

SOHC Priorities for 2014-15

1. Continue our involvement in the Princeton Health Care Steering Committee and the Business Stakeholders Group in the development of an improved and sustainable health care model for Princeton and Area. Key action items include:

- retention and recruitment of a full complement of medical practitioners, nurses, and support staff at Princeton General Hospital and Cascade Medical Centre
- continuation of the Access to Specialists for Princeton project sponsored by the BC SharedCare committee
- promote the use of Nurse Practitioners and Physician Assistants as a way to improve services and to reduce General Practitioner workload and stress
- expansion of available services to include convalescent care at PGH
- work with medical practitioners and professional staff to improve wait times through research and innovation

2. Make written presentation to the Select Standing Committee on Health. Deadline for submissions: December 31, 2014.

3. Update the SOHC Action Plan to reflect changes that have happened in the last two years.

4. In cooperation with Ridgewood Lodge, establish a music therapy program based on recent research where people suffering from dementia showed marked improvement in coherence and animation after listening to music of their past. Nienke Klaver will be leading this project.

5. Work with universities, colleges, and our local high school to encourage Princeton and Area students to consider a career in health care. Research shows that students who complete programs in health care are most likely to return to their roots.

6. Develop and strengthen health care contracts through social media such as Twitter.

7. Continue working with United Way on the establishment of a Better at Home program in Princeton.

8. Continue our partnership with Ashcroft health care advocates and innovators. Expand our rural base of support to include other communities, such as Lillooet and Clearwater. Maintain and grow working relationships with Interior Health administrators.

9. Advocate support for Canada's Public Health Care system (Medicare) through the development of a National Health Accord between the federal and provincial governments. Key items to include:

- a national pharmacare program
- development of an improved and financially sustainable system through innovation
- adequate funding of existing programs and services
- elimination of illegal for-profit clinics

10. Continue the 'Love a Locum' initiative as needed.