

BRIEFING NOTE

**Major Emergency & Disaster Programs
At
The BC Cancer Agency**

For

Brian Schmidt O.D. M.Sc.

**Acting President
BC Cancer Agency
and
Senior Vice President
Provincial Health Services Authority**

To:
Brian Schmidt Acting President, BC Cancer Agency

Purpose:
For Information

Date:
April 6 , 2011

Subject:
Review of Emergency Management
and Business Continuity Programs at the BC Cancer Agency

Issue:
The advent of a new acting President at the Agency, the position of President having an intended policy leadership role during a major emergency or disaster impacting the functions of the Cancer Agency and change enveloping key support services, occasioned by consolidation, underpin the need for a Program familiarization.

Background:
In the fall of 2005 the BC Hydro grid in the area surrounding the Vancouver Centre tripped and the auxiliary generator failed to start plunging the centre into darkness for a protracted period. The ensuing review noted the need for a comprehensive emergency management program similar to the one at Women's and Children's Hospital. That *proposed* program was supported by the then Emergency Program Director and the VP responsible at PHSA and a position budgeted for from PHSA.

x Starting in 2006, a part time consultant position was therefore funded at PHSA for BCCA and the present incumbent became the portfolio holder. However, work time was also retained for the position to undertake some corporate provincial programs then evolving at PHSA. The workload necessitated the position converting to a full FTE in 2008. The split for part of the workload to be allocated to BCCA, and part to PHSA and Ministry of Health Services initiatives, remains in effect today.

Since the position was established the Agency has experienced a number of serious events and the emergency program initiated in 2006 has responded to each one. The totality of the present Program is provided as Attachment 1. The incidents have included repeated power failures of varying lengths, a very serious vehicle accident in Vancouver Centre *where* a car drove down the length of the corridor beside the cafeteria injuring both patients and staff and the arson at 686 West Broadway that left three BCCA programs and the Foundation without usable office space for a number of months.

A number of more minor but none the less potentially serious events including fire, spills of hazardous materials and aggressive behavior toward staff have occurred. In the spring of 2009 the Agency was the subject of re-accreditation by Accreditation Canada. The previous accreditation in 2005 had found serious deficiencies in the organizations planning and preparedness for serious incidents and made recommendations for improvements. In 2009 the Agency was commended for the comprehensive nature of its

Emergency Management program, the awareness of staff around response procedures and the policy support given to the program by the Agency leadership and Executive.

Considerations:

The present program has had good support from staff and from BCCA leadership. The PHSA continues to financially support the FTE at this time. ○

The Accreditation process is becoming more comprehensive over time as it mirrors the changes introduced by its sister organization JACO in the United States. It is probable that more extensive requirements, detailed documentation of activities and specific 'Required Operating Practices' will be a feature of the 2013 BCCA Accreditation in the *Effective Organization* section of the Qmentum that addresses emergency management and associated requirements. The BCCA is well placed to be able to meet the evolving Standards and the BCCA emergency management program is set up to be sustainable, comprehensive, robust and a repository of ongoing documentation for future evaluation. X

Risks:

The final disposition of the PHSA Emergency Management Program from a consolidation perspective is in doubt. A form of service delivery has been proposed by Fraser Health. Their model may envisage no embedded staff, less resources, a narrowing of roles and coordination and more workload placed, in the case of PHSA, on the individual Agencies. It is further not clear as to the extent that Business Continuity will be supported.

Consolidation, at least at this time, has produced considerable vagueness as to the accountability for emergency management related concerns. Paramount here is the issue of color codes and code drills. Further, consolidation has made access to and contacts for some services such as Facilities, Communications and IT far less effective as staff are often not familiar with the needs of each Agency, at least in the short term. Emergency Management is endeavoring to track changes and identify key contact points.

In the past the PHSA had budget to support emergency management activities of each Agency. It now appears that for 2011/12 there is no such budget for either capital or discretionary operating requirements and any costs will fall to the individual Centres or the Agency as a whole. While anticipated costs are not great they may be unanticipated for, for example, equipment replacements or communications equipment.

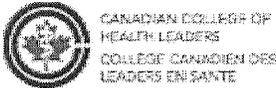
Role of the President:

The emergency management Program envisions three key roles for the President : 1) program review and endorsement, 2) advocacy within the Agency that the precepts of emergency planning and preparedness are the responsibility of each department and should be an integral part of their best practice and patient centered health care and 3) awareness of the Emergency Operations Centre process and the knowledge base to provide policy guidance in the event of a major emergency or disaster faced by BCCA. X

Conclusion:

This briefing note is prepared to provide an insight into the existing BCCA Emergency Management Program and to provide the basis for discussion as to future needs and Program development, particularly in the context of Lower Mainland Consolidation.

