

## Indigenous cultural safety corner

The month of June commemorates [National Indigenous History Month](#), with June 21 recognized as National Indigenous Peoples Day. This month is dedicated to celebrating and reflecting on the traditions, heritage and knowledge of First Nations, Inuit and Métis people in Canada. As we move forward on our individual and collective journeys toward truth and reconciliation, June is an opportunity to embrace learning and deepen our commitment to creating a health care system that is free of racism and culturally safe for Indigenous people. There are countless resources available to support continued learning – [check out this page](#) for a list of books, films, local Indigenous history and upcoming events to join in on the celebration for National Indigenous History Month.

## HAMAC Chair reappointment

Dr. Jennifer Beaveridge

We're excited to announce the reappointment of Dr. Jennifer Beaveridge as HAMAC Chair for a second, three-year term! We look forward to continuing our shared work over the next three years and building HAMAC's accountability to the VCH Board and CEO and the population we serve.



## Credentialing and privileging community-based providers

The HAMAC received a presentation on the upcoming changes to the credentialing and privileging process for providers who work in community-based, non-hospital, **VCH owned-and-operated facilities**. Credentialing is the process of confirming a provider's identity, training, licensure, experience, reputation and skill. Privileging refers to the right granted by a health authority Board of Directors to medical staff to provide specific, defined types of medical care within hospitals named in the [BC Hospital Act](#). Providers working in the community at the **owned and operated sites** do not require privileges as these sites do not fall under the *Hospital Act*. As of July 1, 2024, net new community-based providers will no longer require privileges to work in VCH owned-and-operated community facilities. These changes are intended to align with the Hospital Act and medical staff rules and bylaws, reduce administrative burdens associated with the privileging process, expedite start dates to get providers working sooner and allow for greater oversight and governance at the local level. The HAMAC unanimously voted in support of the changes to the process for bringing on community-based providers.

## VCH Conflict of Interest policy

The current VCH Conflict of Interest (COI) policy is in the process of being updated. A COI is a situation where a staff member's personal, professional, business, or other interests conflict with their VCH duties and responsibilities. The policy applies to all staff and medical staff. The COI policy will continue to be developed throughout the summer in preparation for fall implementation. The [current COI policy](#) can be found on the SHOP portal.

## Regional Department of Obs/Gynecology

A presentation was provided by Dr. Sarah Finlayson, the Regional Department Head of Obstetrics and Gynecology. Dr. Finlayson provided an overview of services across VCH including health human resources within the specialty, surgical wait times and jurisdictional challenges. Dr. Finlayson will be returning to September HAMAC to further the discussion.

## Welcome to HAMAC!

Dr. Harpreet Chauhan  
Appointed as VP  
Medical Affairs, PHC



## Toxic drug crisis: Substance use and addictions management in hospitals

An update to HAMAC was provided on the substance use and addictions management in hospitals policy released by the Ministry in April. Work is being done in key areas of the policy, including rapid evaluation of clinical addiction capacity with a focus on immediate needs to support addiction services at hospital sites and effective prevention of withdrawal symptoms. This includes reviewing clinical protocols, education and training available. The finalized policy will return to HAMAC in the fall.