCC will also be sending this message/request for feedback to ministries responsible for immigration (Forum for Ministers Responsible for Immigration (FMRI)), and ministries responsible for employment (Forum for Labour Market Ministers (FLMM)).

It would be most appreciated if you could provide your input/ feedback by responding to this email address [IRCC.TempResRegulations-ResTempReglement.IRCC@cic.gc.ca](mailto:IRCC.TempResRegulations-ResTempReglement.IRCC@cic.gc.ca) no later than **February 24<sup>th</sup> 2023**. Any questions you may have about this proposal can also be directed to this address.

**Thank you.**

---


---

---

---

## Physician Assistants and Associate Physicians

January 27, 2023 10:01 AM

Subject	<b>FW: Physician Assistants and Associate Physicians</b>
From	Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX
To	Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX; Silver, Uiana S HLTH:EX
Sent	January 27, 2023 9:59 AM
Attachments	 FW Associate ...

**From:** MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** January 24, 2023 11:58 AM  
**To:** Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>; Hancock, Lynn HLTH:EX <Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Mason, Miranda N HLTH:EX <Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca>; Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX <Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>; Ty, Marie HLTH:EX <Marie.Ty@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: Physician Assistants and Associate Physicians

Hi folks,

With thanks to Chris, I have attached the information we provided some time ago on this topic. My understanding is that we received direction to proceed with APs, but to not proceed with PAs.

Thanks,

M

**From:** Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** January 24, 2023 11:53 AM  
**To:** MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>; Hancock, Lynn HLTH:EX <Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Mason, Miranda N HLTH:EX <Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca>; Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX <Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>; Ty, Marie HLTH:EX <Marie.Ty@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: Physician Assistants and Associate Physicians

Thanks everyone...

Stephanie

**From:** MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** January 24, 2023 11:25 AM  
**To:** Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>; Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca>; Hancock, Lynn HLTH:EX <Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Mason, Miranda N HLTH:EX <Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca>; Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX <Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>; Ty, Marie HLTH:EX <Marie.Ty@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca>; MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: Physician Assistants and Associate Physicians

Thanks folks,

We have some additional information we can put together respecting the way in which we would need to authorize PAs – and some of the complications associated with that. I've asked Chris to put together some of our thinking on this.

M

**From:** Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** January 24, 2023 11:13 AM  
**To:** Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca>; Hancock, Lynn HLTH:EX <Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Mason, Miranda N HLTH:EX <Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca>; Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX <Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>; MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca>; Ty, Marie HLTH:EX <Marie.Ty@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: Physician Assistants and Associate Physicians

Hi Stephanie,

I've copied Mark MacKinnon in on this email. **s.13** **s.17**

**s.13; s.17**

Subject	<b>FW: Associate Physicians/Physician Assistant Bullets</b>
From	MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX
To	Armitage, Mark W HLTH:EX; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX
Cc	Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX; MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX
Sent	May 19, 2022 12:06 PM

Hi Mark A and Kevin, with thanks to Chris, here are some thoughts from a PRO perspective.

Regulatory analysis of expanding Associate Physician Class of licensure and/or enabling practice of Physician Assistants in BC

### Associate Physicians

- Registration class with the College of Physicians and Surgeons of BC (CPSBC) for individuals who have a received a medical degree and passed Part 1 of the Medical Council of Canada's (MCC) qualifying exam, but who do not meet the requirements for full licensure as a physician in BC (typically folks who received their medical training internationally).
- Requires a sponsorship from an HA in order to practice and requires that they practice under the direction and supervision of an attending physician.
- Currently limited to working in HAs only and only in medical/surgical subspecialties.

**s.13; s.17**

### Physician Assistants

- Currently do not practice in BC.
- Are only trained and practice in specific regions of Canada and the US (i.e. they do not exist internationally)
- Have limited training (2 year program) and work as physician extenders, working under the direction and supervision of the attending physician via delegation/authorization of services from the attending physician only.
- Only four training programs in Canada (located in Manitoba, Ontario and a program run by the Canadian Forces)
- In Canada, currently are only authorized to practice in some regions of Canada including New Brunswick, Manitoba, Ontario (in process of authorizing—still a year out) and in the Canadian Forces.

**s.13; s.17**

Please let us know if you are looking for something more/different.

Thanks,

M

s.13; s.17

Please let us know if you are looking for something more/different.

Thanks,

M

I can provide a lot more info, but hopefully this is some good context for a response to the DM.

Thanks  
Ryan

**From:** Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <[Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** January 24, 2023 10:17 AM  
**To:** Hancock, Lynn HLTH:EX <[Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca)>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>; Mason, Miranda N HLTH:EX <[Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca)>; Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX <[Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca)>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Physician Assistants and Associate Physicians

Thanks Lynn

Tanya and/or Ryan can one of you come see me if you are in the office today. If you aren't in the office...we need to arrange a phone call please.

Steph

**From:** Hancock, Lynn HLTH:EX <[Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** January 24, 2023 10:13 AM  
**To:** Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <[Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca)>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>; Mason, Miranda N HLTH:EX <[Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca)>; Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX <[Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Physician Assistants and Associate Physicians

Tanya Lorenz and Ryan Murray are most in the know.

**From:** Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <[Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** January 24, 2023 10:12 AM  
**To:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>; Mason, Miranda N HLTH:EX <[Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca)>; Hancock, Lynn HLTH:EX <[Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca)>; Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX <[Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** Physician Assistants and Associate Physicians

Who leads this work??

I got a call from Steve and he has some questions.

Stephanie

**From:** HLTH eApprovals  
**To:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX  
**Subject:** DAILY REMINDER - eApprovals Items Requiring Your Action  
**Date:** February 21, 2023 4:08:59 PM

eApprovals Items Assigned To You (9)					
Id	Subject	Due	Other Number	Rush	Category
71356	<a href="#">IMG Exploring Opportunity In BC Health Care System - limited licensure in Alberta could not be recognized and registered as an associate physician in BC due to current bylaw requirements</a>	1/3/2023	1246704	false	Correspondence - Email
74403	<a href="#">In strong support of Canadian Association of Physician Assistants' request for the authorization to undertake a trial project employing physician assistant in Port Hardy beginning June 1, 2023.</a>	2/24/2023	1250264	false	Correspondence - Email
74451	<a href="#">Wondering what is being done for certifying immigrant doctors, and why physician assistants are not allowed in BC</a>	2/27/2023	1250688	false	Correspondence - Email
74795	<a href="#">Concern regarding physician shortage and sponsoring IMG from Syria</a>	2/27/2023	1251391	false	Correspondence - Email
74689	<a href="#">Please allow the use of physician assistants immediately.</a>	3/1/2023	1251054	false	Correspondence - Email
74650	<a href="#">Letter re: Supporting the use of Physician Assistants and the CAPA proposal.</a>	3/1/2023	1250959	false	Correspondence - Letter
	<a href="#">Suggesting to allow</a>				



73960	<u>Physician Assistants to work in BC. Nurse Practitioners are not efficient to address shortage. Also suggesting to tax cosmetic procedures.</u>	3/2/2023	1250140	false	Correspondence - Email
74805	<u>When will Physician Assistants be added to health care teams in BC?</u>	3/2/2023	1251215	false	Correspondence - Email
74181	<u>Advocating for the use of Physician Assistants in Port Hardy</u>	3/2/2023	1249957	false	Correspondence - Letter

**From:** [HLTH eApprovals](#)  
**To:** [Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX](#)  
**Subject:** ALERT - eApprovals Item ID: 74805 - Item Forwarded - Due 2023-03-02  
**Date:** February 10, 2023 10:47:00 AM

---

Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX [Assignee] forwarded an eApprovals item to Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX for action

**Comment: Hi Tanya, over to you. Thanks! Mhairi**

#: 1251215

Title: When will Physician Assistants be added to health care teams in BC?

Full Name: s.22

Due Date: 3/2/2023

Category: Correspondence - Email

[Go to item...](#)

**From:** [HLTH eApprovals](#)  
**To:** [Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX](#)  
**Subject:** ALERT - eApprovals Item ID: 74689 - Item Forwarded - Due 2023-03-01  
**Date:** February 8, 2023 3:23:22 PM

---

Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX [Assignee] forwarded an eApprovals item to Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX for action

**Comment: Hi Tanya, over to you. Thanks! Mhairi**

#: 1251054

Title: Please allow the use of physician assistants immediately.

Full Name: <sup>s.22</sup>

Due Date: 3/1/2023

Category: Correspondence - Email

[Go to item...](#)

**From:** [HLTH eApprovals](#)  
**To:** [Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX](#)  
**Subject:** ALERT - eApprovals Item ID: 74650 - Item Forwarded - Due 2023-03-01  
**Date:** February 8, 2023 11:19:14 AM

---

Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX [Assignee] forwarded an eApprovals item to Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX for action

**Comment: Hi Tanya, are you able to respond to this? Thanks! Mhairi**

#: 1250959

Title: Letter re: Supporting the use of Physician Assistants and the CAPA proposal.

Full Name: s.22

Due Date: 3/1/2023

Category: Correspondence - Letter

[Go to item...](#)

**From:** [HLTH eApprovals](#)  
**To:** [Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX](#)  
**Subject:** ALERT - eApprovals Item ID: 74451 - Item Forwarded - Due 2023-02-27  
**Date:** February 7, 2023 10:58:59 AM

---

Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX [Assignee] forwarded an eApprovals item to Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX for action

**Comment: Hi Tanya, are you able to respond to this? Thanks! Mhairi**

#: 1250688

Title: Wondering what is being done for certifying immigrant doctors, and why physician assistants are not allowed in BC

Full Name: s.22

Due Date: 2/27/2023

Category: Correspondence - Email

[Go to item...](#)

## Supplemental Fact Sheet (draft) – Physician Assistants

### Issue:

Introduction of Physician Assistants to the BC healthcare system.

### Current situation:

- Stakeholders, including physicians and the Canadian Association of Physician Assistants (CAPA) advocate for the introduction of Physician Assistants (PAs) in BC.
- The Ministry is committed to optimizing the scopes of practice of health care professionals to enable efficient and effective use of resources. This is reflected in the recently published BC Health Human Resources Strategy which identifies a wide range of strategies and objectives.
- As the Ministry works to implement this strategy,<sup>s.13</sup>

### Financial Implications:

N/A

### Key Background:

- PAs are health care professionals that work under the direction and supervision of a licensed physician to provide a board range of health services.
- PAs act as ‘physician extenders’ that complement existing health services and are not independent practitioners.
- A PAs scope of practice is physician delegated, and the medical services assigned to the PA must be within the scope of the supervising physician. PAs are trained as generalists whose scope of practice is determined on an individual basis and outlined in a practice contract or agreement between the supervising physician, the PA, and often the facility or service where the PA will work. In Canada, a PAs degree of autonomy will also depend on the rules and regulations of the provincial jurisdiction where they practice.
- PAs can work in any healthcare setting and their activities may include conducting patient interviews, histories, and physical examinations; performing selected diagnostic and therapeutic interventions or procedures; and counseling patients on preventative health care<sup>1</sup>.
- PAs are a relatively new health profession in Canada, although their introduction to Canada began in Canadian Armed Forces in the 1950’s<sup>2</sup>.
- There are approximately 800 PAs across Canada<sup>3</sup>.
- Ontario, Alberta, Manitoba, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia have introduced PAs into their health workforces.
- BC does not currently have a PA training program. There are three PA training programs in Canada: 1) University of Manitoba 2) McMaster University 3) The Consortium of PA Education

---

<sup>1</sup> Burrows, K., Vanstone, M., & Jones, I. Physician Assistants. 18 Physician Assistants.pdf (hhr-rhs.ca) (accessed Feb 13, 2023)

<sup>2</sup> Canadian Association of Physician Assistants. <https://capa-acam.ca/about-pas/pa-fact-sheet/>. (accessed Feb 13, 2023)

<sup>3</sup> Canadian Association of Physician Assistants. <https://capa-acam.ca/about-pas/pa-fact-sheet/>. (accessed Feb 13, 2023)

(University of Toronto in collaboration with the Northern Ontario School of Medicine and the Michener Institute at University Health Network (UHN).

- The PA training program extends over a 24-month period. Graduates of accredited Canadian PA program are eligible to write the Physician Assistant Certification Council of Canada (PACCC) PA Certification Exam. Individuals who successfully pass the exam are awarded the Canadian Certified Physician Assistant Designation.
- The CAPA is the professional association representing PAs nationally.

**Last updated:**

**Approvals:**

## Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX

---

**From:** MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX  
**Sent:** January 23, 2023 11:40 AM  
**To:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX  
**Cc:** Younker, Katherine E HLTH:EX  
**Subject:** FW: B.C. nurses and union cry foul after professional college increases annual fees by 15%

Also FYI

### Nataros/Corbett-Labatt - physician assistants

CKNW

Sunday, January 22, 2023, 08:02

By CKNW-2

Copyright



## Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX

---

**From:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX  
**Sent:** January 24, 2023 10:21 AM  
**To:** Eric C HLTH:EX Bringsli (Eric.Bringsli@gov.bc.ca)  
**Subject:** FW: Physician Assistants and Associate Physicians

See below...

---

**From:** Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** January 24, 2023 10:17 AM  
**To:** Hancock, Lynn HLTH:EX <Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Mason, Miranda N HLTH:EX <Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca>; Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX <Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: Physician Assistants and Associate Physicians

Thanks Lynn

Tanya and/or Ryan can one of you come see me if you are in the office today. If you aren't in the office...we need to arrange a phone call please.

Steph

---

**From:** Hancock, Lynn HLTH:EX <Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** January 24, 2023 10:13 AM  
**To:** Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Mason, Miranda N HLTH:EX <Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca>; Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX <Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: Physician Assistants and Associate Physicians

Tanya Lorenz and Ryan Murray are most in the know.

---

**From:** Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** January 24, 2023 10:12 AM  
**To:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Mason, Miranda N HLTH:EX <Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca>; Hancock, Lynn HLTH:EX <Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca>; Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX <Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** Physician Assistants and Associate Physicians

Who leads this work??

I got a call from Steve and he has some questions.

Stephanie

## Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX

---

**From:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX  
**Sent:** February 15, 2023 11:01 AM  
**To:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval due 1230 PM

Given timeline, let me know if you think we need to add anything further. s.13  
s.13

---

**From:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 15, 2023 10:56 AM  
**To:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval due 1230 PM

Hello!

Please see the below media request. Inserted in the recommended response section is our stock response which broadly covers the reporter's questions. I was wondering if there are any bullets you could provide regarding specific questions raised by the reporter.

Looking for input by 1230! Thanks and let me know if you have any questions.

### Reporter

Bridgette Watson, Producer  
CBC - Vancouver  
[Bridgette.watson@cbc.ca](mailto:Bridgette.watson@cbc.ca)  
604-662-6102 c: 604-220-5862  
**Deadline** ASAP

### Request

In light of the doctor shortage in B.C., as well as long walk-in clinic wait times and slammed emergency rooms, I am interested in hearing how progress is coming along concerning assessing the option of using physician assistants in B.C.

In December, the ministry said it was assessing the option and I am wondering if you have any updates since then.

1. Why does B.C. not use physician assistants?
2. What concerns does the ministry have about using physician assistants?
3. Has the ministry been in touch with health care leaders in other provinces (Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario and New Brunswick) where physician assistants are employed and what feedback have you heard from those leaders?
4. Nova Scotia and Newfoundland are running pilot projects. Is B.C. considering doing the same? What benchmarks would B.C. set to monitor the success of such a pilot program?
5. If B.C. were to utilize physician assistants, what process would need to take place? Will it require new legislation?

## **Recommendation**

s.13

## **Background**

Approved media response  
/cs

## **Calvin Simpson**

Public Affairs Officer, Health Communications  
Government Communications and Public Engagement  
Government of British Columbia | 250-880-5179

**From:** [HLTH eApprovals](#)  
**To:** [Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX](#)  
**Subject:** ALERT - eApprovals Item ID: 72796 - Item Forwarded - Due 2023-02-02  
**Date:** January 13, 2023 10:48:06 AM

---

Takahashi, Junko HLTH:EX [Colleague of HSWBS Generic ] forwarded an eApprovals item to Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX for action

**Comment: Hi Mhairi, Please assign for response. It is regarding Physician Assistants from the article writer mentions. Please add PSB letter template since ADMO do not have one. Thank you.**

#: 1248665

Title: Why are trained medical assistants travelling out of province to work?

Full Name: s.22

Due Date: 2/2/2023

Category: Correspondence - Letter

[Go to item...](#)

**From:** [HLTH eApprovals](#)  
**To:** [Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX](#)  
**Subject:** ALERT - eApprovals Item ID: 73960 - Item Forwarded - Due 2023-02-17  
**Date:** January 30, 2023 3:30:55 PM

---

Owen, Rhys HLTH:EX [Colleague of HSWBS Generic ] forwarded an eApprovals item to Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX for action

**Comment: Hi Mhairi, please assign for PSB email response. Thanks!**

#: 1250140

Title: Suggesting to allow Physician Assistants to work in BC. Nurse Practitioners are not efficient to address shortage. Also suggesting to tax cosmetic procedures.

