

## **Support Our Health Care (SOHC) Society of Princeton**

### Goals and Activities for 2017

1. Continue our involvement in the Princeton Health Care Steering Committee, supporting the development of an improved and sustainable health care model for Princeton and Area.
2. Continue to work with the Cascade Medical Group in support of their goal to provide the best possible healthcare service to Princeton and Area residents.
3. Continue to work with the BC Health Coalition in support of their goals, which include:
  - lobbying the federal government to develop and implement a new Health Accord in cooperation with the Provinces and Territories
  - development of a poverty reduction plan for BC
  - implementation of best practices in the reduction of wait times
  - improvement of access to services for people living in rural/remote BC
  - providing information on the ongoing Brian Day legal challenge to public health care
  - participating in a campaign in support of public health care in the upcoming provincial election
4. Continue active involvement as a member of the South Okanagan Similkameen Rural Corridor Community Coalition.
5. Provide community information on available health care services, to include:
  - organization and presentation of the Community Health Care Workshop series
  - preparation and distribution of Health Care Services information brochure; to be undertaken in collaboration with the Similkameen Spotlight newspaper
6. Continue the work being done by the Art for Health working group whose goal is to improve and enhance the aesthetic appearance of Princeton General Hospital and Cascade Medical Centre.
7. Develop materials to be used for recruitment and retention of medical practitioners, nurses, and professional staff at Cascade Medical Centre, Princeton General Hospital, and Ridgewood Lodge.
8. Work in partnership with local health and healthcare organizations in the realization of their goals, to include Princeton Community Services Society, Princeton Family Services, and Public Health Services.
9. Provide information to the public on the health care platforms of candidates running in the Boundary Similkameen riding for the May provincial election, to include interviews and questions presented at an all candidates public forum.
10. Advocate for legislation that would allow Physician Assistants to operate in the province.

11. Continue to work with universities, colleges, and Interior Health in support of research and other initiatives aimed at improving the rural health care model. Present research initiatives include:
- *Similkameen Mental Health Project: Services and Supports for Adults 50 and Over Mental Health for Older Adults* (Dr. Nelly Oelke, et al, UBCO)
  - *The Entrepreneurial Activities of Citizen-Led Coalitions in Supporting Rural Older Adults in Healthcare* (Dr. Kathy Rush, et al, UBCO, TRU, IH)
12. Continue support for the “Love a Locum” campaign.