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L to R: Dr. C. Wall, Dr. J. Harris, Dr. G. Dominelli, Dr. S. Sunderland

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Message from Dr. Cara Wall, President, KGHP and MSA

Good day, and welcome to Spring!!

It's so exciting to see the trees with leaves and the flowers blooming. I hope all of you have the opportunity to enjoy some of the beauty of our home waking up for the season.

The Physician's Society has been busy supporting our members including such activities as funding coffee on National Physicians Day which was celebrated on May 1st, funding departmental retreats to engage physicians in conversation, and surveying the membership (thanks to those of you who were able to respond) to further our work on physician wellness. We partnered with the Kelowna Medical Society and the Central Okanagan Divisions of Family Practice to host the first (hopefully to be repeated) Spring Meet and Greet BBQ. Mother Nature cooperated with a beautiful day to be out with the family while catching up with and meeting new colleagues!

One of the great things about being involved on the Society's Executive is seeing all the great innovative ideas our members put forth for funding. Congratulations to you all and a special shout out to **Dr. Brandy Bursey** on the successful completion of her **ED Orientation and Mentorship Program** project, and the **Building Research Capacity** project championed by **Dr. Devin Harris**.

Our biggest challenge through the fall and winter was a change to the funding paradigm through Doctors of BC. What this means to our membership is the addition of an end date to project funding. All projects will need to close by March 31st each year. No worries if you are not quite done (or even started...), you will simply apply for the balance of the funding required for the next fiscal year. We will work with you to make this as seamless and hassle-free as possible.

Lastly, I'd like to sign off with a few words of farewell, thanks and welcome. Tracy MacDonald, our fearless Executive Director, is leaving us for her next great adventure... retirement. Tracy has been with us from the start and has provided support to so many of us at the Executive, Working Group and project level. Her help and gentle nudging at the project level, insights into IH and KGH, creativity in finding solutions to the hiccups along the way, and diplomacy and professionalism in dealing with some delicate situations will be long remembered. Although sad to see Tracy leave, we are happy to report her successor has been named. Please give a warm welcome to Zeno Cescon who has accepted the position of Director, Facility Engagement. Zeno joins us with an immense knowledge of KGH and IH and a great history of working with physicians in many capacities. I look forward to working with him as the Society continues to grow.

Best wishes to you all for a great spring and a marvellous summer. Get out there and enjoy some of the beauty of this place we are so lucky to live, play and work in!!

Cara



KGHP Physicians Society Welcomes New Director, Facility Engagement

We are pleased to announce that **Zeno Cescon** has accepted the position as Director, Facility Engagement for the KGH Physicians Society.

Zeno is a seasoned senior healthcare administrator with 40+ years of experience in diagnostic imaging environments. He retired from Interior Health as the Executive Director of Diagnostic Imaging (DI) Services in May of 2017 having begun his career at Kelowna General Hospital as an X-ray technologist in the mid 1970's. He is currently working on a part-time basis as a DI Assessor for Quality Management Systems for the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta. His leadership skills and experience working with physicians, coupled with his knowledge of Interior Health, will contribute to his success in this new leadership role with the Society.

Zeno, the son of Italian immigrants, was born and raised in Trail, BC. He's been married to Sandy for 41 years and together they have two married sons, two awesome daughters-in-law and are blessed with 5 grandchildren. They all live close by each other in the Mission Flats.

Zeno and Sandy together have many relatives and friends in Italy, whom they enjoy visiting and travelling the country. They both have their Italian citizenship and are able to communicate, albeit with a lot of hand movement. In addition to travelling, Zeno enjoys camping, gardening, exercising at the gym and following his Kelowna Rockets.

He looks forward to the challenges of working for the Society, reacquainting with former colleagues and meeting new ones. As well, Zeno would like to focus on improving patient care, assisting KGH physicians to navigate through quality improvement projects all the while focusing on their health, wellness and work satisfaction. He hopes to continue the fine work started by Tracy MacDonald.



Spring Meet & Greet Barbecue A Success

May 5th was a bright and sunny day for the Spring Barbecue Meet & Greet at Sarsons Beach. Hosted by the Kelowna Medical Society, the KGH Physicians Society and the Central Okanagan Divisions of Family Practice, it was a great afternoon full of comradery and fun.

There was a good turn out with physicians from the community and hospital attending with their families. Children of all ages were entertained with lots of activities – a bouncy castle, balloon animals, glitter tattoos and badminton and quite a few of the adults enjoyed the demo of the new e-bikes by Kelowna Cycle. As Dr. Cara Wall said, "It was a super great event on a beautiful day!"