Full Name:[s.22](#)

Due Date: 2/17/2023

Category: Correspondence - Email

[Go to item...](#)

**From:** [HLTH eApprovals](#)  
**To:** [Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX](#)  
**Subject:** ALERT - eApprovals Item ID: 74181 - Item Forwarded - Due 2023-02-22  
**Date:** February 2, 2023 8:19:17 AM

---

Molina, Alfonso HLTH:EX [Colleague of HSWBS Generic ] forwarded an eApprovals item to Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX for action

**Comment: Good morning, Please upload letter template for PSB and assign for response. Thank you!**

#: 1249957

Title: Advocating for the use of Physician Assistants in Port Hardy

Full Name<sup>s.22</sup>

Due Date: 2/22/2023

Category: Correspondence - Letter

[Go to item...](#)

**From:** [HLTH eApprovals](#)  
**To:** [Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX](#)  
**Subject:** ALERT - eApprovals Item ID: 74403 - Item Forwarded - Due 2023-02-24  
**Date:** February 3, 2023 2:30:55 PM

---

Takahashi, Junko HLTH:EX [Colleague of HSWBS Generic ] forwarded an eApprovals item to Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX for action

**Comment: Hi Mhairi, Please assign for draft Min-sig. Thank you.**

#: 1250264

Title: In strong support of Canadian Association of Physician Assistants' request for the authorization to undertake a trial project employing physician assistant in Port Hardy beginning June 1, 2023.

Full Name: Corbett-Labatt, Pat (Mayor, District of Port Hardy)

Due Date: 2/24/2023

Category: Correspondence - Email

[Go to item...](#)

**From:** [HLTH eApprovals](#)  
**To:** [Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX](#)  
**Subject:** ALERT - eApprovals Item ID: 74451 - Item Forwarded - Due 2023-02-27  
**Date:** February 6, 2023 9:13:47 AM

---

Molina, Alfonso HLTH:EX [Colleague of HSWBS Generic ] forwarded an eApprovals item to Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX for action

**Comment: Good morning, Please assign for response. Thank you!**

#: 1250688

Title: Wondering what is being done for certifying immigrant doctors, and why physician assistants are not allowed in BC

Full Name **s.22**

Due Date: 2/27/2023

Category: Correspondence - Email

[Go to item...](#)



**From:** [HLTH eApprovals](#)  
**To:** [Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX](#)  
**Subject:** ALERT - eApprovals Item ID: 74451 - Item Forwarded - Due 2023-02-27  
**Date:** February 7, 2023 10:58:59 AM

---

Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX [Assignee] forwarded an eApprovals item to Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX for action

**Comment: Hi Tanya, are you able to respond to this? Thanks! Mhairi**

#: 1250688

Title: Wondering what is being done for certifying immigrant doctors, and why physician assistants are not allowed in BC

Full Name: s.22

Due Date: 2/27/2023

Category: Correspondence - Email

[Go to item...](#)

**From:** [HLTH eApprovals](#)  
**To:** [Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX](#)  
**Subject:** ALERT - eApprovals Item ID: 74650 - Item Forwarded - Due 2023-03-01  
**Date:** February 8, 2023 10:39:01 AM

---

Molina, Alfonso HLTH:EX [Colleague of HSWBS Generic ] forwarded an eApprovals item to Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX for action

**Comment: Good morning Mhairi, Please assign for response with Minister signature. Thank you!**

#: 1250959

Title: Letter re: Supporting the use of Physician Assistants and the CAPA proposal.

Full Name: s.22

Due Date: 3/1/2023

Category: Correspondence - Letter

[Go to item...](#)

**From:** [HLTH eApprovals](#)  
**To:** [Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX](#)  
**Subject:** ALERT - eApprovals Item ID: 74650 - Item Forwarded - Due 2023-03-01  
**Date:** February 8, 2023 11:19:14 AM

---

Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX [Assignee] forwarded an eApprovals item to Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX for action

**Comment: Hi Tanya, are you able to respond to this? Thanks! Mhairi**

#: 1250959

Title: Letter re: Supporting the use of Physician Assistants and the CAPA proposal.

Full Name: s.22

Due Date: 3/1/2023

Category: Correspondence - Letter

[Go to item...](#)

**From:** [HLTH eApprovals](#)  
**To:** [Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX](#)  
**Subject:** ALERT - eApprovals Item ID: 74689 - Item Forwarded - Due 2023-03-01  
**Date:** February 8, 2023 3:19:08 PM

---

Molina, Alfonso HLTH:EX [Colleague of HSWBS Generic ] forwarded an eApprovals item to Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX for action

**Comment: Hi Mhairi, Please assign for response, Thank you!**

#: 1251054

Title: Please allow the use of physician assistants immediately.

Full Name: s.22

Due Date: 3/1/2023

Category: Correspondence - Email

[Go to item...](#)

**From:** [HLTH eApprovals](#)  
**To:** [Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX](#)  
**Subject:** ALERT - eApprovals Item ID: 74689 - Item Forwarded - Due 2023-03-01  
**Date:** February 8, 2023 3:23:22 PM

---

Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX [Assignee] forwarded an eApprovals item to Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX for action

**Comment: Hi Tanya, over to you. Thanks! Mhairi**

#: 1251054

Title: Please allow the use of physician assistants immediately.

Full Name: s.22

Due Date: 3/1/2023

Category: Correspondence - Email

[Go to item...](#)

**From:** [HLTH eApprovals](#)  
**To:** [Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX](#)  
**Subject:** ALERT - eApprovals Item ID: 74805 - Item Forwarded - Due 2023-03-02  
**Date:** February 10, 2023 8:07:27 AM

---

Takahashi, Junko HLTH:EX [Colleague of HSWBS Generic ] forwarded an eApprovals item to Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX for action

**Comment: Hi Mhairi, Please assign for response Thank you.**

#: 1251215

Title: When will Physician Assistants be added to health care teams in BC?

Full Name: s.22

Due Date: 3/2/2023

Category: Correspondence - Email

[Go to item...](#)

**From:** [HLTH eApprovals](#)  
**To:** [Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX](#)  
**Subject:** ALERT - eApprovals Item ID: 74805 - Item Forwarded - Due 2023-03-02  
**Date:** February 10, 2023 10:47:00 AM

---

Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX [Assignee] forwarded an eApprovals item to Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX for action

**Comment: Hi Tanya, over to you. Thanks! Mhairi**

#: 1251215

Title: When will Physician Assistants be added to health care teams in BC?

Full Name: s.22

Due Date: 3/2/2023

Category: Correspondence - Email

[Go to item...](#)

**From:** Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX  
**To:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX; Bringsli, Eric C HLTH:EX; Clarke, Paul HLTH:EX; Feraru, Loredana HLTH:EX; Silver, Liana S HLTH:EX; Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX  
**Subject:** Article on Physician Assistants  
**Date:** February 21, 2023 10:48:16 AM

---

Interesting article below on Physician Assistants. Includes a reference to Kevin.

Wonder how many physicians would share the following views stated in this article:

- Physician assistants -- who have so far not been licensed to practise in B.C. -- would be roughly 30 to 40 per cent cheaper for the health- care system than physicians, Sun and Moran said, yet the patient receives "physician-quality care."
- They can typically tend to about 80 per cent of the daily patient load for family doctors, said Sun.
- Moran, a UBC associate clinical professor in the Faculty of Medicine, likens a physician assistant to a chief resident who has trained with a physician for five years and is ready to work independently. "A physician assistant is a chief resident who never leaves your practice," said Moran.
- Physician assistants are educated under the same medical model as doctors through a 24-month graduate program, making them a more immediate solution to the health-care crisis, Sun said.
- Moran maintains physician assistants are "best suited" to rural areas, given that they can independently interpret X-rays, set a fracture, put a cast on, sew a laceration, intubate a patient, and remove foreign bodies from ears and noses.

Ryan

-----

### **West Shore doctors call for physician-assistant pilot project**

Times Colonist (Victoria)

Sunday, February 19, 2023

Page A01

By Cindy E. Harnett

Copyright



Page 187 of 286 to/à Page 188 of 286

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Copyright

-----  
Ryan Murray BA, MBA  
Director, Physician Partnerships  
Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services Division | Ministry of Health  
PO Box 9649 STN PROV GOVT | Victoria BC V8W 9P4  
Ph: 250 952-1262 | Email: [ryan.murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:ryan.murray@gov.bc.ca) |

**Warning:** This email is intended only for the use of the individual or organization to whom it is addressed. It may contain information that is privileged or confidential. Any distribution, disclosure, copying, or other use by anyone else is strictly prohibited. If you have received this in error, please telephone or e-mail the sender immediately and delete the message.



**Canadian Association of Physician Assistants**  
**Association canadienne des adjoints au médecin**

# **Pilot Project Proposal**

## **Introducing Physician Assistants in British Columbia**

---

Copyright

Page 191 of 286

Withheld pursuant to/removal as

Copyright

## CONTACTS

**Marina Banister**  
**Manager, Advocacy and Stakeholder Relations,**  
**Western Canada**  
**Canadian Association of Physician Assistants**  
[mbanister@capa-acam.ca](mailto:mbanister@capa-acam.ca)  
780-721-6492  
Vancouver, BC

**Nic Buntmann**  
**Vice President Operations, Canada**  
**International SOS**  
[nic.buntmann@internationalsos.com](mailto:nic.buntmann@internationalsos.com)  
403-880-7166  
Leduc, AB

**From:** [Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX](#)  
**To:** [Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX](#)  
**Subject:** draft supplemental FS - PAs  
**Date:** February 14, 2023 3:54:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [draft\\_supplemental FS\\_PAs.docx](#)

---

Hi Ryan,

As discussed, draft supplemental/back pocket info/fact sheet for your review. I've kept it fairly limited in content for now (ie [s.13](#); [s.17](#)

[s.13](#); [s.17](#)). Following your review I will send it to Chris Bennett.

Thanks!

Tanya

Page 194 of 286

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13 ; s.17

#### Current situation:

- Stakeholders, including physicians and the Canadian Association of Physician Assistants (CAPA) advocate for the introduction of Physician Assistants (PAs) in BC.
- The Ministry is committed to optimizing the scopes of practice of health care professionals to enable efficient and effective use of resources. This is reflected in the recently published BC Health Human Resources Strategy which identifies a wide range of strategies and objectives.
- As the Ministry works to implement this strategy,<sup>s.13</sup>

#### Key Facts

- PAs are health care professionals that work under the direction and supervision of a licensed physician to provide a board range of health services.
- PAs act as 'physician extenders' that complement existing health services and are not independent practitioners.
- A PAs scope of practice is physician delegated, and the medical services assigned to the PA must be within the scope of the supervising physician. In Canada, a PAs degree of autonomy will depend on the rules and regulations of the provincial jurisdiction where they practice.
- PAs are trained as generalists whose scope of practice is determined on an individual basis and outlined in a practice contract or agreement between the supervising physician, the PA, and often the facility or service where the PA will work.
- PAs can work in any healthcare setting and their activities may include conducting patient interviews, histories, and physical examinations; performing selected diagnostic and therapeutic interventions or procedures; and counseling patients on preventative health care<sup>1</sup>.
- PAs are a relatively new health profession in Canada, although their introduction to Canada began in Canadian Armed Forces in the 1950's<sup>2</sup>.
- There are approximately 800 PAs across Canada<sup>3</sup>.
- Ontario, Alberta, Manitoba, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia have introduced PAs into their health workforces.
- BC does not currently have a PA training program. There are three PA training programs in Canada: 1) University of Manitoba 2) McMaster University 3) The Consortium of PA Education (University of Toronto in collaboration with the Northern Ontario School of Medicine and the Michener Institute at University Health Network (UHN)).
- The PA training program extends over a 24-month period. Graduates of accredited Canadian PA program are eligible to write the Physician Assistant Certification Council of Canada (PACCC) PA Certification Exam. Individuals who successfully pass the exam are awarded the Canadian Certified Physician Assistant Designation.
- The CAPA is the professional association representing PAs nationally.

---

<sup>1</sup> Burrows, K., Vanstone, M., & Jones, I. Physician Assistants. 18 Physician Assistants.pdf (hhr-rhs.ca) (accessed Feb 13, 2023)

<sup>2</sup> Canadian Association of Physician Assistants. <https://capa-acam.ca/about-pas/pa-fact-sheet/>. (accessed Feb 13, 2023)

<sup>3</sup> Canadian Association of Physician Assistants. <https://capa-acam.ca/about-pas/pa-fact-sheet/>. (accessed Feb 13, 2023)



## Supplemental Fact Sheet (draft) – Physician Assistants

### Issue:

Introduction of Physician Assistants to the BC healthcare system.

### Current situation:

- Stakeholders, including physicians and the Canadian Association of Physician Assistants (CAPA) advocate for the introduction of Physician Assistants (PAs) in BC.
- The Ministry is committed to optimizing the scopes of practice of health care professionals to enable efficient and effective use of resources. This is reflected in the recently published BC Health Human Resources Strategy which identifies a wide range of strategies and objectives.
- As the Ministry works to implement this strategy, s.13

### Financial Implications:

N/A

### Key Background:

- PAs are health care professionals that work under the direction and supervision of a licensed physician to provide a board range of health services.
- PAs act as ‘physician extenders’ that complement existing health services and are not independent practitioners.
- A PAs scope of practice is physician delegated, and the medical services assigned to the PA must be within the scope of the supervising physician. PAs are trained as generalists whose scope of practice is determined on an individual basis and outlined in a practice contract or agreement between the supervising physician, the PA, and often the facility or service where the PA will work. In Canada, a PAs degree of autonomy will also depend on the rules and regulations of the provincial jurisdiction where they practice.
- PAs can work in any healthcare setting and their activities may include conducting patient interviews, histories, and physical examinations; performing selected diagnostic and therapeutic interventions or procedures; and counseling patients on preventative health care<sup>1</sup>.
- PAs are a relatively new health profession in Canada, although their introduction to Canada began in Canadian Armed Forces in the 1950’s<sup>2</sup>.
- There are approximately 800 PAs across Canada<sup>3</sup>.
- Ontario, Alberta, Manitoba, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia have introduced PAs into their health workforces.
- BC does not currently have a PA training program. There are three PA training programs in Canada: 1) University of Manitoba 2) McMaster University 3) The Consortium of PA Education

---

<sup>1</sup> Burrows, K., Vanstone, M., & Jones, I. Physician Assistants. 18 Physician Assistants.pdf (hhr-rhs.ca) (accessed Feb 13, 2023)

<sup>2</sup> Canadian Association of Physician Assistants. <https://capa-acam.ca/about-pas/pa-fact-sheet/>. (accessed Feb 13, 2023)

<sup>3</sup> Canadian Association of Physician Assistants. <https://capa-acam.ca/about-pas/pa-fact-sheet/>. (accessed Feb 13, 2023)

(University of Toronto in collaboration with the Northern Ontario School of Medicine and the Michener Institute at University Health Network (UHN).

- The PA training program extends over a 24-month period. Graduates of accredited Canadian PA program are eligible to write the Physician Assistant Certification Council of Canada (PACCC) PA Certification Exam. Individuals who successfully pass the exam are awarded the Canadian Certified Physician Assistant Designation.
- The CAPA is the professional association representing PAs nationally.

**Last updated:**

**Approvals:**

## Supplemental Fact Sheet (draft) – Physician Assistants

### Issue:

Introduction of Physician Assistants to the BC healthcare system.

### Current situation:

- Stakeholders, including physicians and the Canadian Association of Physician Assistants (CAPA) advocate for the introduction of Physician Assistants (PAs) in BC.
- The Ministry is committed to optimizing the scopes of practice of health care professionals to enable efficient and effective use of resources. This is reflected in the recently published BC Health Human Resources Strategy which identifies a wide range of strategies and objectives.
- As the Ministry works to implement this strategy,<sup>s.13</sup>

### Financial Implications:

N/A

### Key Background:

- PAs are health care professionals that work under the direction and supervision of a licensed physician to provide a board range of health services.
- PAs act as ‘physician extenders’ that complement existing health services and are not independent practitioners.
- A PAs scope of practice is physician delegated, and the medical services assigned to the PA must be within the scope of the supervising physician. PAs are trained as generalists whose scope of practice is determined on an individual basis and outlined in a practice contract or agreement between the supervising physician, the PA, and often the facility or service where the PA will work. In Canada, a PAs degree of autonomy will also depend on the rules and regulations of the provincial jurisdiction where they practice.
- PAs can work in any healthcare setting and their activities may include conducting patient interviews, histories, and physical examinations; performing selected diagnostic and therapeutic interventions or procedures; and counseling patients on preventative health care<sup>1</sup>.
- PAs are a relatively new health profession in Canada, although their introduction to Canada began in Canadian Armed Forces in the 1950’s<sup>2</sup>.
- There are approximately 800 PAs across Canada<sup>3</sup>.
- Ontario, Alberta, Manitoba, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia have introduced PAs into their health workforces.
- BC does not currently have a PA training program. There are three PA training programs in Canada: 1) University of Manitoba 2) McMaster University 3) The Consortium of PA Education

---

<sup>1</sup> Burrows, K., Vanstone, M., & Jones, I. Physician Assistants. 18 Physician Assistants.pdf (hhr-rhs.ca) (accessed Feb 13, 2023)

<sup>2</sup> Canadian Association of Physician Assistants. <https://capa-acam.ca/about-pas/pa-fact-sheet/>. (accessed Feb 13, 2023)

<sup>3</sup> Canadian Association of Physician Assistants. <https://capa-acam.ca/about-pas/pa-fact-sheet/>. (accessed Feb 13, 2023)

(University of Toronto in collaboration with the Northern Ontario School of Medicine and the Michener Institute at University Health Network (UHN).

