

MINUTES FOR PPCBC & POTC JOINT COUNCIL MEETING

DATE: November 30, 2022

P = present, R = regrets

PPCBC Representatives

Vancouver Coastal

1. Beth Ott P bett.ott@vch.ca
2. Trish Lee P patricia.lee2@vch.ca

Northern

1. Fabiola Toyota P fabiolat@cdcpq.org
2. Vacant

Fraser

1. Robyn Holmgren (Fraser North) P rholmgren@fvcdc.org
2. Rowan Kimball (South Fraser) P Rowan@the-centre.org

Interior

1. Estera Hazlewood P EHazlewood@shuswapchildrens.ca
2. Sally Woodard (East Kootenays) P Sally.Woodard@interiorhealth.ca
3. Kim Carter (West Kootenays) P kimc@kootenaykids.ca

Vancouver Island

1. Valerie Poirier (South Island) P Valerie.Poirier@viha.ca
2. Tami Hirasawa (Central Island) P tami@nanaimocdc.com

Provincial

1. Diane Wickenheiser (SHHC) R dwickenheiser@cw.bc.ca
2. Stacey Miller (BCCH) P smiller4@cw.bc.ca
3. Andrea Soo (PABC) P Andrea.Soo@bc-cfa.org

MCFD

1. Kate Evans R Kathaleen.Evans@gov.bc.ca

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POTC Representatives

Vancouver Coastal

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|----|--------------------|---|--|
| 1. | Nicole Nybo | R | Nicole.Nybo@bc-cfa.org |
| 2. | Ingrid Kusnierczyk | P | Ingrid.Kusnierczyk@vch.ca |

Northern Region

- | | | | |
|----|-----------------|---|--|
| 1. | Regina Tworow | P | regina.tworow@bvcdc.ca |
| 2. | Kerstin Swanson | P | Kerstin.Swanson@northernhealth.ca |
| 3. | Pat Hamilton | P | path@cdcpg.org |

Fraser Region

- | | | | |
|----|-----------------|---|--|
| 1. | Edith MacHattie | P | Emachattie@the-centre.org |
| 2. | Anna Matthews | P | amatthews@fvcdc.org |

Interior Region

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|----|-------------------|---|--|
| 1. | Jennifer Persello | R | jpersello@kamloopschildrenstherapy.org |
| 2. | Suzanne Lauzon | R | suzannel@starbrightokanagan.ca |

Vancouver Island

- | | | | |
|----|-----------------|---|--|
| 1. | Susan Stacey | P | susanstacey@shaw.ca |
| 2. | Shelly Boardman | P | Shelly.Boardman@islandhealth.ca |

Provincial Tertiary Service

- | | | | |
|----|------------------|---|--|
| 1. | Samantha Jenkins | P | sjenkens@cw.bc.ca |
| 2. | Keith O Conner | R | keith.oconner@cw.bc.ca |

Liason with CAOT- BC Chapter (PAEDS)

- | | | |
|--------------------|---|--|
| Mary Glasgow Brown | P | mary.glasgowbrown@cw.bc.ca |
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Fraser region OT student: Lisa Mahil P

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Chair: Stacey Miller

Recorder: Ingrid Kusnierczyk

1. **Land Acknowledgement (Volunteer)** - Sally from Invermere provided a land acknowledgement
2. **Meeting Minutes Recorder** - POTC council - Ingrid
3. **Approval of Agenda** - Approved
4. **Previous meeting minutes (Joint meeting April 2022)** - Approved
5. **Business Arising**
 - a. **CYSN framework and FCCs (Stacey)**
 - PT/OT Council questions related to new CYSN framework – emailed to Kate Evans July 19, 2022
 - *Response from Kate:* communications team is reviewing responses; once approved she will share them. While there may be changes as a result of the announcement, they're still relevant to early implementation areas and will help clear up misconceptions about the model in general
 - *Email from Kate re: Premier Eby's [announcement](#) regarding the continuation of individualized Autism Funding and SAET and the plan to pause provincial roll out of family connection centers* – 'This announcement represents a re-commitment and a re-set, allowing more time to learn from early implementation areas and to continue engagements and consultation to ensure the new CYSN approach meets the needs of all children and youth with support needs and their families. The announcement also includes a commitment to new investments while the new system is being developed, to support children with disabilities and support needs that are currently underserved, including FASD, Down syndrome and other neuro-cognitive developmental disabilities. Our team is working internally to consider the impacts of this shift, including what it means for the At Home Program. As such, we'd like to reschedule the presentation we'd planned for Wednesday for a time when we have more information to share. We're happy to join the next regularly scheduled joint council meeting or find an earlier date if that would be preferable.'
 - *Questions from the group re At Home Program:* Many therapists across the province are experiencing challenges with accessing equipment through the At Home Program, despite the recent increase of funding available for equipment for children with physical challenges. Some of the challenges cited include the following:
 - 1 *More funding 'rules' now i.e. only funding certain equipment – e.g. no dynamic Pacer walkers, no wheeled standing frames (Rabbit), not funding rigid back up manual wheelchairs, not funding utility/assistance bars for walkers nor trays for standers. Even though the Electric Spring backed hospital bed is approved, it does not meet the need in the home as it does not go low enough to support care*

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- 2 Therapists are experiencing increased levels of frustrations with understanding and seeking clarity on all these 'new rules' and they feel they are spending more time on follow up phone calls and writing letters of justification to support equipment requests to meet the needs of the children on caseload.
- 3 Therapists feel like their clinical judgement/reasoning for equipment is not being considered or respected when assessing for equipment needs for clients on their caseloads.
- 4 Therapists value the expertise and support provided by Dorothy Skinner but have found that they can only access her now when appealing the AT HOME program decision on equipment. It seems access to Dorothy directly is no longer an option for therapists.