Français SEARCH



- [Home](#)
- [Contacts](#)
- [Site Map](#)
- [Print View](#)



Location: [Home](#) / [About the College](#) / [Board of Directors](#) / [Brian Schmidt, FCCHSE](#)

About the College

About the College

The College turns 40!

College News

Membership

CHE & FCCHSE Designations

Professional Development

Regional Chapters

National Awards Program

Publications

Corporate Services

Policy and Research

Brian Schmidt, FCCHSE



Brian Schmidt, FCCHSE
British Columbia Director (2010-2013)

Brian Schmidt is Senior Vice President for the Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA) in British Columbia. His academic background includes an O.D. in Optometry (University of Waterloo) and a M.Sc. in Health Administration and Planning (UBC). Brian is a Fellow and Board Member of the Canadian College of Health Service Executives, and a Clinical Professor in the School of Population and Public Health at UBC. He is a surveyor for Accreditation Canada, and a former member and Chair of a number of health related Boards including the Board of Directors of the

Health Employers Association of BC, and the Health Care Leaders Association of BC. Brian lives in West Vancouver with his spouse and two children.

Contact Brian:
Telephone: (604) 675-7456
Fax: (604) 708-2756
E-mail: bschmidt@phsa.ca

Members Only

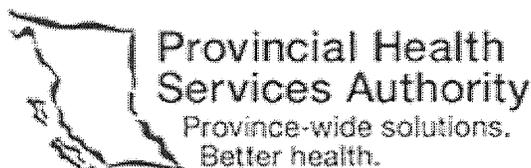
Username:

Password:

Remember this login

[Forgotten Username or Password?](#)

Your banner ad here!
Contact cchse for details.



[Home](#) > [About PHSA](#) > PHSA Executive

PHSA Executive



Lynda Cranston, President and CEO

Lynda Cranston came to the PHSA with a significant background in health care. Prior to joining PHSA, Mrs. Cranston was President and CEO of the Fraser Health Authority, which was created by the amalgamation of the former South Fraser, Fraser Valley and the Simon Fraser Health Regions. Mrs. Cranston had been the CEO of the Simon Fraser Health Region. Mrs. Cranston was the first CEO of the Canadian Blood Services (CBS) until her return to British Columbia in 2001. Prior to CBS, Mrs. Cranston held various CEO positions in BC. Mrs. Cranston is the recipient of a number of awards, and has been named as one of the top 100 women in Canada three times. In 2007, she was inducted into The Women's Executive Network (WXN)TM Top 100 Hall of Fame.

Mark Allen, Chief Human Resources Officer

Mark Allen joined the PHSA after working as the Vice-President Human Resources at Rogers Cable in Ontario. Prior to that he held the position of Vice-President of Human Resources at Pillsbury Canada Ltd. Mr. Allen has an extensive background in human resources management and through his employment has worked with large organizations, all of which have been faced with considerable change. He has broad human resources and labour relations skills.

John Andruschak, Vice President

In 2009, John Andruschak was appointed to lead the consolidation of Laboratory Medicine & Pathology services in the Lower Mainland. In addition to this ongoing initiative, John is also responsible for the Mobile Medical Unit, and the Provincial Blood Coordinating Office. Prior to this role, John was Vice President, Corporate & Clinical Services at PHSA. His extensive health care experience spans 28 years, including previous roles as the Provincial Director of the BC Perinatal Health Program, and Director of Health Services in Fraser Health.

Leslie Arnold, President – BC Mental Health and Addiction Services

With a background in social work, Leslie Arnold has more than 25 years in public service. She has held senior administrative positions for a number of government agencies and health facilities, including the Forensic Psychiatric Services Commission and Riverview Hospital. Ms. Arnold is responsible for PHSA's comprehensive range of mental health programs and services for children, youth and adults in BC.

David Babiuk, Provincial Executive Director – Cardiac Services BC

David Babiuk was appointed Provincial Executive Director, Cardiac Services BC in April, 2008. He has 30 years experience in provincial governments having served as the Associate Deputy Minister of Health in both Saskatchewan and British Columbia. David joined the British Columbia public service in 1990 serving in a number of positions within the Ministry of Health prior to joining the PHSA in 2002.