- The PA training program extends over a 24-month period. Graduates of accredited Canadian PA program are eligible to write the Physician Assistant Certification Council of Canada (PACCC) PA Certification Exam. Individuals who successfully pass the exam are awarded the Canadian Certified Physician Assistant Designation.
- The CAPA is the professional association representing PAs nationally.

**Last updated:**

**Approvals:**

**From:** [MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX](#)  
**To:** [Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX](#); [Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX](#); [Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX](#); [Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX](#); [Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX](#); [Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX](#)  
**Cc:** [Armitage, Mark W HLTH:EX](#); [MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX](#)  
**Subject:** FW: 1219392 - Banister - ED Email Response Updated - titleline - DRAFT  
**Date:** January 27, 2023 1:53:38 PM  
**Attachments:** [1219392 - Banister - ED Email Response Updated - titleline - DRAFT.docx](#)

---

FYI – recent correspondence that represented the Ministry’s perspective at the time.  
s.13

M

---

**From:** MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX  
**Sent:** December 8, 2022 11:25 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** 1219392 - Banister - ED Email Response Updated - titleline - DRAFT

**From:** [Feraru, Loredana HLTH:EX](#)  
**To:** [Clarke, Paul HLTH:EX](#); [Kogan, George S HLTH:EX](#); [Ghesquiere, Breanne J HLTH:EX](#); [Harrington, Carmen HLTH:EX](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Article on Physician Assistants  
**Date:** February 21, 2023 12:36:52 PM

---

Thought id share this below.

**Loredana Feraru, BA, MA**

Senior Policy Analyst, Medical Education and Partnerships

(250) 952-1172 | [Loredana.Feraru@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Loredana.Feraru@gov.bc.ca)

---

**From:** Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** February 21, 2023 10:48 AM

**To:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>; Bringsli, Eric C HLTH:EX <[Eric.Bringsli@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Eric.Bringsli@gov.bc.ca)>; Clarke, Paul HLTH:EX <[Paul.Clarke@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Paul.Clarke@gov.bc.ca)>; Feraru, Loredana HLTH:EX <[Loredana.Feraru@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Loredana.Feraru@gov.bc.ca)>; Silver, Liana S HLTH:EX <[Liana.Silver@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Liana.Silver@gov.bc.ca)>; Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** Article on Physician Assistants

Interesting article below on Physician Assistants. Includes a reference to Kevin.

Wonder how many physicians would share the following views stated in this article:

- Physician assistants -- who have so far not been licensed to practise in B.C. -- would be roughly 30 to 40 per cent cheaper for the health-care system than physicians, Sun and Moran said, yet the patient receives "physician-quality care."
- They can typically tend to about 80 per cent of the daily patient load for family doctors, said Sun.
- Moran, a UBC associate clinical professor in the Faculty of Medicine, likens a physician assistant to a chief resident who has trained with a physician for five years and is ready to work independently. "A physician assistant is a chief resident who never leaves your practice," said Moran.
- Physician assistants are educated under the same medical model as doctors through a 24-month graduate program, making them a more immediate solution to the health-care crisis, Sun said.
- Moran maintains physician assistants are "best suited" to rural areas, given that they can independently interpret X-rays, set a fracture, put a cast on, sew a laceration, intubate a patient, and remove foreign bodies from ears and noses.

Ryan

-----

### **West Shore doctors call for physician-assistant pilot project**

Times Colonist (Victoria)

Sunday, February 19, 2023

Page A01

By Cindy E. Harnett

Copyright

Page 203 of 286 to/à Page 204 of 286

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Copyright



-----  
Ryan Murray BA, MBA  
Director, Physician Partnerships  
Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services Division | Ministry of Health  
PO Box 9649 STN PROV GOVT | Victoria BC V8W 9P4  
Ph: 250 952-1262 | Email: [ryan.murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:ryan.murray@gov.bc.ca) |

**Warning:** This email is intended only for the use of the individual or organization to whom it is addressed. It may contain information that is privileged or confidential. Any distribution, disclosure, copying, or other use by anyone else is strictly prohibited. If you have received this in error, please telephone or e-mail the sender immediately and delete the message.

**From:** [Feraru, Loredana HLTH:EX](#)  
**To:** [Clarke, Paul HLTH:EX](#); [Kogan, George S HLTH:EX](#); [Ghesquiere, Breanne J HLTH:EX](#); [Harrington, Carmen HLTH:EX](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Article on Physician Assistants  
**Date:** February 21, 2023 12:36:52 PM

---

Thought id share this below.

**Loredana Feraru, BA, MA**

Senior Policy Analyst, Medical Education and Partnerships

(250) 952-1172 | [Loredana.Feraru@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Loredana.Feraru@gov.bc.ca)

---

**From:** Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** February 21, 2023 10:48 AM

**To:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>; Bringsli, Eric C HLTH:EX <[Eric.Bringsli@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Eric.Bringsli@gov.bc.ca)>; Clarke, Paul HLTH:EX <[Paul.Clarke@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Paul.Clarke@gov.bc.ca)>; Feraru, Loredana HLTH:EX <[Loredana.Feraru@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Loredana.Feraru@gov.bc.ca)>; Silver, Liana S HLTH:EX <[Liana.Silver@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Liana.Silver@gov.bc.ca)>; Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** Article on Physician Assistants

Interesting article below on Physician Assistants. Includes a reference to Kevin.

Wonder how many physicians would share the following views stated in this article:

- Physician assistants -- who have so far not been licensed to practise in B.C. -- would be roughly 30 to 40 per cent cheaper for the health- care system than physicians, Sun and Moran said, yet the patient receives "physician-quality care."
- They can typically tend to about 80 per cent of the daily patient load for family doctors, said Sun.
- Moran, a UBC associate clinical professor in the Faculty of Medicine, likens a physician assistant to a chief resident who has trained with a physician for five years and is ready to work independently. "A physician assistant is a chief resident who never leaves your practice," said Moran.
- Physician assistants are educated under the same medical model as doctors through a 24-month graduate program, making them a more immediate solution to the health-care crisis, Sun said.
- Moran maintains physician assistants are "best suited" to rural areas, given that they can independently interpret X-rays, set a fracture, put a cast on, sew a laceration, intubate a patient, and remove foreign bodies from ears and noses.

Ryan

-----

### **West Shore doctors call for physician-assistant pilot project**

Times Colonist (Victoria)

Sunday, February 19, 2023

Page A01  
By Cindy E. Harnett

Copyright

Page 208 of 286 to/à Page 209 of 286

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Copyright

-----  
Ryan Murray BA, MBA  
Director, Physician Partnerships  
Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services Division | Ministry of Health  
PO Box 9649 STN PROV GOVT | Victoria BC V8W 9P4  
Ph: 250 952-1262 | Email: [ryan.murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:ryan.murray@gov.bc.ca) |

**Warning:** This email is intended only for the use of the individual or organization to whom it is addressed. It may contain information that is privileged or confidential. Any distribution, disclosure, copying, or other use by anyone else is strictly prohibited. If you have received this in error, please telephone or e-mail the sender immediately and delete the message.

**From:** [Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services HLTH:EX](#)  
**To:** [Welby, Andrew HLTH:EX](#); [Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX](#)  
**Cc:** [Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services HLTH:EX](#); [Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Extension Request: 1250140 and 1249957  
**Date:** February 16, 2023 3:44:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)  
[image005.png](#)

---

Hello,

Extension has been granted to March 2, 2023 for both log 1250140 and 1249957.  
Please send interim responses for both and notify ADMO once completed and uploaded to eAp and CLIFF.

Thank you,

**Junko Takahashi**  
Documents Coordinator  
Assistant Deputy Minister's Office  
Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services Division  
PO Box 9649, STN PROV GOVT, Victoria BC V8W 9P4  
Phone: 778-405-2719 Fax: 250-952-3131

*Grateful to live, work, and play within the traditional territories of the Lekwungen speaking people – also known as the Esquimalt and Songhees First Nations.*



**WARNING - CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE** Government confidentiality and privilege requirements apply to this message and any attachments. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any review, retransmission, conversion to hard copy, copying, circulation or other use is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender immediately, and delete this message and any attachments from both your inbox and deleted items folder. Thank You.

---

**From:** Health, HLTH HLTH:EX <HLTH.Health@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 16, 2023 3:38 PM  
**To:** Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services HLTH:EX <HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** HLTH Corporate Operations HLTH:EX <HLTH.Corporate.Operations@gov.bc.ca>; Health, HLTH HLTH:EX <HLTH.Health@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: Extension Request: 1250140 and 1249957

Good afternoon,

Both items have been extended to March 2, 2023. Please provide an interim response to both writers.

These assignments have been updated on both CLIFF and eApprovals.

Thank you,

Eimrin

**Eimrin Kaloti** (he/him)

Correspondence and Information Systems Analyst  
Corporate Operations Unit | Corporate Issues & Client Relations  
Ministry of Health  
Ph: 778 974-3946  
Email: [Eimrin.Kaloti@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Eimrin.Kaloti@gov.bc.ca)



---

This e-mail is intended solely for the person or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged information. Any review, dissemination, copying, printing or other use of this e-mail by persons or entities other than the addressee is prohibited. If you have received this e-mail in error, please contact the sender immediately and delete the material from any computer.

I acknowledge my presence as a settler upon the unceded lands of the Coast Salish Territories, specifically of the Lekwungen and W\_SÁNEC peoples, as I work towards further decolonizing this relationship.

---

**From:** Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services HLTH:EX <[HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca](mailto:HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** February 14, 2023 10:30 AM  
**To:** HLTH Corporate Operations HLTH:EX <[HLTH.Corporate.Operations@gov.bc.ca](mailto:HLTH.Corporate.Operations@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services HLTH:EX <[HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca](mailto:HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** Extension Request: 1250140 and 1249957

Hello,

We would like to request extension on the following 2 logs.

CLIFF 1250140 /eAp 73960 - Suggesting to allow Physician Assistants to work in BC. Nurse Practitioners are not efficient to address shortage. Also suggesting to tax cosmetic procedures.  
CLIFF 1249957/eAp 74181 - Advocating for the use of Physician Assistants in Port Hardy

Program area needs more time to complete the assignments since *The Ministry's current position on this matter is to be determined. As such, additional time will likely be needed to ensure an appropriate response is provided.*

Thank you,

**Junko Takahashi**

Documents Coordinator  
Assistant Deputy Minister's Office  
Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services Division  
PO Box 9649, STN PROV GOVT, Victoria BC V8W 9P4  
Phone: 778-405-2719 Fax: 250-952-3131

*Grateful to live, work, and play within the traditional territories of the Lekwungen speaking people – also known as the Esquimalt and Songhees First Nations.*



**WARNING - CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE** Government confidentiality and privilege requirements apply to this message and any attachments. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any review, retransmission, conversion to hard copy, copying, circulation or other use is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender immediately, and delete this message and any attachments from both your inbox and deleted items folder. Thank You.

---

**From:** Welby, Andrew HLTH:EX <[Andrew.Welby@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Andrew.Welby@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2023 4:34 PM

**To:** Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX <[Mhairi.Robertson-Jones@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mhairi.Robertson-Jones@gov.bc.ca)>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>; Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services HLTH:EX <[HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca](mailto:HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: eApp extension request

Hi HSWBS Team,

May there please be an extension for CLIFFs 1250140 and 1249957 as per Tanya:

*The Ministry's current position on this matter is to be determined. As such, additional time will likely be needed to ensure an appropriate response is provided.*

With regards,

Andrew

**Andrew Welby**

Program Assistant

Physician Services Branch | Ministry of Health

1515 Blanshard Street | Victoria, BC | V8W 3C8

778-405-3176

---

**From:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2023 12:10 PM

**To:** Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX <[Mhairi.Robertson-Jones@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mhairi.Robertson-Jones@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** eApp extension request

Hi Mhairi –

Wondering if you could request an extension for Cliff #s: 1250140 and #1249957.

The Ministry's current position on this matter is to be determined. As such, additional time will likely be needed to ensure an appropriate response is provided.



Thanks!

Tanya

**Tanya Lorenz**, BScN, MSchQ | Senior Policy Analyst, Physician Workforce Development  
Physician Services Branch | Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services Division | Ministry of Health  
PO Box 9649 STN PROV GOVT | Victoria BC V8W 9P4  
E: [Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca) P: 236-478-1298



*I am thankful and privileged to live, work, and play on the traditional territories of the Lekwungen People – also known as the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations.*

---

This e-mail is intended solely for the person or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged information. Any review, dissemination, copying, printing or other use of this e-mail by persons or entities other than the addressee is prohibited. If you have received this e-mail in error, please contact the sender immediately and delete the material from any computer.

**From:** Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX  
**To:** [Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX \(Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca\)](#); [Ty, Marie HLTH:EX](#); [Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX](#); [Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX](#)  
**Subject:** FW: PA compensation - draft jurisdictional review from May 2022  
**Date:** January 27, 2023 11:23:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)

---

FYI

---

**From:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** January 27, 2023 11:20 AM  
**To:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Silver, Liana S HLTH:EX <Liana.Silver@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** PA compensation - draft jurisdictional review from May 2022

Hi Kevin and Ryan,

In case this is helpful for the 1 pm meeting today, below is an overview of funding, payment and employment models from the draft paper I compiled back in May 2022.

s.13



**Tanya Lorenz**, BScN, MSchQ | Senior Policy Analyst, Physician Workforce Development  
Physician Services Branch | Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services Division | Ministry of Health  
PO Box 9649 STN PROV GOVT | Victoria BC V8W 9P4  
E: [Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca) P: 236-478-1298



*I am thankful and privileged to live, work, and play on the traditional territories of the Lekwungen People – also known as the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations.*

---

This e-mail is intended solely for the person or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged information. Any review, dissemination, copying, printing or other use of this e-mail by persons or entities other than the addressee is prohibited. If you have received this e-mail in error, please contact the sender immediately and delete the material from any computer.

---

<sup>[1]</sup>Conference Board of Canada (2017). Funding Models for Physician Assistants. [Funding Models for Physician Assistants: Canadian and International Experiences \(capa-acam.ca\)](https://www.cbc.ca/news/health/physician-assistants-funding-models-1.4188888)

<sup>[2]</sup>Canadian Association of Physician Assistants. (2019). Compensation Report. [PA-Compensation-2019.pdf \(capa-acam.ca\)](https://www.capa-acam.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/PA-Compensation-2019.pdf)

<sup>[3]</sup>Jones, I.W., Ives, R.R., Burrows, K., Jones, A.W., & St. Pierre, N. (2018). A Perspective on the Economic Sustainability of the Physician Assistant Profession in Canada. Journal of Canada's Physician Assistants. <https://ojs.lib.umanitoba.ca/index.php/jcpa/article/view/628/pdf> on April 19

[4] Ontario Ministry of Health (2021). Physician Assistant Career Start Program. [Physician Assistant Career Start Program - Physicians - Health Workforce Planning Branch - Health Care Professionals - MOHLTC \(gov.on.ca\)](#)

[5] Alberta Health Services. Physician Assistant Job Posting – May 7, 2022. [Physician Assistant - Alberta Health Services Careers](#)

**From:** [Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX](#) on behalf of [Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX](#)  
**To:** [Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX](#); [Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX](#); [MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX](#); [Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX](#); [Ty, Marie HLTH:EX](#); [Marsh, Jania HLTH:EX](#); [Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX](#); [Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX](#)  
**Subject:** FW: PA"s

---

-----Original Appointment-----

From: Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <[Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca)>

Sent: January 27, 2023 9:58 AM

To: Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX; MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX; Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX; Ty, Marie HLTH:EX; Marsh, Jania HLTH:EX; Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX

Subject: PA's

When: January 27, 2023 1:00 PM-1:30 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada).

