

Highlights from HAMAC

June 10, 2025 meeting summary

Indigenous cultural safety corner

June is [National Indigenous History Month in Canada](#), an opportunity to learn about the cultures, traditions and experiences of First Nations, Inuit and Métis. It's a time to honour the stories, achievements and resilience of Indigenous Peoples and reflect on our shared history.

June 21 also marks National Indigenous Peoples Day, and we encourage you to look to your local community for events and celebrations to attend.

Join us on June 19th for a lunch and learn on Indigenous Peoples Day as we seek to deepen our understanding of Indigenous experiences in health care. [Click here to register](#)

UBC Update

Dr. Dean Jones, UBC Vice-Dean of Health Engagement provided an update to the HAMAC on changes in the UBC Faculty of Medicine, including leadership changes, an upcoming refresh of the UBC strategic plan and emphasizing opportunities for partnership and collaboration between UBC and the health authority.

Summer Break

As summer approaches, the HAMAC Highlights will be taking a short break. While our updates will pause, some important work will continue behind the scenes.

In the meantime, we hope you find time to recharge, enjoy the sunshine, and take part in activities that support your well-being.

Health Care Consent Act

Maja Kolar, Director, Legislative Initiatives, VCH/PHC and Aaron Leung, Manager, Legislative Initiatives, VCH/PHC provided an update on the VCH/PHC regional initiative to improve learning opportunities about the new [Health Care Consent Policy](#) and Form. The team provided an overview of the project, including plans to support medical staff education and provide a decision support tool (DST) in Fall 2025. The DST will be coming forward to the AMACs and HAMACs for approval.

Medical Staff are invited to [participate in an anonymous survey](#) to share their thoughts on informed consent, capability, substitute decision makers or emergency care under BC's Health Care Consent Act.

Regional Department Quality/HHR Reports

Regional Department of Surgery

Dr. Gary Redekop, Regional Department Head of Surgery presented a report on the VCH/PHC department of surgery. The report provided an overview of key metrics (including surgical volumes and wait times/access), the current workforce, and challenges and opportunities within the department.

Regional Department of Midwifery

Linda Knox, Regional Department Head of Midwifery presented a report on the VCH/PHC department of midwifery. Registered midwives provide autonomous, community-based primary care and serve as the most responsible caregiver during the antepartum period, labour, birth and postpartum periods. The presentation also included an overview of HHR and quality metrics within the department.

VP Medicine Leadership

A Note of Thanks

We would like to take a moment to extend our heartfelt thanks to Dr. Chad Kim Sing, who will be stepping down from his role as Interim Vice President, Medicine.

Since June 2023, Chad has brought steady leadership, deep clinical insight and a generous spirit into this position. He led with integrity, compassion and an unwavering focus on quality and patient care.

Chad's presence at HAMAC has been marked by thoughtful contributions, collaborative leadership and a calm, values-driven approach that has helped strengthen our collective work.

On behalf of HAMAC, thank you, Chad, for your exceptional leadership and continued dedication to this organization. We wish you all the very best in the path ahead.

Perfusionist Update

In follow up to discussion at the February HAMAC, Andrea Bisailon, Operations Director, Surgical Services and Lorraine Blackburn, VP Professional Practice & Chief Clinical Information Officer provided an update on the perfusionist workforce at VCH.

HAMAC expressed gratitude for the work and collaboration efforts that have gone into ensuring long term sustainability of these roles.



Invitation for Expressions of Interest

The terms of reference for the new HAMAC Governance Subcommittee were approved at the June 10th meeting. The subcommittee will be responsible for reviewing and recommending revisions to the VCH Medical Staff Rules.

HAMAC is pleased to [invite Expressions of Interest from VCH medical staff](#) interested in joining a new subcommittee tasked with reviewing and updating our medical staff rules. This is a great volunteer opportunity to contribute your voice to shaping governance and ensuring our policies reflect current best practices.

If you're passionate about collaborative policy development and want to make a meaningful impact, we encourage you to apply.

We strongly encourage frontline medical staff (including dentists, midwives, nurse practitioners and physicians) to apply. Your firsthand experience and practical insights are essential to ensuring the subcommittee's work remains grounded, relevant and responsive to the realities of care delivery. Your voice matters and we deeply value the contributions you bring to the table. No prior committee experience is required.

If you are interested in participating, please submit your EOI by July 16, 2025 to HAMACChair@vch.ca.

oneVCH Awards

The oneVCH Awards shine a light on our exceptional medical staff, staff and volunteers who go above and beyond to live our values, pillars and goals.

Everyone is encouraged and welcome to make a nomination. The process is easy and quick – complete [the nomination form](#) by June 30, 2025.

Every day, our incredible medical staff make VCH a great place to work and deliver care. Your expertise and perspectives help us deliver quality, compassionate care to the people we serve.

There are 15 award categories that celebrate outstanding individuals in the Individual awards category and exceptional teams in the Teams and Pillar award categories.

This year, we're excited to introduce two new awards: *Healthy People Champion* and *Research and Innovation Champion*. We also have awards in *Exceptional Care*, *Everyday Hero (clinical)*, *Leadership* and more.

For more information, please visit one.vch.ca/oneVCHawards.

Celebrating Pride

[June marks the start of Pride season](#) – a time to celebrate 2SLGBTQIA+ colleagues, patients, clients and residents, advocate for equal rights, and foster safe, inclusive environments where everyone can embrace their true selves without fear, violence or discrimination.

At VCH we care for everyone, and we are proud to provide dedicated programs and services to support the health care needs of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community, including resources for sexual health, trans-inclusive and respectful care, as well as gender-affirming health care.

Showing our support is especially important during a time of increased anti-2SLGBTQIA+ rhetoric and attacks on gender-affirming care, highlighting our commitment to creating a safe and welcoming environment for all patients, clients, residents and families.

The HAMAC is committed to addressing the systemic challenges and prejudices that 2SLGBTQIA+ individuals experience in healthcare, and to fostering an environment of diversity, inclusion and respect.