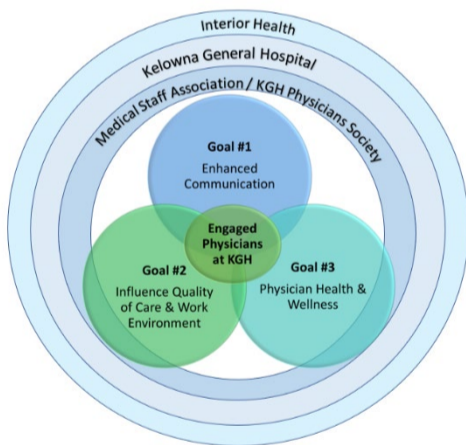
Top L to R: Making Balloon Animals, Dr. Kwok & Family, Drs. Jeanne Mace and Graeme McCauley

Bottom L to R: Sarsons Beach, Dr. Elizabeth Woodward and her son getting a glitter tattoo

A big thank you to Dr. Bernie Lewke and his wife Elsie, Dr. Jeanne Mace, and Angela S. and her family for their contribution to making the day a success. Also a big thank you to all the folks who brought delicious salads and desserts to complement the burgers & hot dogs. The Societies are sure to support this event again next year - such a great way to welcome new members to the community and get re-acquainted with colleagues outside the clinical environment.

KGH Physicians Society Prioritizes Goals for Coming Year

While still in its early days, the Society has been working hard to enhance physician engagement at KGH. To date, 243 hospital physicians have participated in and been compensated for their involvement in Departmental Retreats, Facility Engagement projects or attending the Society General Meetings.



The intent of the Society is to create opportunities to support physicians in becoming engaged in a meaningful way on matters of importance to them (you) – to improve quality patient centred care, your work environment and ultimately the health system of which you are an important part. The support from the KGH hospital senior leadership - Andrew Hughes, Health Services Administrator, Dr. Mark Masterson, Chief of Staff and Dr. Bruce Povah, Medical Director – has been invaluable in assisting the Society in moving forward on its many initiatives.

In collaboration with hospital administration, the KGHP Board of Directors and Working Group revisited its goals and has prioritized its direction for the coming year. Should you have any ideas on ways for us to advance these goals please contact us at KGHPPhysiciansSociety@gmail.com.

Strategic Goal 1: COMMUNICATION | Increase physician engagement through enhanced communication between physicians, departments and KGH / Health Authority administration.

Strategic Goal 2: ENGAGE | Increase meaningful physician engagement and influence on health care delivery within KGH focusing on improving quality of care and enhancing physicians work environment.

Strategic Goal 3: HEALTH & WELLNESS | Promote Physician Health and Wellness.

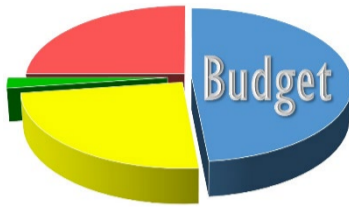


Successful Facility Engagement Projects - Making a Difference

Since its inception, the Society has allocated \$624,620 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 December issue of the KGHP Newsletter we highlighted the successful completion of three projects and over the last couple of months a few more projects have finalized with successful outcomes:

- **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. For KGHPS this amount is \$75,000.
- **Training** – FE funds cannot be used to pay physicians' sessionals and expenses for required CME accredited clinical training.

This Year's Budget



A big thank you to **Dr Giulio Dominelli**, KGHPS Secretary/Treasurer and **Dr. John Falconer**, past Chair, KGHPS Working Group for their work and effort in negotiating this year's funding for the KGHPS.

Working collaboratively with Cindy Myles, Executive Director for Facility Engagement and Amanda Harris, Facility Engagement Liaison from Doctors of BC, they were successful in securing funds to cover the liabilities associated with approved FE Projects from the past year. The Society has a total of **\$857,687** in funding for this current year. The budget was approved by the Board of Directors and Working Group in April and similar to last year the emphasis has been on allocating as much direct and indirect funding as possible to the Society's members while ensuring sufficient administrative overhead to support the work of the KGHPS. To that end, **72.8% (\$624.7K) has been allocated to physician activities**. Of interest, \$140K has been budgeted for new FE Project and \$110K has been budgeted for Departmental & Interdepartmental retreats. To view the detailed approved budget [click here](#).

The Society's administrative staff is happy to work with you to develop your ideas and assist you in applying for funding. You can reach out to them at KGHPhysiciansSociety@gmail.com

What's New



The half-day CME conference on May 10th, held at the Coast Capri Hotel, was a great success. Thanks to all who took the time to attend and learn more about the timely topic: **Opioid Harm Reduction: From Stigma to Respect**. Many have requested copies of the presentations and the ones currently available have been uploaded to the KGH Physicians website. [Click here](#) to view the valuable and timely information and don't forget to check back for the others to be posted in due course.



Effective February 1st, the sessional rates for GPs and Specialists will increase as follows:

	<i>Current Rate as of April 1, 2018</i>	Rate as of February 1, 2019
Specialists	\$157.79 per hour	\$158.97 per hour
GPs	\$133.77 per hour	\$134.77 per hour



The 2019-2022 Physician Master Agreement (PMA) has been ratified by BC's doctors. It was passed with 96.8% acceptance with 3961 physicians voting.



Please reach out to us if you have any questions or comments by emailing us at KGHPhysiciansSociety@gmail.com.