Where: teams

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

Click here to join the meeting [s.15](#): [s.17](#)

[s.15](#); [s.17](#)

Meeting ID: [s.15](#): [s.17](#)

Passcode: [s.15](#);

Download Teams <<https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoft-teams/download-app>> | Join on the web <<https://www.microsoft.com/microsoft-teams/join-a-meeting>>

Or call in (audio only)

+1 778-401-6289,,44280210# <tel:+17784016289[s.15](#); [s.17](#) Canada, Victoria

Phone Conference ID: [s.15](#); [s.17](#)

Find a local number <<https://dialin.teams.microsoft.com/1d2ee6b0-0212-4b1a-bc91-f2c7e4ecc3be?id=s.15>: > | Reset PIN  
<<https://dialin.teams.microsoft.com/usp/pstnconferencing>>

Toll-free (audio only): 1-888-600-3289

Learn More <<https://aka.ms/JoinTeamsMeeting>> | Meeting options <[https://teams.microsoft.com/meetingOptions/?organizerId=0e53fc72-9ff5-4c23-9dfc-d554e69b53a6&tenantId=6fdb5200-3d0d-4a8a-b036-d3685e359adc&threadId=19\\_meeting\\_ODc1Zjg3MWMtY2ViYS00MzhkLTlhNzMtMzUyNGRiZjg4MmY2@thread.v2&messageId=0&language=en-US](https://teams.microsoft.com/meetingOptions/?organizerId=0e53fc72-9ff5-4c23-9dfc-d554e69b53a6&tenantId=6fdb5200-3d0d-4a8a-b036-d3685e359adc&threadId=19_meeting_ODc1Zjg3MWMtY2ViYS00MzhkLTlhNzMtMzUyNGRiZjg4MmY2@thread.v2&messageId=0&language=en-US)>

**From:** [MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX](#)  
**To:** [Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX](#); [Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX](#); [Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX](#); [Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX](#)  
**Cc:** [MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Physician Assistants  
**Date:** January 27, 2023 1:55:44 PM  
**Attachments:** [1219392 - Banister - ED Email Response Updated - titleline - DRAFT.docx](#)  
[FW CAPA and International SOS Pilot Project.msg](#)

---

And some further relevant correspondence.

M

---

**From:** MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** November 28, 2022 10:17 AM  
**To:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Mason, Miranda N HLTH:EX <Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca>; Westgate, Brian A HLTH:EX <Brian.Westgate@gov.bc.ca>; Younker, Katherine E HLTH:EX <Katherine.Younker@gov.bc.ca>; MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** Physician Assistants

Hi folks,

Just keeping you in the loop on my outgoing correspondence, approved by Mark A, that I'll be sending later today.

Thanks,

M

**From:** [Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX](#)  
**To:** [Silver, Liana S HLTH:EX](#); [Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Physician Assistants  
**Date:** January 27, 2023 9:55:08 AM

---

---

**From:** Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** January 27, 2023 9:54 AM  
**To:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>; MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca>; Ty, Marie HLTH:EX <Marie.Ty@gov.bc.ca>; Marsh, Jania HLTH:EX <Jania.Marsh@gov.bc.ca>; Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX <Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca>; Mason, Miranda N HLTH:EX <Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Anderson, Karen HLTH:EX <Karen.1.Anderson@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** Physician Assistants

Hi everyone,

Evan was with the DM this morning and he gave direction<sup>s.13</sup>  
s.13

I am hoping we can have a short meeting today so Evan can download and we can get a go forward in place. Please forward meeting invite to anyone I may have missed.

Karen, can you book half hour this afternoon.

Thanks

Stephanie



**From:** [Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX](#)  
**To:** [Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX](#); [Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX](#); [Silver, Liana S HLTH:EX](#); [Bringsli, Eric C HLTH:EX](#)  
**Subject:** FW: QP Summary Thursday February 9, 2023  
**Date:** February 9, 2023 12:56:23 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

---

Note the q and response on PAs, as well as the Ben Williams piece...

---

**From:** Marsh, Jania HLTH:EX <[Jania.Marsh@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jania.Marsh@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** February 9, 2023 12:21 PM  
**To:** Ty, Marie HLTH:EX <[Marie.Ty@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Marie.Ty@gov.bc.ca)>; Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <[Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca)>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>; Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX <[Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca)>; Vowles, Wendy M HLTH:EX <[Wendy.Vowles@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Wendy.Vowles@gov.bc.ca)>; Mason, Miranda N HLTH:EX <[Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca)>; MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX <[Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mark.MacKinnon@gov.bc.ca)>; Matieschyn, Zachary HLTH:EX <[Zachary.Matieschyn@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Zachary.Matieschyn@gov.bc.ca)>; Cramb, Lorrie HLTH:EX <[Lorrie.Cramb@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Lorrie.Cramb@gov.bc.ca)>; Westgate, Brian A HLTH:EX <[Brian.Westgate@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Brian.Westgate@gov.bc.ca)>; Van Gylswyk, Haley HLTH:EX <[Haley.VanGylswyk@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Haley.VanGylswyk@gov.bc.ca)>; White, Robyn S HLTH:EX <[Robyn.White@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Robyn.White@gov.bc.ca)>; Puckett, Kate HLTH:EX <[Kate.Puckett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kate.Puckett@gov.bc.ca)>; Bryanton, Sarah HLTH:EX <[Sarah.Bryanton@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Sarah.Bryanton@gov.bc.ca)>; Bringsli, Eric C HLTH:EX <[Eric.Bringli@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Eric.Bringli@gov.bc.ca)>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>; Silver, Liana S HLTH:EX <[Liana.Silver@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Liana.Silver@gov.bc.ca)>; Pavlovic, Jelena HLTH:EX <[Jelena.Pavlovic@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jelena.Pavlovic@gov.bc.ca)>; Hancock, Lynn HLTH:EX <[Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca)>; Hildebrandt, Colleen HLTH:EX <[Colleen.Hildebrandt@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Colleen.Hildebrandt@gov.bc.ca)>; Woodward, Elaine HLTH:EX <[Elaine.Woodward@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Elaine.Woodward@gov.bc.ca)>; Fernando, Leah HLTH:EX <[Leah.Fernando@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Leah.Fernando@gov.bc.ca)>; Younker, Katherine E HLTH:EX <[Katherine.Younker@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Katherine.Younker@gov.bc.ca)>; Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)>; Morrison, Kerry HLTH:EX <[Kerry.Morrison@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kerry.Morrison@gov.bc.ca)>; Murdock, Melissa HLTH:EX <[Melissa.Murdock@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Melissa.Murdock@gov.bc.ca)>; Anderson, Karen HLTH:EX <[Karen.1.Anderson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Karen.1.Anderson@gov.bc.ca)>; Sharma, Anita HLTH:EX <[Anita.Sharma@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Anita.Sharma@gov.bc.ca)>; West, Niya HLTH:EX <[Niya.West@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Niya.West@gov.bc.ca)>; Riddell, Sarah K HLTH:EX <[Sarah.Riddell@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Sarah.Riddell@gov.bc.ca)>; Eagle, Elanna HLTH:EX <[Elanna.Eagle@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Elanna.Eagle@gov.bc.ca)>; Johnston, Rory N HLTH:EX <[Rory.Johnston@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Rory.Johnston@gov.bc.ca)>; Johansen, Nadeen C HLTH:EX <[Nadeen.Johansen@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Nadeen.Johansen@gov.bc.ca)>; Swan, Rebecca HLTH:EX <[Rebecca.Swan@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Rebecca.Swan@gov.bc.ca)>; Clarke, Paul HLTH:EX <[Paul.Clarke@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Paul.Clarke@gov.bc.ca)>; Fiege, Kimber-Lea HLTH:EX <[Kimber.Lea.Fiege@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kimber.Lea.Fiege@gov.bc.ca)>; Perren, Michelle HLTH:EX <[Michelle.Perren@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Michelle.Perren@gov.bc.ca)>; Ronse, Kara L HLTH:EX <[Kara.Ronse@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kara.Ronse@gov.bc.ca)>; Pudwell, Carol HLTH:EX <[Carol.Pudwell@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Carol.Pudwell@gov.bc.ca)>; Turnquist, Woodrow HLTH:EX <[woody.turnquist@gov.bc.ca](mailto:woody.turnquist@gov.bc.ca)>; Hutchison, Fiona HLTH:EX <[Fiona.Hutchison@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Fiona.Hutchison@gov.bc.ca)>; Armitage, Mark W HLTH:EX <[Mark.Armitage@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mark.Armitage@gov.bc.ca)>; Manuel, Vanessa HLTH:EX <[Vanessa.Manuel@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Vanessa.Manuel@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** QP Summary Thursday February 9, 2023

FYI

**Jania Marsh | Executive Coordinator |**  
Assistant Deputy Minister's Office | Health Sector Workforce & Beneficiary Services Division  
Ministry of Health | PO Box 9649 STN PROV GOVT | Victoria, BC | V8W 9P4  
P: 250-952-2402 | C: 778-679-6410 | E: [Jania.Marsh@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jania.Marsh@gov.bc.ca)

Grateful to live, work, and play within the traditional territories of the Lekwungen speaking people – also known as the Esquimalt and Songhees First Nations.



**WARNING - CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE** Government confidentiality and privilege requirements apply to this message and any attachments. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any review, retransmission, conversion to hard copy, copying, circulation or other use is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender immediately, and delete this message and any attachments from both your inbox and deleted items folder. Thank You.

---

**From:** HLTH Health Issues HLTH:EX <[HealthIssues@gov.bc.ca](mailto:HealthIssues@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** February 9, 2023 12:19 PM

**To:** Achampong, Bernard HLTH:EX <[Bernard.Achampong@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Bernard.Achampong@gov.bc.ca)>; Adams, Alix HLTH:EX <[Alix.Adams@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Alix.Adams@gov.bc.ca)>; Anderson, Karen HLTH:EX <[Karen.1.Anderson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Karen.1.Anderson@gov.bc.ca)>; Anderson, Kristy HLTH:EX <[Kristy.Anderson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kristy.Anderson@gov.bc.ca)>; Arscott, Lindsay HLTH:EX <[Lindsay.Arscott@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Lindsay.Arscott@gov.bc.ca)>; Baade, Leah J HLTH:EX <[Leah.Baade@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Leah.Baade@gov.bc.ca)>; Bedford, Sue HLTH:EX <[Sue.Bedford@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Sue.Bedford@gov.bc.ca)>; Benn, Jennifer MMHA:EX <[Jennifer.Benn@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jennifer.Benn@gov.bc.ca)>; Bianco, Catherine HLTH:EX <[Catherine.Bianco@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Catherine.Bianco@gov.bc.ca)>; Biran, Kiran HLTH:EX <[Kiran.Biran@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kiran.Biran@gov.bc.ca)>; Blemings, Roxanne HLTH:EX <[Roxanne.Blemings@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Roxanne.Blemings@gov.bc.ca)>; Bouma, Susan HLTH:EX <[Susan.Bouma@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Susan.Bouma@gov.bc.ca)>; Bragg, Jacquelyn HLTH:EX <[Jacquelyn.Bragg@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jacquelyn.Bragg@gov.bc.ca)>; Bryan, Frances HLTH:EX <[Frances.Bryan@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Frances.Bryan@gov.bc.ca)>; Bryden, Allison HLTH:EX <[Allison.Bryden@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Allison.Bryden@gov.bc.ca)>; Butler, Ally MMHA:EX <[Ally.Butler@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ally.Butler@gov.bc.ca)>; Cairns, Leann HLTH:EX <[Leann.Cairns@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Leann.Cairns@gov.bc.ca)>; Cameron, Mary HLTH:EX <[Mary.Cameron@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mary.Cameron@gov.bc.ca)>; Capelli, John HLTH:EX <[John.Capelli@gov.bc.ca](mailto:John.Capelli@gov.bc.ca)>; Carnegie, Lynn HLTH:EX <[Lynn.Carnegie@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Lynn.Carnegie@gov.bc.ca)>; Casanova, Tamara MMHA:EX <[Tamara.Casanova@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tamara.Casanova@gov.bc.ca)>; Cascaden, Lori R HLTH:EX <[Lori.Cascaden@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Lori.Cascaden@gov.bc.ca)>; Champoux, Ken HLTH:EX <[Ken.Champoux@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ken.Champoux@gov.bc.ca)>; Chandler, Breanna HLTH:EX <[Breanna.Chandler@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Breanna.Chandler@gov.bc.ca)>; Clarke, Diana HLTH:EX <[Diana.Clarke@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Diana.Clarke@gov.bc.ca)>; Clow, Holly MMHA:EX <[Holly.Clow@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Holly.Clow@gov.bc.ca)>; Clucas, Amy HLTH:EX <[Amy.Clucas@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Amy.Clucas@gov.bc.ca)>; Cook, Heather G HLTH:EX <[Heather.G.Cook@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Heather.G.Cook@gov.bc.ca)>; Czapska, Joanna HLTH:EX <[Joanna.Czapska@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Joanna.Czapska@gov.bc.ca)>; Dalzell, Kacey HLTH:EX <[Kacey.Dalzell@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kacey.Dalzell@gov.bc.ca)>; Davison, Carolyn J MMHA:EX <[Carolyn.Davison@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Carolyn.Davison@gov.bc.ca)>; Day, Meghan HLTH:EX <[Meghan.Day@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Meghan.Day@gov.bc.ca)>; Den, Donald HLTH:EX <[Donald.Den@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Donald.Den@gov.bc.ca)>; Diacu, Mariana HLTH:EX <[Mariana.Diacu@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mariana.Diacu@gov.bc.ca)>; Downey, Gayle F HLTH:EX <[Gayle.Downey@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Gayle.Downey@gov.bc.ca)>; Drlik, Taryn HLTH:EX <[Taryn.Drlik@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Taryn.Drlik@gov.bc.ca)>; Dube, Jonathan HLTH:EX <[Jonathan.Dube@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jonathan.Dube@gov.bc.ca)>; Elderfield, Andrew HLTH:EX <[Andrew.Elderfield@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Andrew.Elderfield@gov.bc.ca)>; Essa, Noren A HLTH:EX <[Noren.Essa@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Noren.Essa@gov.bc.ca)>; Estiverne, Bethany MMHA:EX <[Bethany.Estiverne@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Bethany.Estiverne@gov.bc.ca)>; Fauman, Sheila HLTH:EX <[Sheila.Fauman@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Sheila.Fauman@gov.bc.ca)>; Fazlagic, Tijana HLTH:EX <[Tijana.Fazlagic@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tijana.Fazlagic@gov.bc.ca)>; Fisher, Kiersten D HLTH:EX <[Kiersten.Fisher@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kiersten.Fisher@gov.bc.ca)>; Frost, Andrea HLTH:EX <[Andrea.Frost@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Andrea.Frost@gov.bc.ca)>; Fuder, Leah S HLTH:EX <[Leah.Fuder@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Leah.Fuder@gov.bc.ca)>; Galt, Jamie HLTH:EX <[Jamie.Galt@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jamie.Galt@gov.bc.ca)>; Garner, Sarah FIN:EX <[Sarah.Garner@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Sarah.Garner@gov.bc.ca)>; Garnham, Shelley HLTH:EX <[Shelley.Garnham@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Shelley.Garnham@gov.bc.ca)>; GCPE Communications - Health <[CommH@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca](mailto:CommH@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca)>; Gillespie, Jennifer HLTH:EX <[Jennifer.Gillespie@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jennifer.Gillespie@gov.bc.ca)>; Gold, Crystal HLTH:EX <[Crystal.Gold@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Crystal.Gold@gov.bc.ca)>; Gough, Jennifer HLTH:EX <[Jennifer.Gough@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jennifer.Gough@gov.bc.ca)>; Greenaway, Shelley E HLTH:EX <[Shelley.Greenaway@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Shelley.Greenaway@gov.bc.ca)>; Gudaitis, Paul HLTH:EX <[Paul.Gudaitis@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Paul.Gudaitis@gov.bc.ca)>; Gudmunson, Kathryn HLTH:EX <[Kathryn.Gudmunson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kathryn.Gudmunson@gov.bc.ca)>; Guerrero, Thomas HLTH:EX <[Thomas.Guerrero@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Thomas.Guerrero@gov.bc.ca)>; Hall, Shana A HLTH:EX <[Shana.Hall@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Shana.Hall@gov.bc.ca)>; Halston, Leslie

