



Happy Holidays and
we look forward to
2021 to see you



The Laboratory Managers have decided that they will not recruit technologists for our health site and ER. This means we will only have Point of Care Testing in the ER on weekends.

Lisa Zetes - Zannata
Executive Director Clinical
Operations Rural Acute &
Community

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Laboratory Testing by Point of Care (POC)

By Sheila Corneillie

At our most recent meeting, we asked IH managers to provide us with a list of the tests that had been completed by technologists in the emergency department, and the list of tests available through POC. To date we have not received the lists. We did remind them of the request, still nothing.

Without detailed information we cannot provide the public with accurate information so we can only share what we think based on our own research.

We know that the work previously completed by Lab Techs will now be completed in the ER by nurses in some way or another without consideration of their workload.

We know that not all tests completed by a Lab Tech can be completed using POC and the nurse.

We know that training is required for Nurses to do some of the testing follow up in the lab, and that the nurse needs to leave the ER to do this. This training has not happened to our knowledge.

We know that some tests required for diagnosing in the ER cannot be done here using POC, and that patients will need to travel or be transported to RIH for those missing tests.

We believe we are the first 24 hour ER to be selected to discontinue recruiting Lab Techs and only use POC. Barriere was named as another site, however, it is more of a diagnostic and treatment centre than an ER.

We believe this is a second tier level of service for this rural catchment area.

Those of you who get your lab tests done Monday to Friday, will still continue to see the lab assistant who does a great job of taking your specimens and blood and shipping them to the lab in Kamloops. We hope IH continues to recruit and relieve this post.

LOCUMS , WHERE WOULD
WE BE
WITHOUT
THEM?

We have had some amazing locums continue to come to our community to cover the gaps in the Emergency Department coverage and also the gaps, and vacations etc for the physicians providing care.

We are so thankful for our locums, thank you.

PALLIATIVE CARE

ASHCROFT DISTRICT HOSPICE PROGRAM

Ashcroft Health Site has had a palliative care designated bed / room for many years. The room was funded by many donors over the years including but not limited to the Health Care Auxiliary.

A dedicated group worked hard to fund and make the room as comfortable as possible for patients who require and desire 24/7 care in their final days. The room is also made comfortable for the family and friends of the palliative patient to be comfortable as they comfort the patient.

The designated room was managed by the RNs of the building, as long as we continued to have Nurses on duty 24 /7. Eventually the management of the room became the responsibility of the Long Term Care (LTC) . Sometime after that happened, quietly management moved the location of the room used, giving up all of the comforts previously created by these volunteers and fund raisers and donors.

The new room location is inside the LTC, causing some problems with access to family / friends/ and hospice workers. Most notably during COVID restrictions applied to LTC. In palliative suites not located inside LTC, the restrictions are less and easier.

We strongly continue to urge Interior Health and local management to keep this bed available for local people who need the bed, it is the best we can do for our communities and their families / friends.

Lisa Zetes—Zannata, confirmed there is a change of access being planned for respite room / beds, which will make things much easier to those families who would like to plan for respite time for their loved ones , so that they can take care of themselves. We hope and she feels this will help to keep the palliative bed available for palliative purposes and not used for respite. We are hopeful.



Ashcroft and District Hospice Program.

A volunteer based community service organization offering compassionate care to people living with the challenges of a life-limiting illness or the end of life journey.

Our goal is to provide compassionate care that helps individuals to live as fully and comfortably as possible.

Fostering hope and dignity for patients and their families.

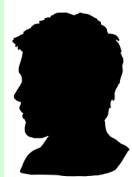
Hospice is a type of care that focuses on living.

For more information contact

Ashcroft.hospice@gmail.com or call

Deborah Tedford (250) 457-1063

More Interior Health Management Changes



Ian Wood—Interim Director, Clinical Operations, Community & Primary Care - Thompson & S. Cariboo

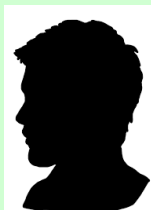


Bikram Jammu Singh , previous Director, Clinical Operations, Community & Primary Care - Thompson & S. Cariboo



Berni Easson previous Director, Clinical Operations, Community & Primary Care - Thompson & S. Cariboo

This photo was taken in December 2019—She retired in July 2020.



New position created Manager of Clinical Operations in Ashcroft (covers Clinton and Logan Lake)

Mike Morrill—hired approximately March of 2020, is leaving January 15, 2021

We hope that 2021 will be better for recruitment and retention, consistency and sustainability.

Clinton Supportive Housing Development

We love to hear about the progress being made on the housing development in Clinton. The community is very excited to see the project moving ahead at great speed, thankful for the unseasonably warm weather helping to get the buildings to lock up.

Clinton Councillor Rivett is always helpful sharing the updates with us on this project, it will be a great resource for the area.



healthcare workers. Everyone working in the health site who either support those who are front line to the patients or those who are hands on or face to face with patients. Your care and dedication is appreciated by all of us in HAWC.

Times have been challenging for all of us but for those of you running into people who are stressed, scared, frustrated and more, you stay calm and helpful despite the challenges.

Be sure to take some time to debrief, destress, get help for yourself if you need it. Enjoy your family as best you can over this unusual holiday season we find ourselves in. We know you are doing your best and **we sure do appreciate it.**