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[Message from Dr. Cara Wall, President, KGHPs and MSA](#)



Greetings and Salutations!! I hope this finds you all well and in line for a little time for you and your families this holiday season.

The executive is pleased to welcome Dr. John Falconer back to the fold as a Member-at-Large. As well, Dr. Jeremy Harris and Dr. Sarah Sunderland have agreed to serve on the executive as Vice-President and Member-at-Large respectively. We look forward to their contributions over the coming months and their energy and insight have already made a positive impact on the Board. I'd like to thank Dr. Vik Chaubey for his time with the executive; his sense of humour and creative brainstorming are missed. We wish him the best on his extended studies in Montreal.

It's been a busy fall with lots of activities. We co-sponsored the Santa Brunch with KMS and the Divisions of Family Practice. Look for further partnerships in the near future. We also put on a Christmas Cheer walk-about. Many thanks to Dr. John Falconer, Tracy MacDonald, Helga Wendt and the other 'Dr. Elves' who came on the tour handing out sweet and savory treats from the FIXX Café. The hospital staff and our colleagues were surprised and appreciative. Some highlights of the walk-about are noted below in the newsletter.

We've had many good project ideas submitted, please keep them coming!! It's great to see all the creative ideas and energies our colleagues have to further engagement and improve our work environment at KGH. If you have an idea but need some help flushing it out, Tracy MacDonald, the Society's Executive Director, is a big help. Please email KGHPhysiciansSociety@gmail.com for further information or check out our website by [clicking here](#), where you'll find online information and the application form. There are several sources for funding projects brought forward. Not only are there funds from the Facility Engagement initiative - there are also monies for projects through PQI and Health Redesign. Read on in the newsletter for more information on the Health Redesign program opportunities. [Click here](#) for more information.

I wish you and yours a most excellent holiday season and all the best for a happy and healthy 2019!



Dr. Cara Wall
President, KGH Physicians Society and MSA



**L to R: Dr. John Falconer and Dr. Harsh Hundal,
Dr. Cara Wall, KGHPs President and Helga Wendt, KGHPs Project Lead
Distributing Christmas Goodies**

The KGH Physicians Society enjoyed spreading Christmas Cheer this season, delivering tasty treats prepared by the FIXX Café to clinical units and departments throughout the hospital. Joined by Dr. Harsh Hundal, Executive Medical Director, IH Physician Engagement and fellow MSA Board member Dr. John Falconer, Dr. Cara Wall said it was a fun experience. She noted, "It was a wonderful way to say thank you and to share holiday wishes with the many physicians, staff and volunteers at KGH who make a difference every day."



[FE Projects Wrap Up - A Big Thank-you to the Project Champions & Participants](#)

Since its inception, the Society has allocated \$612,980 towards approved Facility Engagement projects led by physician champions. Aimed at improving quality of care or improving the work environment, these projects have enabled physicians, engaged with their colleagues, to make a difference. In the fall issue of the KGHPs Newsletter we highlighted the completion of the project to enhance the work environment for the KGH Hospitalists – perhaps one of our largest projects to date!

Over the last couple of months a few more projects have come to completion:

Led by Dr. Jan McIntosh, the project **“Enhancing Support for the Role of the Family Physician at KGH”** brought Family Physicians from the hospital together with KGH leadership and representatives from the Central Okanagan Division of Family Practice to explore and better understand how best to support Family Physicians at the hospital. With the support of Brent Parker, of Parker Medical Consulting, the team sought feedback from the participants and reviewed the literature and best practices to look at different hybrid models of medical care delivery. The findings were reviewed with the Steering Committee and will be more broadly communicated in the New Year.

“The Nutrition Project” led by Drs. Ngan Lyle & Bruce Povah has now wrapped up. Recognizing the importance of healthy nutrition, and access to nutrient dense meals around the clock, the team partnered with the KGH Foundation and a local provider to operate frozen food vending machines stocked with tasty nutritious meals. The Society’s first foray into this field was not as successful as hoped for, so the pilot project has been wrapped up and lessons learned will be brought forward to future projects. Physician health & wellness remains a priority for the Society so stay tuned for more ideas in this area.

“Access to the Provincial Opioid Training Module for KGH Physicians” led by Dr. John Falconer is winding down. This past year both the Hospitalists Service and the Emergency Department received funding for projects aimed at improving quality of care for patients being treated for opioid overdoses and withdrawal. Given the strategic importance for IH in addressing the opioid crisis and recognizing that physicians across many departments might be interested in accessing the educational module on the management / treatment of opioids, the KGHPs allocated funding for this educational activity. If you are still interested in accessing this funding, please do so by year end as the project will officially close on **December 31st**.

