



Winter Newsletter
December 2019
Issue 12



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Meet our Board of Directors

Dr. Jeremy Harris, President

Dr. Nevin De Korompay, Vice President

Dr. Cara Wall, Past President

Dr. Maurice Blitz, Secretary/Treasurer

Dr. Sarah Sunderland, Member-at-Large

(all are Members of the KGHPS Working Group)



Working Group Members

Dr. C. Wall, *Hospitalist Services, Chair of the Working Group*

Dr. C. Baliski, *Surgery*

Dr. V. Beck, *Anesthesia*

Dr. M. Blitz, *Surgery*

Dr. N. De Korompay, *Medical Imaging*

Dr. M. Duncan, *Pediatrics*

Dr. F. Halperin, *Cardiac Sciences*

Dr. J. Harris, *Surgery*

Dr. M. Hickman, *Hospitalist Services*

Dr. P. Jiang, *Residents*

Dr. A. Kwan, *Emergency*

Dr. J. Mace, *Family Practice*

Dr. D. Manders, *Medical Imaging*

Dr. S. McGregor, *OB/GYNS.*

Dr. J. Pritchard, *Medicine*

Dr. S. Sunderland, *Anesthesia*

Dr. A. Wilmer, *Lab Medicine*

Dr. E. Woodward, *Psychiatry*

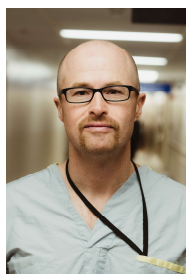


*L to R – Back row: Dr. D. Manders, Z. Cescon, Dr. M. Blitz, Dr. M. Duncan, Dr. C. Baliski, Dr. M. Hickman, Dr. A. Kwan
L to R – Front row: Dr. C. Wall, Dr. P. Jiang, Dr. J. Mace, Dr. S. Sunderland, H. Wendt, Dr. A. Wilmer
Not shown: Drs. V. Beck, N. De Korompay, F. Halperin, J. Harris, S. McGregor, J. Pritchard, E. Woodward*

Staff:

Zeno Cescon, *Director, Facility Engagement*

Helga Wendt, *Admin. Asst./Project Lead*



Message from Dr. Jeremy Harris, President Medical Staff Association / KGH Physicians Society Board of Directors

Warmest holiday wishes on behalf of your KGH Physicians Society Board of Directors!

It has been a busy and exciting fall at KGH. We have continued to enjoy our monthly Working Group meetings approving/funding creative and productive physician led projects designed to improve patient care, collaboration with administration, and our work environment. We met with our colleagues from across Interior Health to showcase some of our ideas and learn from their successes. We feel very appreciative of our current “team” but

remain cognizant of the importance of planning for the future. With this in mind, please reach out if you have any interest in becoming formally involved with the Working Group or Board of Directors next year!

Our Physician Appreciation Day in October went so well that we have decided to have another one this winter. Stay tuned for timing: have another free coffee and feel good about yourself and all the work that you do! We have been making some improvements to the current Medical Staff Lounge including a new working TV, Keurig machine, and after-hours snacks. This should be up and running early in January so drop in to check it out. Furthermore, we are continuing to work with administration towards a KGH Physician Wellness Center – healthier physicians provide more efficient patient centered care!

Our staff appreciation “Christmas Treats” event was once again an amazing success. Over three days in December, we delivered delicious food and drinks (from the FIXX Café) on your behalf throughout the hospital to everyone who continues to contribute to KGH on a daily basis. It was tremendous fun and a good reminder that a small token of appreciation can go a very long way...if you have had people thanking you lately and have no idea why – this is probably it!

On this note, we once again want to acknowledge the tremendous leadership, skill, and dedication of Helga Wendt (Administrative Assistant/Project Lead) and Zeno Cescon (Director of Facility Engagement). The Society literally exists because of them (you are both remarkable people and remain greatly appreciated!).

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to you and your families! We look forward to even more physician engagement in 2020!

P.S. I would be remiss if I didn't also mention how much I am looking forward to celebrating a Leafs Stanley Cup this spring...1967 was a long time ago (in case you don't know me that well yet, I am an optimist).

Sincerely,
Jeremy

What ARE Facility Engagement Projects?

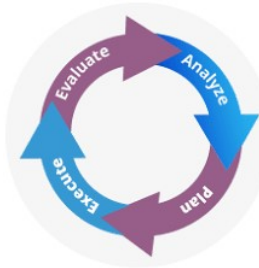
So, you might be asking yourself, what types of projects are approved by the KGH Physicians Society Working Group and how, exactly, have they helped advance our vision of providing outstanding care and increased physician engagement? Here are just a few examples and many more can be found on the KGH Physicians Society website by [clicking here](#):



Dr. Sarah Sunderland noted that there were no pre-surgery materials for children and their families when the youngster is going to have surgery at KGH, where approximately 800 pediatric surgeries are performed per year. The resulting project "**Improving Preparation for Pediatric Surgery at KGH**" resulted in the compilation of a video tour outlining the steps pediatric patients and their families take when visiting the hospital. The video ([click here](#) to view it) is accompanied by a workbook that can be reviewed by the

family while watching the video.

If you are a new physician who has been hired into a department, Emergency Services for example, what orientation is available to you so that you can transition your practice to KGH? **Dr. Brandy Bursey** saw a need and began her project "**KGH Emergency Department Mentorship Program**" which resulted in the development of a standard orientation manual and support mechanism for all new physician hires in the ED. The manual outlines Departmental procedures and expectations, admission algorithms, outpatient referrals and services and a myriad of other information an incoming physician needs to know.



