



Newly elected officers for 2020—2021



LeAnne Davies
Vice President



Sheila Corneillie
President

ANOTHER FIRST

Election of officers and annual general meeting held virtually. Join us next time.



Louise Seaman
Membership
Director



Donna Monford
Secretary—Treasurer

In This Issue

- Website has launched
- New Faces in Interior Health and Division of Family Practice
- COVID testing local
- Membership numbers increases.
- Clinton Doctor Visits
- BC Rural and First Nations Health Summit – June 29 and 30

Members of the HAWC Executive met with

Cheryl Drewitz, Chapter Coordinator Pemberton, Acting Chapter Coordinator for Ashcroft and area, Rural and Remote Division of Family Practice . Cheryl replaces Tawanda Hatendi, some of you may have met him. Cheryl comes with a Nursing background, and we look forward to seeing how she adjusts to working with our local and rural physicians to support them.

AND

Micheal (Mike) Morrill. Manager ,Clinical Operations - Ashcroft, Clinton and Logan Lake AND Director of Clinical Operations, Community and Primary Care, Bikram Jammu

Micheal's role is a new position that is posted in Ashcroft as a Manager, and he lives in Ashcroft. This is a concept we very much support, it is something we lost a number of years ago, and we welcome this return to local on the ground manager, and he has been getting a good grasp on the local services, concerns, and needs. Bikram was on the job two weeks, and at the very early stages of getting his bearings not only for Interior Health but for the Rural portfolio. He replaces Berni Eason, who has retired. Berni's passion and understanding of rural health care will be missed, we hope Bikram gets to spend some time with Berni.

Website Update

The website has launched, it is still a work in progress. Please take a look at it and if you think we can add information, please let us know by email. Contact information is on the website.

www.ahawc.ca

We have applied for a grant, hoping to get some much needed assistance to map out the access to health care services from our rural community.

We are beginning to work on the mapping now.

Thanks to the efforts of our membership drive, our membership numbers are now at 59, we are pleased, even though we separated from CRS, and this is a transition year, there is definitely interest in the advocacy work we are doing.

BC RURAL AND FIRST NATIONS HEALTH SUMMIT MEETINGS

June 29 and 30, 2020

COVID helped to form this Summit, which was virtual, and had the most participants ever for a Rural Healthcare Discussion.

I participated in both days and in Community Partnership tables for Ashcroft and Area (there were two tables because of the size of group attending from our area)

The Area Planning table that I participated in, began to develop a plan for rural health in our community, much of it in the direction, we are trying to head as an executive. By developing the Health Site into a more robust Community Health Care Center that works along with the physicians, and all the other disciplines in our building. It also calls for identifying the services we are supposed to have and the ones we feel we should have and recruiting them to this community health center as well.

Our building is underrepresented, and underused, for things such as virtual healthcare visits with specialists, pre and post surgical support, social workers, aboriginal navigators etc.

I have asked for the other group administrators to share what happened at their group but have not received anything yet. Perhaps some people at our table who were at the other meeting would like to report?

Statistics

953 Participants

42 Distinct Regions from

Regional Tables Participation

Island 237 participants

North 277 participants

Interior 284 participants

Coastal 74 participants

Fraser 47 participants

254 Zoom Meetings over 2 days

To host in part 57 Community Partnership Tables and 26 Peer Group Tables

287,168 Minutes of Health Transformation Conversations and Action Planning.

COVID TESTING IN ASHCROFT—SEE BELOW

Interior Health, Ashcroft Hospital and Community Health Centre is offering COVID-19 screening and testing for all community members of our region.

This clinic is for patients experiencing the following symptoms:

Mild Symptoms may include some or all of the following:

- Low-grade fever, chills
- Cough
- Malaise (overall feeling of discomfort), muscle aches
- Rhinorrhea (runny nose), nasal congestion, loss of sense of smell
- Odynophagia (painful swallowing), sore throat
- Loss of appetite
- Fatigue (extreme feeling of tiredness)
- Gastrointestinal symptoms such as nausea, vomiting, and/or diarrhea

Severe Symptoms may include any of the mild symptoms, as well as:

- Fever
- Shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, and/or chest pain

These clinics ARE NOT for patients who:

Do not have any of the symptoms listed above.