Thank you to all the physicians and staff participating in these FE Projects! Through these initiatives the Society continues to advance its goal of engaging physicians and giving them a meaningful voice to improve quality of patient care at KGH and enhance their work environment. For a list of completed projects [click here](#).



[Different Funding Sources Available to Support You in Getting Involved](#)

Are you interested in making your voice heard and getting involved with health system planning or redesign, or improving quality of care or your work environment at KGH? Perhaps your interest lies in physician quality improvement. Did you know there are different sources of funding available through the Special Services Committee of Doctors of BC to support you in your interest.

Through your Medical Staff Association (KGH Physicians Society), **FACILITY ENGAGEMENT (FE)** funding supports physicians to have more meaningful input in their respective facilities to improve patient care and the working environment. KGHPs receives \$500,000 annually and funding is made available to support prioritized projects and initiatives. The Society works closely with the hospital’s senior leaders collaborating on mutual

priorities to improve patient care. Since its incorporation, the KGHPs has supported 46 FE Projects.

Another source of funding is through **HEALTH SYSTEM REDESIGN**. This source of funding flows to the health authority to engage physicians for input on time-limited, project-based system redesign activities. Co-funded by SSC, Shared Care and GPSC the program is administered by the HA. Most recently, physicians at KGH received funding to work on such initiatives as trauma reviews and infectious diseases. The goal of Health System Redesign funding is to ensure that physicians are engaged and have the opportunity to participate in planning, decision making and implementation of new or revised health services.

And lastly, **PHYSICIAN QUALITY IMPROVEMENT** provides quality improvement training and support to physicians to enhance patient care. This initiative partners with each health authority to support physician involvement in quality improvement and provides quality improvement technical resources and expertise.

Physicians at KGH have made their voices heard, and have been supported to work on initiatives through all three programs. For more information on how you can get involved reach out to KGHPPhysiciansSociety@gmail.com.



[Quick Update - SSC Funding](#)

In November the Society received a copy of the revised Special Services Committee (SSC) Funding guidelines which direct the Society on how it can and cannot allocate Facility Engagement funding. The revisions provide more clarity on guideline interpretation and were reviewed by the KGHPs Working Group at their December meeting. For a full copy of the revised guidelines [click here](#).

Some of the key highlights are:

- Capital Projects – FE funds may be used for capital projects or renovations up to a one-time total limit (not renewed annually) of 15% of their annual funding or \$40,000 whichever limit is higher.
- Training – FE funds cannot be used to pay physicians' sessionals and expenses for required CME accredited clinical training. In addition, there is more detail in the body of the document on non-accredited clinical and non-clinical training.
- Events – Excluding physician sessionals, FE funds can be used for planned one-time events aimed to foster relationships among MSA members with other stakeholders including health authority and community partners, and /or promote awareness and participation of FE Activities.

Forward any questions to KGHPPhysiciansSociety@gmail.com.

[Annual Refresh of KGH Physicians Society Strategy](#)

Similar to last year, the KGHPs Board of Directors will be participating with the Doctors of BC, Special Services Committee in a Site review process. On behalf of the Society we will be reporting on our activities over this past year, how we have allocated funds and how as a Society / MSA we have fulfilled the goals of Facility Engagement as laid out in the Memorandum of Understanding.

What is new this year is the process by which we will be undertaking, with the KGH and Central Okanagan medical and administrative leadership, to collectively identify and prioritize initiatives aimed at furthering physician engagement at the hospital. As you may recall, the hospital re-established the Medical Executive committee this past year and we will work with our administrative and physician leader colleagues in this forum to collectively identify our priorities for the coming year. This session will be facilitated by Amanda Harris, the Facility Engagement Liaison for KGH and the Board of Directors' Officers – Dr. Cara Wall, President, Dr. Jeremy Harris, Vice-President and Dr. Giulio Dominelli, Secretary Treasurer – will participate on behalf of the Society.

The Society welcomes your feedback. What has worked well for you over this past year in regards to Facility Engagement at KGH? What would you like to see improved? Please send your comments to KGHPPhysiciansSociety@gmail.com by **January 4th** as this will help to inform our strategy.



Seasons Greetings!



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Welcome to the KGH Physicians Society Newsletter. We will be providing relevant and engaging content on a regular basis.

www.KelownaPhysiciansSociety.ca

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