Dr. Robert C. Brunham, Provincial Executive Director – BC Centre for Disease Control

Dr. Robert C. Brunham is a distinguished physician scientist with an international reputation in the field of infectious diseases. For 12 years he led the Microbiology and Infectious Disease programs at the University of Manitoba, establishing it as the national leader in infectious disease research and training. Since 1999 he has been the Medical Director of the BCCDC, providing scientific leadership and contributing to the Centre's mandate in delivering evidence-based public health programming.

Thomas Chan, Chief Financial Officer

Thomas Chan is responsible for heading up the PHSA's strategic finance support functions. Before joining the PHSA, Mr. Chan spent 13 years with the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB). During that time, he held progressively more responsible positions culminating in the role of Vice-President and CFO. Mr. Chan was responsible for the cost effective operation of a full range of services within the Finance and Corporate Services Division.

Ellen Chesney, Chief Administrative Officer, Research

With nearly 20 years of senior management experience, including more than five years as the PHSA's chief communications officer and nearly two years as PHSA's VP Communications & Research Administration, Ellen Chesney brings a strong background in health care and strategic management to her role as chief administrative officer, research. Prior to joining the PHSA, Ms. Chesney was the director of public affairs and communications with Children's & Women's Health Centre of BC. As chief administrative officer, research, Ms. Chesney works with our agencies to ensure we are maximizing opportunities for efficiencies and effectiveness in research administration. She also works to strengthen PHSA's role as an academic partner in collaboration with key academic institutions.

Dr. Jan Christilaw, President, BC Women's Hospital & Health Centre

Dr. Christilaw has over 25 years of experience in women's health and extensive experience at BC Women's, including Aboriginal women's health, the Oak Tree Clinic for HIV positive women, and all Specialized Women's Health programs. Dr. Christilaw is past President of the Society of Obstetrician-Gynecologists of Canada and is currently a Clinical Professor in the Department of Obstetrics-Gynecology at UBC. Dr. Christilaw is also Vice President, Medical Affairs, BC Women's; Senior Medical Director, Provincial Women's Health Team, BC Women's; and Co-Leader, Provincial Women's Health Network.

Larry Gold, President - BC Children's Hospital and Sunny Hill Health Centre for Children

Larry Gold brings to PHSA extensive clinical and administrative experience, the majority of which has been in pediatric environments. He has provided consulting and advisory services to domestic

and international pediatric acute care providers and related organizations, including the planning and commissioning phases of a state-of-the art Children's Hospital in Cairo, Egypt, which will be the largest pediatric cancer hospital in the world. In addition to his recent consulting work, he was the president and CEO of the Connecticut Children's Medical Center.

Sherry Hamilton, Chief Nursing Officer, Government Liaison & Patient Focused Funding

Sherry Hamilton has a varied background in clinical practice and management, strategic planning and consulting with regional health authority stakeholders. Her career as a nurse has spanned a number of communities in BC and, prior to moving into a corporate role, she was the Director of the high-risk antepartum/postpartum program at BC Women's Hospital & Health Centre. Ms. Hamilton holds an MBA in Executive Management from Royal Roads University in addition to a Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

Dr. Adeera Levin, Provincial Executive Director – BC Provincial Renal Agency

In addition to her PHSA role, Dr. Adeera Levin is a professor of medicine at UBC, the Co-Director of the UBC Clinical Investigator Program BC, the Chair of the Fellowship and Scholarship Committee for the Kidney Foundation of Canada, and Chair of the Kidney Disease Outcomes Quality Initiative, based in the US. Since 1990, she has developed a series of multi-centre observational and interventional trials with Canadian and international investigators and has been involved in almost 100 peer reviewed publications.

Dr. David Levy, President, BC Cancer Agency

David Levy comes from the United Kingdom, where he held positions as the Medical Director of the North Trent Cancer Network and a Medical Advisor for Cancer to the Department of Health. He has extensive experience in cancer strategy and policy, and previously served as a national clinical lead for the National Cancer Modernization Program. David is a fellow of the Royal College of Physicians and the Royal College of Radiologists, London.

Jennifer MacKenzie, Vice President, Strategic Planning, Transformation Support and Innovation

Jennifer brings more than a decade of clinical and administrative experience to the PHSA. She is responsible for strategic planning, organizational performance management and supporting health care improvement initiatives with project management, change management and system and process improvement expertise. Ms. MacKenzie has a Bachelor of Science in Occupational Therapy and a Masters of Business Administration.

