

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

PROVINCIAL ENGAGEMENT

BETWEEN:

**HIS MAJESTY THE KING IN RIGHT OF THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH
COLUMBIA, as represented by the Ministry of Health**

(the “Ministry”)

AND:

**FRASER HEALTH AUTHORITY, INTERIOR HEALTH AUTHORITY,
VANCOUVER ISLAND HEALTH AUTHORITY, VANCOUVER COASTAL
HEALTH AUTHORITY, NORTHERN HEALTH AUTHORITY and
PROVINCIAL HEALTH SERVICES AUTHORITY**

**(individually a “Health Authority” and
collectively the “Health Authorities”)**

AND:

ASSOCIATION OF DOCTORS OF BC

(the “Doctors of BC”)

(individually a “party” and collectively the “parties”)

Public Sector Governance and Accountability

The Ministry and Health Authorities have taken important steps to strengthen governance and accountability in the health system in British Columbia, including:

- Developing principles to strengthen accountability, promote cost control and ensure public sector entities operate in the best interests of taxpayers.
- Regularly setting out government's strategic priorities for the health system as part of Ministry annual Service Plans

There is an ongoing desire to strengthen and clarify relationships, both across the public sector and within the health sector, in order to promote strategic collaboration and ensure public funds are spent in a responsible manner.

Strengthening the Relationship with Physicians

Within this context, the Ministry and Health Authorities are committed to and mutually accountable for strengthening and clarifying their relationship with physicians at provincial, regional and local levels. At the provincial level, this will be carried out through constructive engagement and dialogue between senior executives of the Ministry, Health Authorities and the Doctors of BC, primarily through a number of key individual points of contact as well as the senior decision making committees of the Ministry, Health Authorities and Doctors of BC. Constructive engagement and dialogue between the parties is intended to:

- Enable effective alignment of strategic planning on issues significantly affecting physicians;
- Enable strategic level discussions on major issues/policies affecting the parties;
- Support the development of effective relationships at senior decision making levels; and,
- Support the improvement of engagement and consultation and mutual accountability between physicians and Health Authorities at Regional and Local levels throughout the province.

The following are the key interactive contacts for the parties:

a) President Doctors of BC – Minister of Health

On an annual basis, prior to the finalization of the Ministry's annual Service Plan, the Minister and the Deputy Minister of Health and the President and the CEO of Doctors of BC will hold a meeting to share and discuss their strategic priorities for the upcoming year.

b) Doctors of BC Executive Committee – Leadership Council

- (i) The President and the CEO of the Doctors of BC will be invited to make an annual presentation to the Leadership Council on the strategic plan and priorities of Doctors of BC for the year;
- (ii) Doctors of BC will be invited to add agenda items for consideration by Leadership Council on a quarterly basis, or on an ad hoc basis as determined appropriate by the Chair of Leadership Council;
- (iii) Leadership Council will be invited to make an annual presentation on health system priorities for the year to the Executive Committee of Doctors of BC;
- (iv) Leadership Council will be invited to add agenda items for consideration by the Executive Committee of Doctors of BC on a quarterly basis, or on an ad hoc basis as determined appropriate by the CEO of Doctors of BC; and,
- (v) Doctors of BC will be invited to participate in initiatives of the Leadership Council Standing Committees as determined appropriate by Leadership Council and/or the Chairs of the Standing Committees.

c) Doctors of BC Executive Committee – Provincial Medical Services Executive Council

- (i) The President and the CEO of the Doctors of BC will be invited to make an annual presentation to the Physician Medical Services Executive Council (PMSEC) on the strategic plan and priorities of Doctors of BC for the year;
- (ii) Doctors of BC will be invited to add agenda items for consideration by PMSEC on a quarterly basis, or on an ad hoc basis as determined appropriate by the Co-Chairs of the Committee;
- (iii) PMSEC will be invited to make an annual presentation on its strategic plan and/or priorities for the year to the Executive Committee of Doctors of BC;
- (iv) PMSEC will be invited to add agenda items for consideration by the Executive Committee of Doctors of BC on a quarterly basis, or on an ad hoc basis as determined appropriate by the CEO of Doctors of BC.

- d) Doctors of BC Executive Director of Communications and Public Engagement – Ministry and Health Authority Communications Directors**
- e) Doctors of BC Executive Director(s) responsible for Joint Clinical Committees – Ministry and Health Authority Senior Staff Responsible for Joint Committees**
- f) Doctors of BC’s Departments of Engagement and Quality Improvement, and Economics, Advocacy and Negotiation – Health Authority Medical Affairs**
 - (i) Senior representatives from Doctors of BC’s Departments of Engagement and Quality Improvement, and Economics, Advocacy and Negotiation will meet with senior representatives of Medical Affairs from each Health Authority at least once per year to outline key priorities and opportunities for collaboration or consultation. Guests can be included as needed and as invited by Doctors of BC and Health Authorities to assist in discussions or to provide advice or resources where appropriate.
 - (ii) The parties will meet at a location that is convenient to Health Authority representatives.
 - (iii) The parties will exchange their agenda and a list of attendees a minimum of thirty (30) days in advance of the meeting.

The parties mutually share the goal of providing excellent health care to British Columbians. To that end they will work collaboratively to implement and continue the process outlined in this Memorandum.

It is an expectation of the parties that they will also pursue other avenues of constructive engagement and dialogue or undertake communication on other matters including:

- (i) Provincial Programs/Provincial Policy Changes;
- (ii) Regional Programs/Regional Policy Changes; and
- (iii) Issues management.

The parties recognize that the Doctors of BC’s Departments of Engagement and Quality Improvement, and Economics, Advocacy and Negotiation have a key role in such engagement and dialogue.

Separate Agreement

This Memorandum is a separate and distinct agreement and its construction is not to be influenced or affected by the provisions of the Physician Master Agreement (“PMA”). The provisions of the PMA do not apply to this Memorandum. For greater certainty, and without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the following provisions of the PMA have no application: (i) Articles 20 through 23; and (ii) Articles 26 and 27. In the event of a conflict between the terms of this Memorandum and that of the PMA, the PMA terms will take precedent.

Resolution of Disagreements

If any of the parties has a concern respecting this Memorandum, the CEO of Doctors of BC, the Deputy Minister of Health and/or the Health Authority CEOs will meet to attempt to resolve these issues. Failing resolution, there are no further steps under this Memorandum to address such concerns.

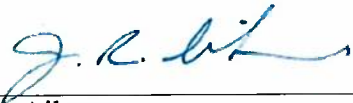
Termination

This Memorandum shall have the same term as, and shall terminate concurrent with any termination of the 2022 Physician Master Agreement.

Dated this 1st day of April, 2022



Dr. Ramneek Dosanjh
President
Doctors of BC



Jim Aikman
Interim Chief Executive Officer
Doctors of BC



Mark Armitage
Assistant Deputy Minister
Ministry of Health



Dr. Victoria Lee
President and CEO
Fraser Health Authority



Kathy MacNeil
President and CEO
Vancouver Island Health Authority



Cathy Ulrich
President and CEO
Northern Health Authority



Susan Brown
President and CEO
Interior Health Authority



Dr. David Byres
President and CEO
Provincial Health Services Authority



Vivian Eliopoulos
President and CEO
Vancouver Coastal Health Authority