Departmental strategic planning projects have been on the forefront and have assisted the Departments of Surgery, Cardiac Sciences, OB/GYN, Pediatrics, Medicine and Emergency - among others - in creating a sustainable strategic plan and roadmap for the future. The goal is to initiate a shared vision and, ultimately, prepare an action plan to assist the department in moving forward and continue to provide patient care in a fluid and ever-changing environment.



And **Retreats**! Thank you to all the KGH physicians who have held departmental and inter-departmental Retreats! Each department is eligible to hold 4 retreats each year with the goal of providing input into planning and prioritizing initiatives related to quality patient and family centered care. For more information, [click here](#) for the full Retreat guidelines which includes paying for meals and physician sessional fees.



Don't forget that all KGH physicians participating in an approved project or retreat are eligible to claim **sessional fees**. Currently, the rates are \$158.97 per hour for Specialists and \$134.77 per hour for general practitioners. We are happy to assist you in getting your project from inception to reality - just email us at KGHPhysiciansSociety@gmail.com. The application form is online - please [click here](#) for more information.



Thank you for Stopping by! The Coffee Was On Us! Physician Appreciation Day - We Wanted to Acknowledge All You Do!

On Thursday, October 17, 2019, the KGH Physicians Society was pleased to hand out 'Thank You' cards to KGH Physicians for a complimentary beverage of your choice from the Perking Lot. Zeno Cescon, Director of Facility Engagement for the KGH Physicians Society (shown right), said "What a fabulous day interacting with KGH physicians and acknowledging all that they do. A big shout out to Dr. Graeme McCauley for helping out during the day and chatting with the physicians, to Amanda Walker and her Perking Lot staff, as well as Nancy Wells and her team for all of their organization and awesome service. Well done!!"



The KGH Physicians Society is planning another Coffee Day in mid-February. Watch your in-box for more information in the coming weeks.



Thank you to all the Physicians who stopped by and took the opportunity to chat and receive a complimentary beverage from The Perking Lot! Left to right: Dr. Graeme McCauley, Dr. Maurice Blitz, Dr. Joey Podavin, Dr. Chris Baliski, Dr. Giulio Dominelli and Dr. Sue McLoughlin.

Changes Are Coming to the Medical Staff Lounge

The KGH Physicians Society is pleased to sponsor some changes to the Medical Staff Lounge. The beginning of January will see the addition of a new television set, a coffee, tea and hot chocolate station as well as the addition of a variety of packaged healthy snacks, including gluten free.



We believe this will foster a welcoming lounge which will encourage medical staff to stop by, especially after hours when the cafeteria and coffee shops at KGH are closed, and have a bite to eat, a relaxing moment and chat with colleagues. In order to maintain the integrity of the lounge, a coded door lock is required. The door lock code is 2266*. As well, there will be a note on the door with the cell phone number of Zeno Cescon, KGHPs Director of Facility Engagement, who

has kindly agreed to answer the texts during reasonable hours if you have forgotten the code number. As well, please feel free to text Zeno with any suggestions for beverages or snacks.



The KGHPs is planning an **Open House in the Lounge on Thursday, January 9, 2020 from 2:00pm to 3:30pm.** More information coming soon and we hope to see you there!

The Christmas Tour of Treats Was a Great Success!



On December 10th to 12th, the KGH Physicians Society was pleased to visit the numerous departments throughout KGH and serve 850 staff with delectable treats prepared by The FIXX Cafe. Delicious treats included hot and cold beverages, delicious homemade key lime pies and chocolate dipped strawberries, as well as savory treats like the cheese and charcuterie skewers! Here is a sampling of some of the departments visited.



For Your Calendar.....

January 9, 2020

- Open House - Medical Staff Lounge
- 2:00pm - 3:30pm

May 3, 2020

- Spring "Meet and Greet" BBQ (a joint collaboration between KGHPs, Kelowna Medical Society and Divisions of Family Practice)
- Time: 12:30pm to 3:30pm
- Location: To Be Announced

May 4, 2020

- Medical Staff Association and KGH Physicians Society Semi-Annual Meeting
- Time: 5:00pm - Reception / 5:30pm - MSA Semi-Annual Meeting / 6:30pm - KGHPs Semi-Annual Meeting
- Location: IH CAC Lecture Theatre (Rose Avenue)

Do You Have a Facility Engagement Funding Proposal?



Do you have a Facility Engagement Activity you'd like to initiate? We'd love to hear from you. [Click here](#) for the online application form or [here](#) for more information about funding requirements which have just been updated.

If you have any questions, we're here to assist. Email us at KGHPPhysiciansSociety@gmail.com.

Looking forward to hearing from you.



It's influenza season - take the time to get your vaccination. Click on the logo to find a clinic near you!

Flu Clinic Locator
FIND A CLINIC NEAR YOU.



Be Safe! N95 Respirator Fit Testing

Book your appointment with Jill Heinrichs by calling 250.862.4411 or via email

at Jill.Heinrichs@InteriorHealth.ca. Hours of Operation are Tuesday, 0800 hrs to 1600 hrs. or Thursday, 1200 hrs to 1900hrs. The location is room 2331 in the Centennial Building.



We Are Asking for Your Feedback!

We want to be sure we are providing up-to-date and pertinent information for our members. Please provide your input into our website content (www.KelownaPhysiciansSociety.ca) or our quarterly newsletters. Do you have an article you'd like to highlight or a story you'd like to share? Please email us at KGHPPhysiciansSociety@gmail.com.

Thank you for your ongoing support!





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Welcome to the Kelowna General Hospital Physicians Society. We will be providing relevant and engaging content on a regular basis.

www.KelownaPhysiciansSociety.ca

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