HLTH:EX <[Leslie.Halston@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Leslie.Halston@gov.bc.ca)>; Harper, Therese HLTH:EX <[Therese.Harper@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Therese.Harper@gov.bc.ca)>; Heinze, Laura R HLTH:EX <[Laura.Heinze@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Laura.Heinze@gov.bc.ca)>; Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <[Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca)>; hlth Executive Committee <[hlthhexec@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca](mailto:hlthhexec@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca)>; hlth Key Contacts <[hlthkeycontacts@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca](mailto:hlthkeycontacts@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca)>; Ho, Hilary HLTH:EX <[Hilary.Ho@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Hilary.Ho@gov.bc.ca)>; s.22 <[Dominic.Tan@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Dominic.Tan@gov.bc.ca)>; Holoiday, Leah GCPE:EX <[Leah.Holoiday@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Leah.Holoiday@gov.bc.ca)>; Jayanthan, Janaki HLTH:EX <[Janaki.Jayanthan@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Janaki.Jayanthan@gov.bc.ca)>; Jepsen, Donna HLTH:EX <[Donna.Jepsen@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Donna.Jepsen@gov.bc.ca)>; Johnson, Eugene HLTH:EX <[Eugene.Johnson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Eugene.Johnson@gov.bc.ca)>; Khalaileh, Aygul GCPE:EX <[Aygul.Khalaileh@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Aygul.Khalaileh@gov.bc.ca)>; Kirke, Julie HLTH:EX <[Julie.Kirke@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Julie.Kirke@gov.bc.ca)>; Kolluru, Soumya HLTH:EX <[Soumya.Kolluru@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Soumya.Kolluru@gov.bc.ca)>; Kuo, I Fan HLTH:EX <[IFan.Kuo@gov.bc.ca](mailto:IFan.Kuo@gov.bc.ca)>; Larson, Eric HLTH:EX <[Eric.Larson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Eric.Larson@gov.bc.ca)>; Lo, Clifford HLTH:EX <[Clifford.Lo@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Clifford.Lo@gov.bc.ca)>; Logan, Katherine HLTH:EX <[Katherine.Logan@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Katherine.Logan@gov.bc.ca)>; Lyster, Leesa HLTH:EX <[Leesa.Lyster@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Leesa.Lyster@gov.bc.ca)>; Maharaj, Raj HLTH:EX <[Raj.Maharaj@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Raj.Maharaj@gov.bc.ca)>; Marsh, Jania HLTH:EX <[Jania.Marsh@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jania.Marsh@gov.bc.ca)>; Maxson, Sandra OHCS:EX <[Sandra.Maxson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Sandra.Maxson@gov.bc.ca)>; Mazza, Amie HLTH:EX <[Amie.Mazza@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Amie.Mazza@gov.bc.ca)>; McConnan, Kelly MMHA:EX <[Kelly.McConnan@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kelly.McConnan@gov.bc.ca)>; McLachlan, Debbie HLTH:EX <[Debbie.McLachlan@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Debbie.McLachlan@gov.bc.ca)>; McLay, Jeremy HLTH:EX <[Jeremy.McLay@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jeremy.McLay@gov.bc.ca)>; McMullen, Bethany S C HLTH:EX <[Bethany.McMullen@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Bethany.McMullen@gov.bc.ca)>; McQuillen, Kelly HLTH:EX <[Kelly.McQuillen@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kelly.McQuillen@gov.bc.ca)>; Miramontes, Lara HLTH:EX <[Lara.Miramontes@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Lara.Miramontes@gov.bc.ca)>; MMHA EXECUTIVE <[MMHAEXEC@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca](mailto:MMHAEXEC@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca)>; Neilson, Karen HLTH:EX <[Karen.Neilson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Karen.Neilson@gov.bc.ca)>; North, Naomi HLTH:EX <[Naomi.North@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Naomi.North@gov.bc.ca)>; Ogilvy, Lenore HLTH:EX <[Lenore.Ogilvy@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Lenore.Ogilvy@gov.bc.ca)>; Okwengu, Mariam AG:EX <[Mariam.Okwengu@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mariam.Okwengu@gov.bc.ca)>; Ooms, Shana HLTH:EX <[Shana.Ooms@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Shana.Ooms@gov.bc.ca)>; Pang, Walton HLTH:EX <[Walton.Pang@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Walton.Pang@gov.bc.ca)>; Parte, Maura HLTH:EX <[Maura.Parte@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Maura.Parte@gov.bc.ca)>; Patterson, Catherine M HLTH:EX <[Catherine.Patterson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Catherine.Patterson@gov.bc.ca)>; Perzoff, Lara HLTH:EX <[Lara.Perzoff@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Lara.Perzoff@gov.bc.ca)>; Poilievre, Tricia MMHA:EX <[Tricia.Poilievre@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tricia.Poilievre@gov.bc.ca)>; Pop, Sorin HLTH:EX <[Sorin.Pop@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Sorin.Pop@gov.bc.ca)>; Prpich, Danielle HLTH:EX <[Danielle.Prpich@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Danielle.Prpich@gov.bc.ca)>; Richards, Heather A HLTH:EX <[Heather.Richards@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Heather.Richards@gov.bc.ca)>; Rinta, Darcy HLTH:EX <[Darcy.Rinta@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Darcy.Rinta@gov.bc.ca)>; Robinson, Jonathan M HLTH:EX <[Jonathan.Robinson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jonathan.Robinson@gov.bc.ca)>; Rudden, Carolyn HLTH:EX <[Carolyn.Rudden@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Carolyn.Rudden@gov.bc.ca)>; Russo, Geneen HLTH:EX <[Geneen.Russo@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Geneen.Russo@gov.bc.ca)>; Sagar, Brian HLTH:EX <[Brian.Sagar@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Brian.Sagar@gov.bc.ca)>; Sayani, Fatma HLTH:EX <[Fatma.Sayani@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Fatma.Sayani@gov.bc.ca)>; Sharma, Anita HLTH:EX <[Anita.Sharma@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Anita.Sharma@gov.bc.ca)>; Sharma, Yashna HLTH:EX <[Yashna.Sharma@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Yashna.Sharma@gov.bc.ca)>; Shaver, Julie HLTH:EX <[Julie.Shaver@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Julie.Shaver@gov.bc.ca)>; Shewchuk, Jack VSA:EX <[Jack.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jack.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca)>; Shields, Sara HLTH:EX <[Sara.Shields@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Sara.Shields@gov.bc.ca)>; Shust, Susan D HLTH:EX <[Susan.Shust@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Susan.Shust@gov.bc.ca)>; Sivananthan, Panmoli HLTH:EX <[Panmoli.Sivananthan@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Panmoli.Sivananthan@gov.bc.ca)>; Smith, Leah M EMCR:EX <[Leah.Smith@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Leah.Smith@gov.bc.ca)>; Smith, Stephen HLTH:EX <[Stephen.Smith@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Stephen.Smith@gov.bc.ca)>; Stanker, Cheryl HLTH:EX <[Cheryl.Stanker@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Cheryl.Stanker@gov.bc.ca)>; Sterloff, Trish HLTH:EX <[Trish.Sterloff@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Trish.Sterloff@gov.bc.ca)>; Strachan, Brande L HLBC:EX <[Brande.Strachan@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Brande.Strachan@gov.bc.ca)>; Sundhu, Sandra HLBC:EX <[Sandra.Sundhu@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Sandra.Sundhu@gov.bc.ca)>; Therrien, Darlene HLTH:EX <[Darlene.Therrien@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Darlene.Therrien@gov.bc.ca)>; Thistle-Walker, Carlene CITZ:EX <[Carlene.ThistleWalker@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Carlene.ThistleWalker@gov.bc.ca)>; Thomas, Gerald HLTH:EX <[Gerald.Thomas@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Gerald.Thomas@gov.bc.ca)>; Tiwari, Deepika HLTH:EX <[Deepika.Tiwari@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Deepika.Tiwari@gov.bc.ca)>; Treacher, Noah MCF:EX <[Noah.Treacher@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Noah.Treacher@gov.bc.ca)>; Tupper, Kenneth HLTH:EX <[Kenneth.Tupper@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kenneth.Tupper@gov.bc.ca)>; Uyeno, Kelly HLTH:EX <[Kelly.Uyeno@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kelly.Uyeno@gov.bc.ca)>; van der Leer, Gerrit HLTH:EX <[Gerrit.vanderLeer@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Gerrit.vanderLeer@gov.bc.ca)>; Voggenreiter, Christine HLTH:EX <[Christine.Voggenreiter@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christine.Voggenreiter@gov.bc.ca)>; Warren, Leanne HLTH:EX <[Leanne.Warren@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Leanne.Warren@gov.bc.ca)>; Watt, Rebecca HLTH:EX <[Rebecca.Watt@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Rebecca.Watt@gov.bc.ca)>; Will, Jordan HLTH:EX <[Jordan.Will@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jordan.Will@gov.bc.ca)>;

Williams, Courtney L HLTH:EX <[Courtney.Williams@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Courtney.Williams@gov.bc.ca)>; Wiman, Holly A MMHA:EX <[Holly.Wiman@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Holly.Wiman@gov.bc.ca)>; Wong, Kendra GCPE:EX <[Kendra.Wong@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kendra.Wong@gov.bc.ca)>; Wong, Shirley M HLTH:EX <[Shirley.Wong@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Shirley.Wong@gov.bc.ca)>; Wright, Martin P HLTH:EX <[Martin.P.Wright@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Martin.P.Wright@gov.bc.ca)>; YeungThompson, Rachel HLTH:EX <[Rachel.YeungThompson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Rachel.YeungThompson@gov.bc.ca)>; Youngs, Kirsten R HLTH:EX <[Kirsten.Youngs@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kirsten.Youngs@gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** HLTH Health Issues HLTH:EX <[HealthIssues@gov.bc.ca](mailto:HealthIssues@gov.bc.ca)>; HLTH Health Issues HLTH:EX <[HealthIssues@gov.bc.ca](mailto:HealthIssues@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** QP Summary Thursday February 9, 2023

**QP Summary Thursday February 7:** Health related topics / MMHA related topics

- Surrey South MLA Elenore Sturko spoke about the requirements from the federal government that this government hasn't met including timely access to treatment. The province is supposed to ensure that individuals can access treatment when they need it. Why is the government proceeding with the decriminalization of dangerous drugs without first ensuring timely access to treatments as promised? Premier Eby responded that the toxic drug crisis is top of mind for all members. The goal of these initiatives is to keep people alive so that they are then able to get treatment. When we meet with families who have lost loved ones they wished that person was still with them so they could get treatment and the first step is keeping them alive. It is vital that we have a public network of treatment and that is what we're building and we are following the recommendations of the all-party committee on that. Early intervention is key here and I am encouraged that the opposition is embracing this idea and supports this. We all need to work together on these important issues. Supplemental from MLA Elenore Sturko. The Premier acknowledges that this work is underway and that they didn't have the work completed prior to decriminalization. British Columbians have good reason to be skeptical when it comes to decriminalization. High school students are now accessing addictive hard drugs via vending machines through a process called diversion. The NDP has failed to provide oversight to ensure that addictive drugs don't get diverted to teenagers. How can families ensure their children and youth are safe? Premier Eby responded that everyone came together through the all-party committee and that it is best to put a healthcare worker between kids and predatory drug dealers. These healthcare workers help remove the stigma and have conversations and deal with the addiction, and this helps to keep people alive and have conversations about treatment. We support Foundry Youth Services and have opened 24 of these. We have doubled beds for youth treatment. People can go direct to treatment after leaving the emergency department so that we don't lose people after they've been seen in emergency. There are new treatments and stabilizations beds in Interior Health and we still have more to do but we are working together to support folks struggling with addiction.
- West Vancouver Capilano MLA Karin Kirkpatrick spoke about the federal letter of requirements that says there is an obligation to have beds and treatment available at the same time as decriminalization which we are not seeing. Instead of an awareness campaign the NDP are letting allies do that education. Pivot Legal and a Vancouver area network of drug users are working to discourage people from seeking treatment. To the Premier, why is it that the only information about decriminalization and its harm coming from Pivot Legal instead of

public safety information coming from this government? Minister of Mental Health and Addictions Jennifer Whiteside responded that the supposition in the question is simply wrong. The requirements from the federal government and the application we made in collaboration with providers and public health officials with respect to how we communicate this has been discussed with multiple groups. We are working with youth groups, such as Foundry and groups that work directly with kids. There is a robust curriculum in our K-12 system and those are the primary mechanism were using to communicate with children and youth.

Supplemental from MLA Karin Kirkpatrick .The province has committed to ensure that individuals who desire treatment can access it when needed but what we're hearing is that it's in process when it should be happening at the same time as decriminalization. The letter also calls for comprehensive consultation with communities, but communities are being forced to act on their own. Campbell Rives has passed a bylaw to give enforcement tools to address the use of hard drugs. To the Premier, why are communities being left on their own to manage the impact of open drug use in their parks and public areas? Minister of Mental Health and Addictions Jennifer Whiteside responded that the core planning table that met for years leading up to the exemption included BC Union of Municipalities and we've been working closely with respect to impacts in their communities. I understand that some communities are taking preventative measures to look at what they think may be problems down the road. Our conversations with municipalities have been to pull together to support individuals who need access to care and supports. We are working with 9000 frontline police officers to have training and education as to what decriminalization means and to reduce stigma, which is what we hear is most valuable from loved ones who have lost family members to drugs. We are working with municipalities to be there for problems that arise for them and we will continue to work with them.

- Saanich North and the Islands MLA Adam Olsen asked the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, does the Minister characterize the enforcement of environmental fractions of energy projects in BC? Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy George Heyman responded that there are district and outlined responsibilities for enforcement of regulations and conditions on permits. There are administrative procedures and administrative fairness in each regime. There's an escalating patterns of warning of penalties of orders that precede penalties and they are applied in an escalating process. One supplemental.
- Surrey White Rock MLA Trevor Halford spoke about the delays in our healthcare system. Last October the leader of the Opposition raised a case from White Rock about Farad who faced delay after delay and her cancer was missed. Now she's been undergoing radiation and she know needs a feeding tube. She was told she faced a 4-week delay to get her feeding tube. IF her weight continues to drop she will be forced to stop radiation which is affecting her ability to live. The Health minister has known about this case and it requires immediate action. Will this Minister give Farad and her family a chance and ensure that no other family has to go through something like this? Minister of Health Adrian Dix responded that anyone who is struggling with cancer deserves care and gets care in BC. In this case and others, we all care including all the healthcare workers, so of course I will look into the issue. This reminds us of our continuing need to invest in our healthcare system and provide more supports for people. That is what we will continue to do. When cases are brought to my attention I look into them and these very difficult situations have our compassion and support.

Prince George MLA Shirley Bond said the situation MLA Trevor Halford raised was brought to the Ministers attention months ago. It is unbelievable that the Minister of Health thinks that we can keep bringing these individual cases to his attention. It's a symptom of the problems with our healthcare system. There are reports of toxic work places where doctors and nurses face retaliation for speaking out and healthcare workers are resigning and there are critical staffing levels. There is a proposal on the Minister's desk to get help in Port Hardy Hospital and has support from the Government members. Physician assistants can't currently work here in BC and could start almost immediately. Will the Premier take what is a seemingly immediate step and direct the Health Minister to approve the proposal that will provide desperately needed help? Minister of Health Adrian Dix responded that the government has taken unprecedented action to build out healthcare teams. We have more than doubled the number of nurse practitioners and have built out teams with addiction specialists. Physician assistants have not been approved in past because the previous government repeatedly rejected it. This is a training issue. Their scope of practice has to be regulated and is being looked at by the College but when it comes to be team based care we have made unprecedented progress.

- Kamloops—South Thompson MLA Todd Stone spoke about how doctors should be practicing medicine instead of being muzzled by the NDP. Dr. Nataros can't get a physician assistant and instead has been suspended. He called for the Kamloops – North Thompson MLA Peter Milobar spoke about the toxic work environments in healthcare facilities. The Minister brushes those concerns off. We've heard about how people who are raising issues are threatened with muzzling and suspensions. Why do they feel that this is happening? What happens if you're in the administrative side of government? The former Chief Medical Officer for Interior Health was just convicted of sexual interference and sexual assault and it is disturbing to learn that after he was accused there was no suspension. A vile criminal was simply reassigned to other duties and continued to receive pay. To the Premier, why does the Ministry of Health continue to foster a toxic healthcare workplace by muzzling doctors, nurses and healthcare professionals while protecting the employment of someone convicted of the sexual assault of children? Minister of Health Adrian Dix responded that the opposition have put into question the ethics of one of our senior doctors and to attempt to juxtapose those two issues is disgraceful. Dr de Villiers is rightfully gone as he should be. People do have the right and always have the right to speak up and that is ensured by the legislative action in this chamber. The member is wrong as to the facts and to make such serious allegations when you're wrong speaks of the opposition and not of the government. We expect our public health officials to act with the highest standards and they do and we support people in their efforts to protect public safety, such as Dr Ben Williams.

Farrah Wiltshire  
A/Team Lead, Issues & Risk Management  
Corporate Issues & Client Relations Branch  
Ministry of Health  
778 698 4766  
She/Her

*With respect I acknowledge that I live and work on the traditional territory of the Lekwungen peoples known today as the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations.*

*This email is intended only for the use of the individual or organization to whom it is addressed. It may contain information that is privileged or confidential. Distribution, disclosure, copying, or other use by anyone else is strictly prohibited. If you received this in error, please contact the sender and delete the material from any computer.*

**From:** [Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX](#); [Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX](#)  
**Cc:** [Marsh, Jania HLTH:EX](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Status of Associate Physicians and Physician Assistants  
**Date:** January 25, 2023 12:41:59 PM  
**Attachments:** [Dec 2022 AP Forecast.xlsx](#)

---

Jania, Ryan and Kevin....

Here is what I sent up to the DM yesterday. I haven't heard from him requiring further information.