These clinics **are not** to replace urgent or emergency care needs. Please visit the closest hospital with an Emergency Department or call 911, if you have urgent or emergent health needs.

How to Get Screening and Testing:

By Appointment Only:

Please call **250-453-1905** and follow the recorded message prompts. A nurse will contact you and provide a screening assessment over the phone and will schedule an appointment as appropriate.

Where: Ashcroft Hospital and Community Health Centre

700 Ash-Cache Creek Hwy, Ashcroft, BC.

First Nations Community Resources:

Interior Health, Ashcroft Hospital and Community Care Centre testing and screening is available to all community members. In addition, First Nations Community Health Centres may also have screening, testing, and other resource supports available **for their members only** (may live on or off reserve dependent on specific First Nations Communities). Please contact your respective First Nations Community Health Centre for more details.

Bonaparte Indian Band: 250-457-9624

Ashcroft Indian Band: 778-765-5659

BCRHN – Appointment to the Rural Citizens Perspective Group

The BC Rural Health Network (BCRHN) consists of healthcare advocacy organizations working in cooperation with healthcare policymakers. The purpose of the Network is to promote and support a health services system that improves and sustains the health and well-being of residents of rural communities across British Columbia.



Sheila Corneillie—has been appointed to represent our geographic area at this table. I hesitantly accepted this appointment, there are many opportunities to sit on committees, boards, research groups etc. Mindful of the time I have to offer, I want to be sure the work I am doing has a direct impact on getting transparent, consistent and sustainable healthcare in our catchment area.

The following information details an opportunity to be a participant in the Rural Citizens Perspective Group.

Aim

The group will consist of 15 rural, remote and Indigenous citizens, including 5 participants selected by the BC Rural Health Network, that will share their perspectives on specific topics health related topics.

The initial priority topics for discussion will include:

- Co-creating culturally safe and humble primary care**
- Designing, planning for and implementing Team-Based Care**
- Increasing citizen and community involvement in health care transformation processes**
- Improving access and transitions for patients in rural, remote and Indigenous communities**

The information gathered will help guide the work of the Partnership Pentagram Plus (PPP), a table of provincial stakeholders dedicated to the improvement of healthcare services for people living in rural and remote BC. The Rural Citizen Perspective Group is one of six sectors in the PPP. The group will report on its progress to the PPP that meets regularly to discuss progress on priorities and initiatives. and Indigenous health issues

STEPHEN AKINKUNMI, MD



ASHCROFT MEDICAL CLINIC

TEL: 250-453-9353

WE ARE ACCEPTING PATIENTS!!!

We would like to introduce Dr Stephen Akinkunmi as the newest member to our Ashcroft Team. He brings with him a wealth of over 15 years experience practising in Nigeria and Ontario, supplemented by specialized training in Women's Health.

He enjoys the uniqueness of rural practice and is excited to join our community with his wife, a certified clinical laboratory technologist, and his two children. Call for an appointment!!!

Dr. Stephen—as he likes to be called , joined the Ashcroft Medical Clinic just around the time that COVID 19 started playing havoc with our lives.

He is open to accepting new patients, and looks forward to meeting the people of our community, either virtually or in person when appropriate. He is working in our Emergency Room at times as well.

Dr. Stephen recently made arrangements with Interior Health, and with the assistance of the Clinton council, and the Healthcare Auxiliary, is arranging to see patients in Clinton at the Health Clinic there. This is a great move for our Clinton friends and family, who have been looking for a doctor to visit for some time.

STEPHEN AKINKUNMI, MD



New Physician Visiting Clinton

Tel: 250-453-9353

We are accepting appointments at the Clinton Health & Wellness Clinic

We would like to introduce Dr. Stephen Akinkunmi as a new physician to our area. He brings with him a wealth of over 15 years experience practising in Nigeria including specialized training in women's health.

He enjoys the uniqueness of rural practice and is excited to offer service to the community of Clinton and surrounding area. DR. Stephen plans to visit Clinton on Tuesdays every one to two weeks. Appointments will be scheduled in person or done over the telephone.

To book an appointment with Dr. Stephen, please phone the Ashcroft Medical Clinic at
250-453-9353