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## HPCN Updates

### From the Board Chair

Greetings! I am committed to providing you with a summary of key discussions and decisions from our Board and Governance meetings. Here are the highlights from our Monday, August 20, 2018 Board meeting:

- The Calgary zone received funding for the Opioid strategy from the Ministry of Health, and all seven PCNs have agreed to participate in the initiative.. One of the first priorities is to provide greater access to Suboxone . A survey was recently sent to physicians in an effort to determine a baseline. As we did not hear from everyone, we will be re-sending the questions and contacting physicians to ensure that we obtain all of the needed information. Ultimately the funding will support training, care pathways and support to address this very important issue.
- Business Planning is moving ahead with changes to the Adolescent Mental health and POET program. An update will be provided at the AGM.
- The Board had a thoughtful discussion about the upcoming AGM, on October 15, as they finalized the agenda. All members were sent a 'Save the Date' notification and an official invitation to the event is coming in Mid-September.
- The Board approved the Airdrie Community Physician Committee to sponsor a Wine and Cheese prior to the AGM on Monday, October 15. Details to come soon.
- There will be three vacant Director positions on the Highland PCN Board. Please see the updated [Director job description](#) to see if you, or one of your colleagues, would be interested in becoming a Board Member. Nomination forms are available [here](#).
- Last, but not least, our Executive Director and Medical Director have both stated they will be leaving their positions. We are sad to see them go, but are forever grateful for the work they have done. Micheline Nimmock will be retiring from her position in June 2019. Dr. Tammy Paulgarrd-McKnight has not yet decided on a date. The board briefly discussed possible approaches for recruitment.

Respectfully submitted by Dr. Dianne Smith. Have questions, comments or concerns? Please [email me](#).

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## Calgary Zone Rural Palliative Care In-Home Funding Program

Last year, the Calgary Zone Rural Palliative Care In-Home Funding Program

was created. This funding program helps those clients with palliative conditions who live in the rural Calgary Zone to stay at home. In collaboration with clients and their families, the rural palliative and home care teams identify and authorize the amount and level of additional care that is needed. The Calgary Zone has prepared an [update](#) on usage and shared some feedback from patients, their families and health care providers.

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## Questions and Concerns from Members

*Can I bill for consulting with one or more of my PCN team?*

Yes! If you conduct a formal scheduled conference regarding a patient with one or more of your multidisciplinary team members, you can bill it in 15-minute increments. For example, if you spent 23 minutes, you can bill twice. The pay is \$41.99/increment and the code to use is 03.05JA. Please review the AMA fee navigator and if you have any further questions, please email [Marilyn Kroon](#).

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## Our Question for You

We are always looking for ways to improve our communications with our physician and staff members. With this in mind, we would like to ask you a question:

What types of articles do you want to see in these newsletters? Would you like to see more studies, updates or area events? Let us know!

Please send your comments, questions and ideas to [communications@hpcn.ca](mailto:communications@hpcn.ca)

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**Studies and Workshops**

**Grief Support Group coming this fall**

The Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church in Airdrie will be offering an 8-week grief support group beginning in October. This is a general grief group focused on helping people cope with loss. People of all backgrounds, beliefs, races, orientations, etc. are welcome. If you or any of your patients are interested in participating, the cost is \$25. Register by email [here](#).

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## **Pediatric Primary Care training opportunity**

Registration for the next Pediatric Primary Care Mini-Fellowship training program is underway. To participate in this training program, you must be available for the full fellowship program which spans six months and involves both the weekend conference trains and the biweekly consolation calls. The weekend conference training will take place May 3 - 5, 2019. To register, please email the following to [CanREACH@ahs.ca](mailto:CanREACH@ahs.ca):

- Name and Title
- Clinic/Professional Address
- Phone number
- Email address
- Practice Area (family physician, pediatrician, nurse, etc.)
- Registering Body (for certificates: Royal College, CFPC, etc.)
- specify that you are a member of the Highland Primary Care Network

Once CanREACH has received your information, you will receive a confirmation email. If you do not receive information within one business week, please email [CanREACH](#) again to ensure your email was received.

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## **Additional Resources**

### **PCN resources for physicians**

We have created this section in our bi-weekly Thursday newsletter and on our website under [hpcn.ca/resources](http://hpcn.ca/resources) for physician members as a tool to access frequently used Highland PCN forms.

Health Improvement Program (HIP) - Online Referral Form

Health Improvement Program (HIP) - Print Referral Form

Chronic Pain Referral Form

Specialty Health Team Referral Form

Physician Service Invoice

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## Connect with us

Feedback regarding our Thursday newsletter can be directed to our communications team at [communications@hpcn.ca](mailto:communications@hpcn.ca).



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