Just sharing in case this helps with the GCPE request....

Stephanie

s.13; s.17



s.13; s.17

**From:** [Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX](#)  
**To:** [Armitage, Mark W HLTH:EX](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Update re: PA advocacy eApps  
**Date:** February 8, 2023 4:05:58 PM

---

Just fyi on PA advocacy. s.13

. K

---

**From:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** February 8, 2023 3:56 PM  
**To:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Bringsli, Eric C HLTH:EX <Eric.Bringsli@gov.bc.ca>; Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** Update re: PA advocacy eApps

Hi all,

Just an FYI – I have now received 6 eApps in the last couple of days advocating for Physician Assistants:

1. Citizen (Vancouver Island) – 2 incoming emails
2. Member of Parliament for North Island - - Powell River
3. Citizen (Vancouver Island)
4. Mayor of Port Hardy
5. Citizen (Vancouver Island)
6. Emergency Room Physician (South Vancouver Island) – forwarded to the Ministry at the suggestion of Honourable Murray Rankin's constituency office.

I've not yet started drafting responses but wanted to keep you all informed.

Kind regards,

Tanya

## Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX

---

**From:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX  
**Sent:** February 15, 2023 11:01 AM  
**To:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval due 1230 PM

Given timeline, let me know if you think we need to add anything further. s.13  
s.13

---

**From:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 15, 2023 10:56 AM  
**To:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval due 1230 PM

Hello!

Please see the below media request. Inserted in the recommended response section is our stock response which broadly covers the reporter's questions. I was wondering if there are any bullets you could provide regarding specific questions raised by the reporter.

Looking for input by 1230! Thanks and let me know if you have any questions.

### Reporter

Bridgette Watson, Producer  
CBC - Vancouver  
[Bridgette.watson@cbc.ca](mailto:Bridgette.watson@cbc.ca)  
604-662-6102 c: 604-220-5862  
**Deadline** ASAP

### Request

In light of the doctor shortage in B.C., as well as long walk-in clinic wait times and slammed emergency rooms, I am interested in hearing how progress is coming along concerning assessing the option of using physician assistants in B.C.

In December, the ministry said it was assessing the option and I am wondering if you have any updates since then.

1. Why does B.C. not use physician assistants?
2. What concerns does the ministry have about using physician assistants?
3. Has the ministry been in touch with health care leaders in other provinces (Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario and New Brunswick) where physician assistants are employed and what feedback have you heard from those leaders?
4. Nova Scotia and Newfoundland are running pilot projects. Is B.C. considering doing the same? What benchmarks would B.C. set to monitor the success of such a pilot program?
5. If B.C. were to utilize physician assistants, what process would need to take place? Will it require new legislation?

## **Recommendation**

s.13

## **Background**

Approved media response

/cs

## **Calvin Simpson**

Public Affairs Officer, Health Communications  
Government Communications and Public Engagement  
Government of British Columbia | 250-880-5179

## Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX

---

**From:** MacKinnon, Mark HLTH:EX  
**Sent:** January 23, 2023 11:40 AM  
**To:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX  
**Cc:** Younker, Katherine E HLTH:EX  
**Subject:** FW: B.C. nurses and union cry foul after professional college increases annual fees by 15%

Also FYI

### Nataros/Corbett-Labatt - physician assistants

CKNW

Sunday, January 22, 2023, 08:02

By CKNW-2

Copyright

## Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX

---

**From:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX  
**Sent:** January 24, 2023 10:21 AM  
**To:** Eric C HLTH:EX Bringsli (Eric.Bringsli@gov.bc.ca)  
**Subject:** FW: Physician Assistants and Associate Physicians

See below...

---

**From:** Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** January 24, 2023 10:17 AM  
**To:** Hancock, Lynn HLTH:EX <Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Mason, Miranda N HLTH:EX <Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca>; Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX <Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: Physician Assistants and Associate Physicians

Thanks Lynn

Tanya and/or Ryan can one of you come see me if you are in the office today. If you aren't in the office...we need to arrange a phone call please.

Steph

---

**From:** Hancock, Lynn HLTH:EX <Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** January 24, 2023 10:13 AM  
**To:** Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Mason, Miranda N HLTH:EX <Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca>; Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX <Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: Physician Assistants and Associate Physicians

Tanya Lorenz and Ryan Murray are most in the know.

---

**From:** Power, Stephanie A HLTH:EX <Stephanie.Power@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** January 24, 2023 10:12 AM  
**To:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Mason, Miranda N HLTH:EX <Miranda.Mason@gov.bc.ca>; Hancock, Lynn HLTH:EX <Lynn.Hancock@gov.bc.ca>; Howatson, Evan HLTH:EX <Evan.Howatson@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** Physician Assistants and Associate Physicians

Who leads this work??

I got a call from Steve and he has some questions.

Stephanie

Page 236 of 286 to/à Page 239 of 286

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13 ; s.17

**From:** [Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX](#)  
**To:** [Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX](#)  
**Cc:** [Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX](#)  
**Subject:** New pathways overview (draft 1 pager)  
**Date:** February 10, 2023 5:18:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [New Pathways draft overview.docx](#)

---

Hi Ryan,

As requested by Mark A. earlier this week, please see attached draft 1-pager for your review.

It's actually a two pager (but could very easily be made a 1-pager) depending on whether the preference is for a table format or more of a narrative format.

I haven't had a chance to validate this with anyone yet (ie. Chris Bennett) but wanted to sent it along for initial review.

s.13

If different information is preferred (ie. including key implementation updates) I can adjust as needed.

I need to look at it again with fresh eyes next week – so it's quite draft for now

Cc'd Kevin just for a status update re: where this is at.

Hope you had/have a great weekend!

Tanya







# PA compensation - draft jurisdictional review from May 2022

January 27, 2023 11:33 AM

Subject	<b>Re: PA compensation - draft jurisdictional review from May 2022</b>
From	Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX
To	Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX
Cc	Silver, Liana S HLTH:EX
Sent	January 27, 2023 11:31 AM

Perfect! Thx

**From:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>

**Sent:** Friday, January 27, 2023 11:19:44 AM

**To:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>

**Cc:** Silver, Liana S HLTH:EX <Liana.Silver@gov.bc.ca>

**Subject:** PA compensation - draft jurisdictional review from May 2022

Hi Kevin and Ryan,

In case this is helpful for the 1 pm meeting today, below is an overview of funding, payment and employment models from the draft paper I compiled back in May 2022.

s.13





**Tanya Lorenz**, BScN, MSChQ | Senior Policy Analyst, Physician Workforce Development  
Physician Services Branch | Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services Division | Ministry of Health  
PO Box 9649 STN PROV GOVT | Victoria BC V8W 9P4  
E: [Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca) P: 236-478-1298



*I am thankful and privileged to live, work, and play on the traditional territories of the Lekwungen People – also known as the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations.*

This e-mail is intended solely for the person or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged information. Any review, dissemination, copying, printing or other use of this e-mail by persons or entities other than the addressee is prohibited. If you have received this e-mail in error, please contact the sender immediately and delete the material from any computer.

<sup>[1]</sup>Conference Board of Canada (2017). Funding Models for Physician Assistants. [Funding Models for Physician Assistants: Canadian and International Experiences \(capa-acam.ca\)](https://www.capa-acam.ca/funding-models-for-physician-assistants-canadian-and-international-experiences)

<sup>[2]</sup>Canadian Association of Physician Assistants. (2019). Compensation Report. [PA-Compensation-2019.pdf \(capa-acam.ca\)](https://www.capa-acam.ca/PA-Compensation-2019.pdf)

<sup>[3]</sup>Jones, I.W., Ives, R.R., Burrows, K., Jones, A.W., & St. Pierre, N. (2018). A Perspective on the Economic Sustainability of the Physician Assistant Profession in Canada. Journal of Canada's Physician Assistants. <https://ojs.lib.umanitoba.ca/index.php/jcpa/article/view/628/pdf> on April 19

<sup>[4]</sup>Ontario Ministry of Health (2021). Physician Assistant Career Start Program. [Physician Assistant Career Start Program - Physicians - Health Workforce Planning Branch - Health Care Professionals - MOHLTC \(gov.on.ca\)](https://www.healthcareprofessionals.ca/physician-assistant-career-start-program)

<sup>[5]</sup>Alberta Health Services. Physician Assistant Job Posting – May 7, 2022. [Physician Assistant - Alberta Health Services Careers](https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/careers/physician-assistant)

**From:** [Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX](#)  
**To:** [Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX](#); [Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX](#)  
**Subject:** Physician Assistants  
**Date:** February 18, 2023 7:26:55 AM

---

Just cleaning a few things up before taking off, and I forgot coming out of my 1:1 with Mark we talked about PAs. He talked to the Minister, and we are holding on them for now. So the messaging that Tanya/Chris did is perfect going forward. s.13

s.13

s.22

**From:** [Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX](#)  
**To:** [Johansen, Nadeen C HLTH:EX](#); [Bringsli, Eric C HLTH:EX](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Article - PAs  
**Date:** December 22, 2022 1:59:00 PM

---

I will await the incoming correspondence...(in January lol)

---

**From:** Johansen, Nadeen C HLTH:EX <[Nadeen.Johansen@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Nadeen.Johansen@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** December 22, 2022 11:50 AM  
**To:** Bringsli, Eric C HLTH:EX <[Eric.Bringisli@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Eric.Bringisli@gov.bc.ca)>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Article - PAs

Roger that

---

**From:** Bringsli, Eric C HLTH:EX <[Eric.Bringisli@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Eric.Bringisli@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** December 22, 2022 11:40 AM  
**To:** Johansen, Nadeen C HLTH:EX <[Nadeen.Johansen@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Nadeen.Johansen@gov.bc.ca)>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Article - PAs

He writes well, but I think I sense an uptick in our correspondence volume coming.

---

**From:** Johansen, Nadeen C HLTH:EX <[Nadeen.Johansen@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Nadeen.Johansen@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** December 22, 2022 9:58 AM  
**To:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>; Bringsli, Eric C HLTH:EX <[Eric.Bringisli@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Eric.Bringisli@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** Article - PAs

**Doctor says his one Christmas wish this year is for government to hire physician assistants**  
North Island Gazette  
Wednesday, December 21, 2022

By Dr Alex Nataros

Copyright



Page 249 of 286

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Copyright

**From:** [Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services HLTH:EX](#)  
**To:** [Welby, Andrew HLTH:EX](#); [Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX](#)  
**Cc:** [Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX](#); [Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services HLTH:EX](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Extension Request: 1250140 and 1249957  
**Date:** February 21, 2023 11:28:05 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)

---

Hi Andrew,

Thank you for sending interim for 1250140.

Please send interim letter for the log 1249957.

Thank you,

**Junko Takahashi**  
Documents Coordinator  
Assistant Deputy Minister's Office  
Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services Division  
PO Box 9649, STN PROV GOVT, Victoria BC V8W 9P4  
Phone: 778-405-2719 Fax: 250-952-3131

*Grateful to live, work, and play within the traditional territories of the Lekwungen speaking people – also known as the Esquimalt and Songhees First Nations.*



**WARNING - CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE** Government confidentiality and privilege requirements apply to this message and any attachments. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any review, retransmission, conversion to hard copy, copying, circulation or other use is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender immediately, and delete this message and any attachments from both your inbox and deleted items folder. Thank You.

---

**From:** Welby, Andrew HLTH:EX <Andrew.Welby@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 21, 2023 11:18 AM  
**To:** Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services HLTH:EX <HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca>;  
Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX <Mhairi.Robertson-Jones@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: Extension Request: 1250140 and 1249957

Hi Junko,

I sent an interim response for log 1250140 on Friday.

Log 1249957 was a handwritten letter. There is no email address. To confirm, do you want an interim response mailed?

With regards,

Andrew

**Andrew Welby**

Program Assistant

Physician Services Branch | Ministry of Health

1515 Blanshard Street | Victoria, BC | V8W 3C8

778-405-3176

---

**From:** Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services HLTH:EX <[HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca](mailto:HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** Thursday, February 16, 2023 3:44 PM

**To:** Welby, Andrew HLTH:EX <[Andrew.Welby@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Andrew.Welby@gov.bc.ca)>; Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX <[Mhairi.Robertson-Jones@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mhairi.Robertson-Jones@gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services HLTH:EX <[HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca](mailto:HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca)>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** FW: Extension Request: 1250140 and 1249957

Hello,

Extension has been granted to March 2, 2023 for both log 1250140 and 1249957.

Please send interim responses for both and notify ADMO once completed and uploaded to eAp and CLIFF.

Thank you,

**Junko Takahashi**

Documents Coordinator

Assistant Deputy Minister's Office

Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services Division

PO Box 9649, STN PROV GOVT, Victoria BC V8W 9P4

Phone: 778-405-2719 Fax: 250-952-3131

*Grateful to live, work, and play within the traditional territories of the Lekwungen speaking people – also known as the Esquimalt and Songhees First Nations.*



**WARNING - CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE** Government confidentiality and privilege requirements apply to this message and any attachments. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any review, retransmission, conversion to hard copy, copying, circulation or other use is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender immediately, and delete this message and any attachments from both your inbox and deleted items folder. Thank You.

---

**From:** Health, HLTH HLTH:EX <[HLTH.Health@gov.bc.ca](mailto:HLTH.Health@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** Thursday, February 16, 2023 3:38 PM

**To:** Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services HLTH:EX <[HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca](mailto:HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** HLTH Corporate Operations HLTH:EX <[HLTH.Corporate.Operations@gov.bc.ca](mailto:HLTH.Corporate.Operations@gov.bc.ca)>; Health, HLTH HLTH:EX <[HLTH.Health@gov.bc.ca](mailto:HLTH.Health@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: Extension Request: 1250140 and 1249957

Good afternoon,

Both items have been extended to March 2, 2023. Please provide an interim response to both writers.

These assignments have been updated on both CLIFF and eApprovals.

Thank you,

Eimrin

**Eimrin Kaloti** (*he/him*)

Correspondence and Information Systems Analyst  
Corporate Operations Unit | Corporate Issues & Client Relations  
Ministry of Health  
Ph: 778 974-3946  
Email: [Eimrin.Kaloti@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Eimrin.Kaloti@gov.bc.ca)



---

This e-mail is intended solely for the person or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged information. Any review, dissemination, copying, printing or other use of this e-mail by persons or entities other than the addressee is prohibited. If you have received this e-mail in error, please contact the sender immediately and delete the material from any computer.

I acknowledge my presence as a settler upon the unceded lands of the Coast Salish Territories, specifically of the Lekwungen and W\_SÁNEC peoples, as I work towards further decolonizing this relationship.

---

**From:** Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services HLTH:EX <[HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca](mailto:HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** February 14, 2023 10:30 AM

**To:** HLTH Corporate Operations HLTH:EX <[HLTH.Corporate.Operations@gov.bc.ca](mailto:HLTH.Corporate.Operations@gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services HLTH:EX <[HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca](mailto:HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** Extension Request: 1250140 and 1249957

Hello,

We would like to request extension on the following 2 logs.

CLIFF 1250140 /eAp 73960 - Suggesting to allow Physician Assistants to work in BC. Nurse Practitioners are not efficient to address shortage. Also suggesting to tax cosmetic procedures.  
CLIFF 1249957/eAp 74181 - Advocating for the use of Physician Assistants in Port Hardy

Program area needs more time to complete the assignments since *The Ministry's current position on this matter is to be determined. As such, additional time will likely be needed to ensure an*

*appropriate response is provided.*

Thank you,

**Junko Takahashi**  
Documents Coordinator  
Assistant Deputy Minister's Office  
Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services Division  
PO Box 9649, STN PROV GOVT, Victoria BC V8W 9P4  
Phone: 778-405-2719 Fax: 250-952-3131

*Grateful to live, work, and play within the traditional territories of the Lekwungen speaking people – also known as the Esquimalt and Songhees First Nations.*



**WARNING - CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE** Government confidentiality and privilege requirements apply to this message and any attachments. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any review, retransmission, conversion to hard copy, copying, circulation or other use is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender immediately, and delete this message and any attachments from both your inbox and deleted items folder. Thank You.

---

**From:** Welby, Andrew HLTH:EX <[Andrew.Welby@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Andrew.Welby@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2023 4:34 PM  
**To:** Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX <[Mhairi.Robertson-Jones@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mhairi.Robertson-Jones@gov.bc.ca)>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>; Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services HLTH:EX <[HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca](mailto:HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: eApp extension request

Hi HSWBS Team,

May there please be an extension for CLIFFs 1250140 and 1249957 as per Tanya:

*The Ministry's current position on this matter is to be determined. As such, additional time will likely be needed to ensure an appropriate response is provided.*

With regards,

Andrew

**Andrew Welby**  
Program Assistant  
Physician Services Branch | Ministry of Health  
1515 Blanshard Street | Victoria, BC | V8W 3C8  
778-405-3176

---

**From:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2023 12:10 PM  
**To:** Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX <[Mhairi.Robertson-Jones@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mhairi.Robertson-Jones@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** eApp extension request

Hi Mhairi –

Wondering if you could request an extension for Cliff #s: 1250140 and #1249957.

s.13

Thanks!