Action: Chair to forward issues and concerns re AT HOME Program equipment funding to MCFD rep (Kate) to be addressed at the AT Home program update topic scheduled for the New Year. Stacey and Samantha to reach out to SHHC PMT for additional issues with AT HOME program equipment challenges to add.

- b. **CMEDS Info Sheet/Feedback to HME:** V. Poirier presented the latest (3rd edition) version. Provided rationale for development of this document which was to clearly outline various roles, responsibilities and expectations related to accessing equipment through CMEDS to avoid perceived or real conflicts of interest (CMEDS managed by Paediatric equipment Vendor). The development of this document included feedback from CMEDS, MCFD and therapists. CMEDS reps in various areas will be seeking feedback from with agencies and therapists across BC as This document will be posted on the BCADI website for as a 'living' document. Any additional feedback or revisions can be sent to Val directly. Thank you Val and Kathy Burton for ongoing work related to the development and finalization of this document
 - o **Therapists provided the following inputs:**
 - At Home Program vendor list should be included as an addendum/attachment for therapists and families.
 - Families should have access to this document as well
 - CMEDS does not loan our equipment for trials. Can this be addressed or revised so that therapists can access 'trial' equipment through CMEDS. Seems unfair to ask vendors to trial equipment knowing that the equipment will be provided through CMEDS first. Rural communities also having a harder time accessing equipment for trials from Paediatric vendors
 - Include eligible funding amounts on the form for equipment, or link to MCFD resource page on AHP funding.
 - Therapist noted errors on CMEDS ordering form for correct names of some Health authorities. Val to request updated/corrected resources from CMEDS/AHP to be included in this document

Action: Val will provide finalised document to Chair to be updated to BCADI webpage and link to be shared through both committees to share with therapists

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- c. **Storing meeting minutes** – Jason Gordon, ED at BC Association for Child Development and Intervention (BCACDI) has received Board approval to have POTC and PPCBC minutes housed on their website. PPCBC have agreed at their last committee meeting to go ahead with this plan. This will be brought forward to the OT members at their next meeting for approval. All agreed to post minutes for the joint POTC and PPCBC meeting minutes to this site.
Action: Chair to post minutes and to send link to members

6. New Business

- a. Changes to AHP (Kate) – deferred to next meeting as per Kate's email response above. This will be brought forward to discipline specific meetings in the New Year as our joint meeting is only in April
- b. MCFD Collaborative (Susan)
Email from Kate: "we hope to have an update early in the New Year. This will be an important piece of the engagement process moving forward, but it's unclear to me right now what form it will take – we're going 'back to the drawing board'... again!" Susan reports the initial ask was for volunteer reps to help support the development of an advisory group to support the FCC's with their roll out. No updated information to report
- c. Open discussion on electronic documentation... varied across the province with regards programs that are used, making it challenging to view information and to share information with provincial services and community physicians. Many CDC's use 'Nucleas'. BCCH transitioning to Cerner. Varied programs in use throughout the province. Therapists in community centers were hopeful that FCC would be introducing a system for electronic documentation that would make it easy for therapists to access updated medical information and to share information with the health care team.
- d. Open discussion on the use of emails with families. Northern health reports they use a program called "KiteWorks" which allows for video sharing communication with families without taking space in your inbox. 'Salesforce' has a parent portal for parents to share information with therapists. Encouraged all to follow their various institutional guidelines on the use of emails when communicating with families.

7. Provincial Updates

- a. PABC (Andrea) - no updates. next meeting in Jan, 2023
- b. CAOT (Mary) - no updates still in transition with handing over from Pat to Mary. Next meeting in 2 weeks
- c. BCCH (Stacey for PT). Updates from Terri (PT practice lead)...Acknowledged that BCCH is experiencing a respiratory surge, hospital is at high capacity, team based care planning under way. New funding for PT position to support transitioning of care from acute to rehab where PT services and supports follow the client to improve the client's

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journey while receiving care. BCCH undergoing Child Kind Certification; Certification recognizes an organization for excellence in providing pediatric pain care.

- d. BCCH OT (Samantha for OT) - nothing to add. Increased funding for additional OT positions to support client's journey and care
- e. SHHC – (Samantha for OT) will need to recruit a rep as Samantha has moved to BCCH
- f. SHHC – (Dianne for PT) not present
- g. MCFD regrets

Discussion: community therapists would like updated contacts for BCCH/SHHC departments/therapists to support collaboration of community care as needed.

Action: Stacey and Samantha to take back to BCCH OT and PT practise leads for updates and to report back on best way of accessing updated information

8. Next Meeting

- Joint meeting dates to be set spring 2023 April 17th, 2023 (chaired by OT Council) and fall 2023 (chaired by PT council)