Dr. Stuart MacLeod, Vice President, Academic Liaison and Research Coordination

Dr. MacLeod is responsible for leading PHSA agencies in developing and capitalizing on research and academic partnerships. In January, 2010, Dr. MacLeod stepped down from the roles of Executive Director of the Child and Family Research Institute and Associate Dean, Research at UBC's Faculty of Medicine to focus his attention on his PHSA portfolio and on his interests in health policy and international child health research. Prior to joining PHSA, Dr. MacLeod held executive positions in health and research administration in Ontario and practiced internal medicine.

Michael Marchbank, Chief Operating Officer

As Chief Operating Officer for PHSA, Michal Marchbank is responsible for all PHSA agencies and programs as well as Physician Support Services, Research, Surgical Patient Registry and Public & Population Health. Michael has served PHSA in various executive positions since its establishment in 2003, including Executive Vice-President, and most recently, Executive Vice President, Quality Management, Performance Improvement & Innovation. Prior to joining PHSA, Michael held the positions of interim president and CEO of the Fraser Health Authority and CEO of Fraser Valley Health Region.

Georgene Miller, Chief Administrative Officer, Quality, Safety & Outcome Improvement

Georgene Miller brings more than 25 years of health care leadership to her role as Chief Quality, Safety and Medical Affairs Administrative Officer. With a diverse background in clinical practice, health care administration, strategic planning and education, Ms. Miller has worked provincially and nationally on a variety of patient safety initiatives. Prior to taking on the role of, interim Vice President, she was Corporate Director Strategic Services, Medical Affairs, Quality, Safety & Risk Management for PHSA.

Barry Rivelis, Chief Information Officer, IMITS

Barry Rivelis was appointed Chief Information Officer at PHSA on June 15, 2009. In the fall of 2009, Barry also assumed leadership of the IMIS organizations of Vancouver Coastal Health and Providence Health Care. Prior to joining PHSA, Barry held the position of Vice President, Healthcare at TELUS Corporation, where he was responsible for leading TELUS's national healthcare strategy. Barry brings an extensive background in information technology and management through experience gained in a variety of settings, including senior level positions with Cap Gemini Ernst & Young (CGEY) in Vancouver and Ernst & Young Consulting in Toronto. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Economics from York University and an MBA from the Schulich School of Business.

Carl Roy, Senior Vice President

As Senior Vice President, Carl Roy's portfolio includes the Emergency Health Services Commission (EHSC) and the BC Ambulance Service (BCAS), Consolidated Services and Performance Measurement & Reporting. Carl has over 30 years of health care leadership, which includes serving as President & CEO of Providence Health Care (PHC) from 2001 - 2006.

Brian Schmidt, Senior Vice President

Brian Schmidt is responsible for Strategic Planning, Transformation Support & Innovation within PHSA, as well as major development projects within PHSA including the redevelopment of the Children's & Women's Hospital and Northern Cancer Strategy. He also has responsibility for corporate services that include Strategic Human Resources, Legal & Privacy, Emergency Management & Business Continuity, and Enterprise Risk Management. Brian has wide-ranging experience in health care administration in senior capacities at the BC Cancer Agency and BC Children's Hospital. He is a surveyor for Accreditation Canada, a Clinical Professor at UBC and sits on the Board of Directors of the Canadian College of Health Leaders.

Kim Williams, Provincial Executive Director, Perinatal Services BC

Kim Williams' passion for perinatal nursing began as a front line nurse over 20 years ago. As her

career has progressed, she has remained committed to providing the best services for women, infants and children in BC. As a nurse leader, health care administrator, planner and most recently as the director of Provincial Specialized Perinatal Service, Kim has worked collaboratively with clinicians, families and other stakeholders across the province to strengthen the network of maternal and newborn services, with a goal of seeing women and newborns receive the best high quality perinatal care as close to their home community as safely possible.

Related Info

PHSA Organizational Chart

Last Updated: Friday, March 11, 2011



- [EMERGENCY NUMBERS](#)
- [COMPLIMENTS & COMPLAINTS](#)
- [HEALTHLINK BC](#)



PHSA improves the health of British Columbians by seeking province-wide solutions to specialized health care needs in collaboration with BC health authorities and other partners. Learn more about our [agencies and services](#)



Copyright © 2010 Provincial Health Services Authority. All rights reserved. [Terms of Use](#) | [Privacy](#)