
Board Brief summarizes the board meetings of BC Emergency Health Services (BCEHS). It is shared with BCEHS agencies, government, media and other stakeholders to keep them informed about the activities of BCEHS.

- BCEHS Board Briefs are available online at: <http://www.bcehs.ca/about/accountability/board-meetings>
 - *Media contact:* BCEHS Communications at 250-953-3651
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Summary of the February 26, 2015 Board Meeting

The BC Emergency Health Services (BCEHS) Board has six scheduled open board meetings per year. BCEHS is committed to holding open board meetings outside the Lower Mainland twice a year. The February 26, 2015 meeting was held in Vancouver.

Question & Answer/Public Presentation Period

In the spirit of its commitment to public accessibility, the board of BC Emergency Health Services provides opportunities for the public to schedule presentations and to ask questions of the board prior to the beginning of every open board meeting. There were two presentations from the public:

- A former paramedic and now supervisor spoke to express his thanks to the leadership and board of BCEHS for their commitment to a new vision and direction for BC Ambulance Service and BCEHS.
- A member of the community expressed his thanks and gratitude for the service provided to his family over the years, and presented the board chair with a gift.

Business Meeting

Enhancing Psychological Supports for BCEHS Paramedics and Dispatchers:

Nancy Kotani, Executive Director, Strategic Planning and Implementation presented an update on the review of the psychological support requirements for emergency responders. There are plans to develop a formal critical incident stress management service (CISM) which would be linked to the existing PHSA Health Promotion and Employee Wellness resource. This service would provide standardized response to a critical incident as well as the monitoring and evaluation of the effectiveness of the program.

Discussion among board members included the following points:

- Changing the culture of BCEHS around accepting and seeking support.
- The understanding that we need to protect our staff and promote their mental health well-being.
- The challenges around providing support in such a vast geographical area; use of conservation officers.

Board Committee Reports

The Quality & Access Committee:

Mr. Ritchie reported that preparation for BCEHS first review by Accreditation Canada. There are sixteen required organizational practices that must be met for Accreditation Canada. The review takes place in the Fall 2015.

Governance & Human Resources Committee:

As part of the Accreditation survey in the Fall, there are new standards set for boards of directors as well. Members asked to review these standards. A schedule to ensure readiness has been prepared.

Finance Committee:

Management presented the budget to the end of January 1 2015, reporting a balance budget and forecasting a balanced budget at the end of the fiscal year.

Audit Committee:

The external auditors (PWC) provided an interim audit update report; noting all recommendations on track.

Research Committee:

No report.

Next Meeting of the board in public is scheduled for April 23, 2015 in Vancouver.