Tanya

**Tanya Lorenz**, BScN, MSchQ | Senior Policy Analyst, Physician Workforce Development  
Physician Services Branch | Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services Division | Ministry of Health  
PO Box 9649 STN PROV GOVT | Victoria BC V8W 9P4  
E: [Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca) P: 236-478-1298



*I am thankful and privileged to live, work, and play on the traditional territories of the Lekwungen People – also known as the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations.*

---

This e-mail is intended solely for the person or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged information. Any review, dissemination, copying, printing or other use of this e-mail by persons or entities other than the addressee is prohibited. If you have received this e-mail in error, please contact the sender immediately and delete the material from any computer.

**From:** [Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services HLTH:EX](#)  
**To:** [Welby, Andrew HLTH:EX](#); [Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX](#)  
**Cc:** [Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX](#); [Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services HLTH:EX](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Extension Request: 1250140 and 1249957  
**Date:** February 21, 2023 11:28:05 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)

---

Hi Andrew,

Thank you for sending interim for 1250140.

Please send interim letter for the log 1249957.

Thank you,

**Junko Takahashi**  
Documents Coordinator  
Assistant Deputy Minister's Office  
Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services Division  
PO Box 9649, STN PROV GOVT, Victoria BC V8W 9P4  
Phone: 778-405-2719 Fax: 250-952-3131

*Grateful to live, work, and play within the traditional territories of the Lekwungen speaking people – also known as the Esquimalt and Songhees First Nations.*



**WARNING - CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE** Government confidentiality and privilege requirements apply to this message and any attachments. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any review, retransmission, conversion to hard copy, copying, circulation or other use is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender immediately, and delete this message and any attachments from both your inbox and deleted items folder. Thank You.

---

**From:** Welby, Andrew HLTH:EX <Andrew.Welby@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 21, 2023 11:18 AM  
**To:** Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services HLTH:EX <HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca>;  
Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX <Mhairi.Robertson-Jones@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: Extension Request: 1250140 and 1249957

Hi Junko,

I sent an interim response for log 1250140 on Friday.

Log 1249957 was a handwritten letter. There is no email address. To confirm, do you want an interim response mailed?

With regards,

Andrew

**Andrew Welby**

Program Assistant

Physician Services Branch | Ministry of Health

1515 Blanshard Street | Victoria, BC | V8W 3C8

778-405-3176

---

**From:** Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services HLTH:EX <[HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca](mailto:HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** Thursday, February 16, 2023 3:44 PM

**To:** Welby, Andrew HLTH:EX <[Andrew.Welby@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Andrew.Welby@gov.bc.ca)>; Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX <[Mhairi.Robertson-Jones@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mhairi.Robertson-Jones@gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services HLTH:EX <[HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca](mailto:HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca)>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** FW: Extension Request: 1250140 and 1249957

Hello,

Extension has been granted to March 2, 2023 for both log 1250140 and 1249957.

Please send interim responses for both and notify ADMO once completed and uploaded to eAp and CLIFF.

Thank you,

**Junko Takahashi**

Documents Coordinator

Assistant Deputy Minister's Office

Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services Division

PO Box 9649, STN PROV GOVT, Victoria BC V8W 9P4

Phone: 778-405-2719 Fax: 250-952-3131

*Grateful to live, work, and play within the traditional territories of the Lekwungen speaking people – also known as the Esquimalt and Songhees First Nations.*



**WARNING - CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE** Government confidentiality and privilege requirements apply to this message and any attachments. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any review, retransmission, conversion to hard copy, copying, circulation or other use is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender immediately, and delete this message and any attachments from both your inbox and deleted items folder. Thank You.

---

**From:** Health, HLTH HLTH:EX <[HLTH.Health@gov.bc.ca](mailto:HLTH.Health@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** Thursday, February 16, 2023 3:38 PM

**To:** Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services HLTH:EX <[HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca](mailto:HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca)>



**Cc:** HLTH Corporate Operations HLTH:EX <[HLTH.Corporate.Operations@gov.bc.ca](mailto:HLTH.Corporate.Operations@gov.bc.ca)>; Health, HLTH HLTH:EX <[HLTH.Health@gov.bc.ca](mailto:HLTH.Health@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: Extension Request: 1250140 and 1249957

Good afternoon,

Both items have been extended to March 2, 2023. Please provide an interim response to both writers.

These assignments have been updated on both CLIFF and eApprovals.

Thank you,

Eimrin

**Eimrin Kaloti** (*he/him*)

Correspondence and Information Systems Analyst  
Corporate Operations Unit | Corporate Issues & Client Relations  
Ministry of Health  
Ph: 778 974-3946  
Email: [Eimrin.Kaloti@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Eimrin.Kaloti@gov.bc.ca)



---

This e-mail is intended solely for the person or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged information. Any review, dissemination, copying, printing or other use of this e-mail by persons or entities other than the addressee is prohibited. If you have received this e-mail in error, please contact the sender immediately and delete the material from any computer.

I acknowledge my presence as a settler upon the unceded lands of the Coast Salish Territories, specifically of the Lekwungen and W\_SÁNEC peoples, as I work towards further decolonizing this relationship.

---

**From:** Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services HLTH:EX <[HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca](mailto:HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** February 14, 2023 10:30 AM

**To:** HLTH Corporate Operations HLTH:EX <[HLTH.Corporate.Operations@gov.bc.ca](mailto:HLTH.Corporate.Operations@gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services HLTH:EX <[HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca](mailto:HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** Extension Request: 1250140 and 1249957

Hello,

We would like to request extension on the following 2 logs.

CLIFF 1250140 /eAp 73960 - Suggesting to allow Physician Assistants to work in BC. Nurse Practitioners are not efficient to address shortage. Also suggesting to tax cosmetic procedures.  
CLIFF 1249957/eAp 74181 - Advocating for the use of Physician Assistants in Port Hardy

Program area needs more time to complete the assignments since *The Ministry's current position on this matter is to be determined. As such, additional time will likely be needed to ensure an*

*appropriate response is provided.*

Thank you,

**Junko Takahashi**  
Documents Coordinator  
Assistant Deputy Minister's Office  
Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services Division  
PO Box 9649, STN PROV GOVT, Victoria BC V8W 9P4  
Phone: 778-405-2719 Fax: 250-952-3131

*Grateful to live, work, and play within the traditional territories of the Lekwungen speaking people – also known as the Esquimalt and Songhees First Nations.*



**WARNING - CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE** Government confidentiality and privilege requirements apply to this message and any attachments. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any review, retransmission, conversion to hard copy, copying, circulation or other use is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender immediately, and delete this message and any attachments from both your inbox and deleted items folder. Thank You.

---

**From:** Welby, Andrew HLTH:EX <[Andrew.Welby@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Andrew.Welby@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2023 4:34 PM  
**To:** Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX <[Mhairi.Robertson-Jones@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mhairi.Robertson-Jones@gov.bc.ca)>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>; Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services HLTH:EX <[HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca](mailto:HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: eApp extension request

Hi HSWBS Team,

May there please be an extension for CLIFFs 1250140 and 1249957 as per Tanya:

s.13

With regards,

Andrew

**Andrew Welby**  
Program Assistant  
Physician Services Branch | Ministry of Health  
1515 Blanshard Street | Victoria, BC | V8W 3C8  
778-405-3176

---

**From:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2023 12:10 PM  
**To:** Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX <[Mhairi.Robertson-Jones@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mhairi.Robertson-Jones@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** eApp extension request

Hi Mhairi –

Wondering if you could request an extension for Cliff #s: 1250140 and #1249957.

s.13

Thanks!

Tanya

**Tanya Lorenz**, BScN, MSchQ | Senior Policy Analyst, Physician Workforce Development  
Physician Services Branch | Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services Division | Ministry of Health  
PO Box 9649 STN PROV GOVT | Victoria BC V8W 9P4  
E: [Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca) P: 236-478-1298



*I am thankful and privileged to live, work, and play on the traditional territories of the Lekwungen People – also known as the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations.*

---

This e-mail is intended solely for the person or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged information. Any review, dissemination, copying, printing or other use of this e-mail by persons or entities other than the addressee is prohibited. If you have received this e-mail in error, please contact the sender immediately and delete the material from any computer.

**From:** Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX  
**To:** Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services HLTH:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Link for the article - FW: ALERT - eApprovals Item ID: 72796 - Item Created - Due 2023-02-02  
**Date:** January 13, 2023 10:52:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)

---

Thanks Junko!

I will pass it along.

Best,

**Mhairi Robertson-Jones | Branch Administrator |**

Physician Services Branch | Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services Division  
Ministry of Health | PO Box 9649 STN PROV GOVT | Victoria, BC | V8W 9P4  
P: 778-445-4902 | E: [mhairi.robertson-jones@gov.bc.ca](mailto:mhairi.robertson-jones@gov.bc.ca)



**WARNING - CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE** Government confidentiality and privilege requirements apply to this message and any attachments. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any review, retransmission, conversion to hard copy, copying, circulation or other use is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender immediately, and delete this message and any attachments from both your inbox and deleted items folder. Thank You.

This e-mail is intended solely for the person or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged information. Any review, dissemination, copying, printing or other use of this e-mail by persons or entities other than the addressee is prohibited. If you have received this e-mail in error, please contact the sender immediately and delete the material from any computer.

---

**From:** Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services HLTH:EX <HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** January 13, 2023 10:50 AM  
**To:** Robertson-Jones, Mhairi HLTH:EX <Mhairi.Robertson-Jones@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services HLTH:EX <HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** Link for the article - FW: ALERT - eApprovals Item ID: 72796 - Item Created - Due 2023-02-02

Hi Mhairi,

Here is the link to the article I found I believe the writer refers in the incoming on this log.  
You might want to send to the drafter for information.

[Physician assistants improve health care in provinces that recognize them; B.C. doesn't - Comox Valley Record](#)

Thank you,

Junko Takahashi  
Documents Coordinator  
Assistant Deputy Minister's Office  
Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services Division  
PO Box 9649, STN PROV GOVT, Victoria BC V8W 9P4  
Phone: 778-405-2719 Fax: 250-952-3131

*Grateful to live, work, and play within the traditional territories of the Lekwungen speaking people – also known as the Esquimalt and Songhees First Nations.*



**WARNING - CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE** Government confidentiality and privilege requirements apply to this message and any attachments. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any review, retransmission, conversion to hard copy, copying, circulation or other use is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender immediately, and delete this message and any attachments from both your inbox and deleted items folder. Thank You.

---

**From:** HLTH eApprovals <[donotreply@sp.gov.bc.ca](mailto:donotreply@sp.gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** January 13, 2023 10:20 AM  
**To:** Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services HLTH:EX <[HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca](mailto:HLTH.HSWBS@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** ALERT - eApprovals Item ID: 72796 - Item Created - Due 2023-02-02

Dewhurst, Andrew HLTH:EX has created a new eApprovals item and assigned it to HSWBS Generic

**Comment: Please assign for response**

#: 1248665

Title: Why are trained medical assistants travelling out of province to work?

Full Name: s.22

Due Date: 2/2/2023

Category: Correspondence - Letter

[Go to item...](#)

**From:** [Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX](#)  
**To:** [Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX](#); [Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX](#); [Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval FOLLOW UP due 1230 PM Feb 16  
**Date:** February 16, 2023 11:26:35 AM

---

Thanks all! Appreciate the collaboration. K

---

**From:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 16, 2023 11:19 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval FOLLOW UP due 1230 PM Feb 16

FYI - I just had a chat with Calvin to discuss and provide additional background. He's going to take the info below and discussed and craft into a couple of bullets for our review.

Tanya

---

**From:** Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 16, 2023 10:47 AM  
**To:** Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>; Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval FOLLOW UP due 1230 PM Feb 16

Hi Calvin,

There are lot of nuances to the question, but here are some of the general differences.

Further to Ryan's comment Associate Physicians have medical degrees (from outside Canada), though have not met all of the qualifications required to become full physician registrants in BC (examinations, residency, etc.). The scope of practice for each of them would vary depending on the parameters of the sponsorship letter that they have with the Health Authority and their competency/previous experience. There is no one scope of practice for all associate physicians. As is outlined in the College of Physicians bylaws they may work in acute settings and community primary care settings, but scope of practice would vary depend the sponsorship letter and established supervision requirements.

Physician assistants do not have a medical degree (much more limited training), but take a typically take a 2 year program (three in Canada, more the US) in addition to some undergrad training that allows them to work as physicians assistants/extenders. The services they provide are delegated from and under the direction of the attending physician (i.e. they are physician extenders), they are

not independent practitioners.

Hope this is helpful.

Tanya/Ryan feel free to jump in if you have any other understandings.

Thanks,

Chris

## Chris Bennett

Director, Regulatory Initiatives  
Professional Regulation and Oversight  
Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services Division  
Ministry of Health  
[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)  
Office: 250.952.1991  
Cell: 778.584.5931

---

**From:** Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 16, 2023 10:23 AM  
**To:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>; Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval FOLLOW UP due 1230 PM Feb 16

Sorry, I'm in an all day meeting today so can't add much here.

s.13

Ryan

---

**From:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** February 16, 2023 10:14 AM  
**To:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>; Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval FOLLOW UP due 1230 PM Feb 16

**Importance:** High

Hi Tanya and Christopher,

Apologies for not replying yesterday. We met the deadline and the quick turnaround was very much appreciated. The reporter came back with a follow-up and I was wondering if you could provide additional bullets in response to her questions highlighted below. I think the follow-up serves as a good opportunity to flush out some messaging for future requests. We have heard a lot along the lines of "Well if PAs and Aps do the same thing, why don't we just let them work."

If you are able to provide bullets by 12PM, I would be very appreciative.

**Reporter**

Bridgette Watson, Producer  
CBC - Vancouver  
[Bridgette.watson@cbc.ca](mailto:Bridgette.watson@cbc.ca)  
604-662-6102 c: 604-220-5862

**Deadline ASAP**

**Request**

Thank you Calvin for this rapid response.

For clarity, can the Ministry tell me what a physician assistant can do that an associate physician cannot?

You say they "work to a similar scope" and I am wondering if you can specify what the differences are?

Many thanks,

**Recommendation For Program Input**

**Background**

This is a follow-up to a media request from February 15, 2023.

*REQUEST:*

In light of the doctor shortage in B.C., as well as long walk-in clinic wait times and slammed emergency rooms, I am interested in hearing how progress is coming along with regards to assessing the option of using physician assistants in B.C.

In December, the ministry said it was assessing the option and I am wondering if you have any



updates since then.

Any answers you can provide to the following questions would be greatly appreciated.

1. Why does B.C. not use physician assistants?
2. What concerns does the ministry have about using physician assistants?
3. Has the ministry been in touch with health care leaders in other provinces (Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario and New Brunswick) where physician assistants are employed and what feedback have you heard from those leaders?
4. Nova Scotia and Newfoundland are running pilot projects. Is B.C. considering doing the same? What benchmarks would B.C. set to monitor the success of such a pilot program?
5. If B.C. were to utilize physician assistants, what process would need to take place? Will it require new legislation?

*RESPONSE:*

s.13

---

**From:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** February 15, 2023 11:46 AM

**To:** Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX

<[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval due 1230 PM

Thanks Chris!

Calvin –<sup>s.13</sup>

s.13

Kind regards,

Tanya

---

**From:** Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, February 15, 2023 11:32 AM

**To:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval due 1230 PM

Thanks Tanya.

A few comments listed below in red<sup>s.13</sup>

s.13

Cheers,

Chris

**Recommendation**

s.13

---

**From:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 15, 2023 11:14 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval due 1230 PM

Hi Chris,

As discussed, please see media request below re: PAs. Do you have any updates or changes to the standard messaging provided by Calvin below?

Kind regards,

Tanya

---

**From:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 15, 2023 10:56 AM  
**To:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval due 1230 PM

Hello!

Please see the below media request. Inserted in the recommended response section is our stock

response which broadly covers the reporter's questions. I was wondering if there are any bullets you could provide regarding specific questions raised by the reporter.

Looking for input by 1230! Thanks and let me know if you have any questions.

### **Reporter**

Bridgette Watson, Producer

CBC - Vancouver

[Bridgette.watson@cbc.ca](mailto:Bridgette.watson@cbc.ca)

604-662-6102 c: 604-220-5862

**Deadline** ASAP

### **Request**

In light of the doctor shortage in B.C., as well as long walk-in clinic wait times and slammed emergency rooms, I am interested in hearing how progress is coming along concerning assessing the option of using physician assistants in B.C.

In December, the ministry said it was assessing the option and I am wondering if you have any updates since then.

1. Why does B.C. not use physician assistants?
2. What concerns does the ministry have about using physician assistants?
3. Has the ministry been in touch with health care leaders in other provinces (Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario and New Brunswick) where physician assistants are employed and what feedback have you heard from those leaders?
4. Nova Scotia and Newfoundland are running pilot projects. Is B.C. considering doing the same? What benchmarks would B.C. set to monitor the success of such a pilot program?
5. If B.C. were to utilize physician assistants, what process would need to take place? Will it require new legislation?

### **Recommendation**

s.13

**Background**

Approved media response  
/cs

**Calvin Simpson**

Public Affairs Officer, Health Communications  
Government Communications and Public Engagement  
Government of British Columbia | 250-880-5179

**From:** [Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX](#)  
**To:** [Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX](#); [Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX](#); [Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX](#)  
**Cc:** [Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval FOLLOW UP due 1230 PM Feb 16  
**Date:** February 16, 2023 12:48:01 PM

---

Fantastic, thanks for all the help team.

---

**From:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** February 16, 2023 12:19 PM  
**To:** Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca>; Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval FOLLOW UP due 1230 PM Feb 16

Thanks Calvin and Chris!

I've made a few minor suggestions in purple below.

It appears that all of the PA training programs in Canada are currently 24 months (in addition to some additional undergraduate training prior to entry): Source: [https://capa-acam.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/CAPA-Information-Brief-on-Physician-Assistants\\_December-2022.pdf](https://capa-acam.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/CAPA-Information-Brief-on-Physician-Assistants_December-2022.pdf).

Thanks!

Tanya

-

Associate Physicians

- Associate Physicians have medical degrees from international ~~foreign~~ institutions, some residency training in their specialty area, and previous practice experience but ~~that~~ have not met all of the qualifications to become licensed physicians in Canada.
- The scope of practice is based on individual competencies and previous career experience of the ~~foreign~~ internationally trained physician. Health Authorities review potential associate physician competencies and then outline their scope of practice in a sponsorship letter.
- As is outlined in the College of Physicians bylaws they may work in acute settings and community primary care settings, but scope of practice would vary depend the sponsorship letter and established supervision requirements.
- This means a potential wide range in the scope of practice in the associate physician class.
- Previously, ~~foreign~~ internationally trained physicians could not contribute to the health-care system using their medical training/experience unless they gained a residency position or, for eligible family physicians, completion of the Practice Ready Assessment program. Now, foreign trained physicians can have a meaningful career and help meet B.C.s health care human resource needs in a career as an associate physician whether or not they decide to pursue full licensure.

- This is another way B.C. is helping leverage our large supply of ~~foreign~~ internationally trained doctors with varying and unique individual skill-sets.

#### Physician assistants

- Physician assistants do not have a medical degree (MD) or additional residency training.
- They typically take a 2 ~~to~~ 3 year program in addition to some undergrad training that allows them to work as physicians assistants/extenders.
- B.C. currently does not have any programs at post-secondary institutions to train this classification of health-care provider.

---

**From:** Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** Thursday, February 16, 2023 11:59 AM

**To:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval FOLLOW UP due 1230 PM Feb 16

Hi Calvin,

Looks good from my perspective, a couple minor proposed changes noted below in red.

Thanks,

Chris

---

**From:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** Thursday, February 16, 2023 11:41 AM

**To:** Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval FOLLOW UP due 1230 PM Feb 16

Hi team,

How is this:

#### Associate Physicians

- Associate Physicians have medical degrees from foreign institutions and previous practice

experience but ~~that~~ have not met all of the qualifications to become licensed physicians in Canada.

- The scope of practice is based on individual competencies and previous career experience of the foreign trained physician. Health Authorities review potential associate physician competencies and then outline their scope of practice in a sponsorship letter.
- As is outlined in the College of Physicians bylaws they may work in acute settings and community primary care settings, but scope of practice would vary depend the sponsorship letter and established supervision requirements.
- This means a potential wide range in the scope of practice in the associate physician class.
- Previously, foreign trained physicians could not contribute to the health-care system using their medical training/experience unless they gained a residency position or licensure through the Practice Ready Assessment program. Now, foreign trained physicians can have a meaningful career and help meet B.C.s health care human resource needs in a career as an associate physician whether or not they decide to pursue full licensure.
- This is another way B.C. is helping leverage our large supply of foreign trained doctors with varying and unique individual skill-sets

#### Physician assistants

- Physician assistants do not have a medical degree (MD).
- They typically take a 2 to 3 year program in addition to some undergrad training that allows them to work as physicians assistants/extenders.
- B.C. currently does not have any programs at post-secondary institutions to train this classification of health-care provider.

---

**From:** Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** February 16, 2023 10:47 AM

**To:** Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>; Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval FOLLOW UP due 1230 PM Feb 16

Hi Calvin,

There are lot of nuances to the question, but here are some of the general differences.

Further to Ryan's comment Associate Physicians have medical degrees (from outside Canada), though have not met all of the qualifications required to become full physician registrants in BC (examinations, residency, etc.). The scope of practice for each of them would vary depending on the parameters of the sponsorship letter that they have with the Health Authority and their competency/previous experience. There is no one scope of practice for all associate physicians. As is outlined in the College of Physicians bylaws they may work in acute settings and community primary care settings, but scope of practice would vary depend the sponsorship letter and established



supervision requirements.

Physician assistants do not have a medical degree (much more limited training), but take a typically take a 2 year program (three in Canada, more the US) in addition to some undergrad training that allows them to work as physicians assistants/extenders. The services they provide are delegated from and under the direction of the attending physician (i.e. they are physician extenders), they are not independent practitioners.

Hope this is helpful.

Tanya/Ryan feel free to jump in if you have any other understandings.

Thanks,

Chris

## Chris Bennett

Director, Regulatory Initiatives  
Professional Regulation and Oversight  
Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services Division  
Ministry of Health  
[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)  
Office: 250.952.1991  
Cell: 778.584.5931

---

**From:** Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 16, 2023 10:23 AM  
**To:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>; Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval FOLLOW UP due 1230 PM Feb 16

Sorry, I'm in an all day meeting today so can't add much here.

s.13

Ryan

---

**From:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** February 16, 2023 10:14 AM

**To:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>; Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval FOLLOW UP due 1230 PM Feb 16

**Importance:** High

Hi Tanya and Christopher,

Apologies for not replying yesterday. We met the deadline and the quick turnaround was very much appreciated. The reporter came back with a follow-up and I was wondering if you could provide additional bullets in response to her questions highlighted below. I think the follow-up serves as a good opportunity to flush out some messaging for future requests. We have heard a lot along the lines of "Well if PAs and Aps do the same thing, why don't we just let them work."

If you are able to provide bullets by 12PM, I would be very appreciative.

**Reporter**

Bridgette Watson, Producer

CBC - Vancouver

[Bridgette.watson@cbc.ca](mailto:Bridgette.watson@cbc.ca)

604-662-6102 c: 604-220-5862

**Deadline ASAP**

**Request**

Thank you Calvin for this rapid response.

For clarity, can the Ministry tell me what a physician assistant can do that an associate physician cannot?

You say they "work to a similar scope" and I am wondering if you can specify what the differences are?

Many thanks,

**Recommendation For Program Input**

**Background**

This is a follow-up to a media request from February 15, 2023.

*REQUEST:*

In light of the doctor shortage in B.C., as well as long walk-in clinic wait times and slammed emergency rooms, I am interested in hearing how progress is coming along with regards to assessing the option of using physician assistants in B.C.

In December, the ministry said it was assessing the option and I am wondering if you have any updates since then.

Any answers you can provide to the following questions would be greatly appreciated.

1. Why does B.C. not use physician assistants?
2. What concerns does the ministry have about using physician assistants?
3. Has the ministry been in touch with health care leaders in other provinces (Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario and New Brunswick) where physician assistants are employed and what feedback have you heard from those leaders?
4. Nova Scotia and Newfoundland are running pilot projects. Is B.C. considering doing the same? What benchmarks would B.C. set to monitor the success of such a pilot program?
5. If B.C. were to utilize physician assistants, what process would need to take place? Will it require new legislation?

*RESPONSE:*

Provided Statement

Statement attributable to a spokesperson for the Ministry of Health

"The Ministry recognizes the contributions Physician Assistants can make to health-care delivery as physician extenders. We continue to monitor their implementation in other provinces and are actively exploring their potential practice in in British Columbia.

"With that said, enabling practice of new group of healthcare practitioners requires careful consideration, management and significant resources to properly understand and address the team function issues that may emerge.

"Recently, we announced the implementation of "Associate Physicians" to help meet urgent and emergent patient care needs. Associate physicians work to a similar scope of practice as physician assistants.

"The new Associate Physician classification introduced through work with College of Physicians and Surgeons of B.C., supports international medical graduates who are not otherwise eligible for licensure as independent medical practitioners to work under physician direction and supervision to increase health system capacity and service delivery.

"In addition, the Ministry of Health has introduced details of a new payment model and a newly ratified physician master agreement.

"We are committed to optimizing the scope of practice of health care professionals to enable efficient and effective use of resources – and to ensure physicians are receiving the support they need. This is reflected in the recently published BC Health Human Resources Strategy, which identifies a wide range of strategies and objectives."

---

**From:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** February 15, 2023 11:46 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval due 1230 PM

Thanks Chris!

Calvin <sup>s.13</sup>  
s.13

Kind regards,

Tanya

---

**From:** Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 15, 2023 11:32 AM  
**To:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval due 1230 PM

Thanks Tanya.

A few comments listed below in red.<sup>s.13</sup>  
s.13

Cheers,

Chris

**Recommendation**

s.13

---

**From:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 15, 2023 11:14 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval due 1230 PM

Hi Chris,

As discussed, please see media request below re: PAs. Do you have any updates or changes to the standard messaging provided by Calvin below?

Kind regards,

Tanya

---

**From:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 15, 2023 10:56 AM  
**To:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX

<Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca>

**Subject:** Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval due 1230 PM

Hello!

Please see the below media request. Inserted in the recommended response section is our stock response which broadly covers the reporter's questions. I was wondering if there are any bullets you could provide regarding specific questions raised by the reporter.

Looking for input by 1230! Thanks and let me know if you have any questions.

### **Reporter**

Bridgette Watson, Producer

CBC - Vancouver

[Bridgette.watson@cbc.ca](mailto:Bridgette.watson@cbc.ca)

604-662-6102 c: 604-220-5862

**Deadline** ASAP

### **Request**

In light of the doctor shortage in B.C., as well as long walk-in clinic wait times and slammed emergency rooms, I am interested in hearing how progress is coming along concerning assessing the option of using physician assistants in B.C.

In December, the ministry said it was assessing the option and I am wondering if you have any updates since then.

1. Why does B.C. not use physician assistants?
2. What concerns does the ministry have about using physician assistants?
3. Has the ministry been in touch with health care leaders in other provinces (Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario and New Brunswick) where physician assistants are employed and what feedback have you heard from those leaders?
4. Nova Scotia and Newfoundland are running pilot projects. Is B.C. considering doing the same? What benchmarks would B.C. set to monitor the success of such a pilot program?
5. If B.C. were to utilize physician assistants, what process would need to take place? Will it require new legislation?

### **Recommendation**

*Statement attributable to a spokesperson for the Ministry of Health*

"The Ministry recognizes the contributions Physician Assistants can make to health-care delivery as

**Background**

Approved media response  
/cs

**Calvin Simpson**

Public Affairs Officer, Health Communications  
Government Communications and Public Engagement  
Government of British Columbia | 250-880-5179

**From:** [Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX](#)  
**To:** [Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX](#); [Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX](#); [Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX](#)  
**Cc:** [Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval FOLLOW UP due 1230 PM Feb 16  
**Date:** February 16, 2023 10:45:17 AM

---

No problem. Do you think we could do 1:45 PM?

---

**From:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** February 16, 2023 10:39 AM  
**To:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>; Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval FOLLOW UP due 1230 PM Feb 16

Hi Calvin –

Thanks for your message - we'll have get back to you with some further thoughts/messaging on that. There are similarities between PAs/APs but some key differences. I think that PSB (Tanya) and Pro Reg (Chris) will need to first connect to ensure we're aligned on messaging as well.

Any flexibility around the 12 pm deadline?

Kind regards,

Tanya

---

**From:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 16, 2023 10:25 AM  
**To:** Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>; Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval FOLLOW UP due 1230 PM Feb 16

Christopher, Tanya—able to expand on the highlighted below?

---

**From:** Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** February 16, 2023 10:23 AM  
**To:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>; Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval FOLLOW UP due 1230 PM Feb 16



Sorry, I'm in an all day meeting today so can't add much here.

s.13

Ryan

---

**From:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** February 16, 2023 10:14 AM

**To:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>; Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval FOLLOW UP due 1230 PM Feb 16

**Importance:** High

Hi Tanya and Christopher,

Apologies for not replying yesterday. We met the deadline and the quick turnaround was very much appreciated. The reporter came back with a follow-up and I was wondering if you could provide additional bullets in response to her questions highlighted below. I think the follow-up serves as a good opportunity to flush out some messaging for future requests. We have heard a lot along the lines of "Well if PAs and Aps do the same thing, why don't we just let them work."

If you are able to provide bullets by 12PM, I would be very appreciative.

**Reporter**

Bridgette Watson, Producer

CBC - Vancouver

[Bridgette.watson@cbc.ca](mailto:Bridgette.watson@cbc.ca)

604-662-6102 c: 604-220-5862

**Deadline** ASAP

**Request**

Thank you Calvin for this rapid response.

For clarity, can the Ministry tell me what a physician assistant can do that an associate physician cannot?

You say they "work to a similar scope" and I am wondering if you can specify what the differences are?

Many thanks,

## **Recommendation For Program Input**

### **Background**

This is a follow-up to a media request from February 15, 2023.

#### *REQUEST:*

In light of the doctor shortage in B.C., as well as long walk-in clinic wait times and slammed emergency rooms, I am interested in hearing how progress is coming along with regards to assessing the option of using physician assistants in B.C.

In December, the ministry said it was assessing the option and I am wondering if you have any updates since then.

Any answers you can provide to the following questions would be greatly appreciated.

1. Why does B.C. not use physician assistants?
2. What concerns does the ministry have about using physician assistants?
3. Has the ministry been in touch with health care leaders in other provinces (Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario and New Brunswick) where physician assistants are employed and what feedback have you heard from those leaders?
4. Nova Scotia and Newfoundland are running pilot projects. Is B.C. considering doing the same? What benchmarks would B.C. set to monitor the success of such a pilot program?
5. If B.C. were to utilize physician assistants, what process would need to take place? Will it require new legislation?

#### *RESPONSE:*

s.13

---

**From:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** February 15, 2023 11:46 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval due 1230 PM

Thanks Chris!

Calvin —s.13  
s.13

Kind regards,

Tanya

---

**From:** Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 15, 2023 11:32 AM  
**To:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval due 1230 PM

Thanks Tanya.

A few comments listed below in red. s.13  
s.13

Cheers,

Chris

## Recommendation

s.13

---

**From:** Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 15, 2023 11:14 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Christopher HLTH:EX <[Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christopher.Bennett@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>; Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>; Murray, Ryan HLTH:EX <[Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Murray@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval due 1230 PM

Hi Chris,

As discussed, please see media request below re: PAs. Do you have any updates or changes to the standard messaging provided by Calvin below?

Kind regards,

Tanya

---

**From:** Simpson, Calvin GCPE:EX <[Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Calvin.Simpson@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 15, 2023 10:56 AM  
**To:** Brown, Kevin HLTH:EX <[Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kevin.Brown@gov.bc.ca)>; Lorenz, Tanya HLTH:EX <[Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tanya.Lorenz@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** Media request physician assistants for input/review/approval due 1230 PM

Hello!

Please see the below media request. Inserted in the recommended response section is our stock response which broadly covers the reporter's questions. I was wondering if there are any bullets you could provide regarding specific questions raised by the reporter.

Looking for input by 1230! Thanks and let me know if you have any questions.

#### **Reporter**

Bridgette Watson, Producer  
CBC - Vancouver  
[Bridgette.watson@cbc.ca](mailto:Bridgette.watson@cbc.ca)  
604-662-6102 c: 604-220-5862  
**Deadline** ASAP

#### **Request**

In light of the doctor shortage in B.C., as well as long walk-in clinic wait times and slammed emergency rooms, I am interested in hearing how progress is coming along concerning assessing the option of using physician assistants in B.C.

In December, the ministry said it was assessing the option and I am wondering if you have any updates since then.

1. Why does B.C. not use physician assistants?
  2. What concerns does the ministry have about using physician assistants?
  3. Has the ministry been in touch with health care leaders in other provinces (Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario and New Brunswick) where physician assistants are employed and what feedback have you heard from those leaders?
  4. Nova Scotia and Newfoundland are running pilot projects. Is B.C. considering doing the same? What benchmarks would B.C. set to monitor the success of such a pilot program?
-

5. If B.C. were to utilize physician assistants, what process would need to take place? Will it require new legislation?

### **Recommendation**

s.13

### **Background**

Approved media response  
/cs

### **Calvin Simpson**

Public Affairs Officer, Health Communications  
Government Communications and Public Engagement  
Government of British Columbia | 250-880-5179