

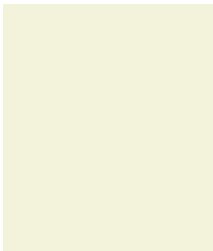
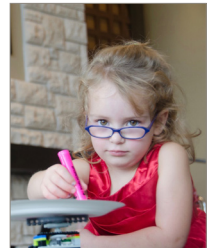
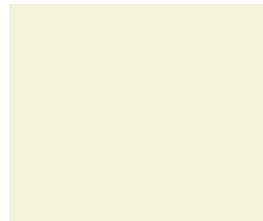
Oct. 1st 2016, Walnut Grove Beach Resort

SOS Rural Corridor Physicians' Event Highlights



SOS Rural Corridor physicians met at a recent Get Connected event, followed by a family social, lunch, local wines, and family-friendly activities.

If you weren't able to attend, read on to find out what was discussed and how to join in next time!



Discussion: The Developing Sustainable Rural Practice Communities Project

At the event, we discussed the three main components of this project:

SOS Rural Corridor Practitioner Collective

Designating time and energy to develop a strong, mutually-rewarding collegial association among the SOS Rural Corridor practitioners.

Securing methods such as EMR access and integration to give practitioners more opportunities to collaborate on patient care and

strengthen peer relationships.

SOS Rural Corridor Community Coalition

Building a strong community coalition that includes membership from SOS Rural Corridor practitioners, municipal governments, First Nations, allied health, and additional community organizations to work together to address health care issues.

This group will be a liaison between our project and the general public.

SOS Rural Corridor Protocols

Strong foundations created through the Practitioner Collective and the Community Coalition will allow for the collaborative development of community and practice protocols such as:

- Recruitment and retention
- Chronic pain management
- Community resource access
- After hours care

Sharing information: What's working at your clinic?

During the project overview, physicians from multiple clinics and communities had the chance to ask each other questions and hear about how other clinics deal with similar challenges.

"Most of us don't have time to sit together and chat about each other's work," says Oliver physician, Dr. Madia Smallwood. "It was great to have to the opportunity to listen, and see how we might be able to work together as a team."

This discussion also included other rural practice issues and potential solutions such as:

Electronic Medical Records

- Integration of EMR platforms
- Access to patient medical records

Recruitment and Retention

- Succession planning
- New physicians prefer to join group practices
- Lack of clinic space for new physicians in current group practices

- Lack of locum accommodations
- Connections with UBC and the Southern Medical program

Community ownership of its healthcare resources and how community planning impacts those resources

- New housing development
- Tourism initiatives (such as being the snowbird capital)
- Prison

South Okanagan General Hospital

- Consistency of care: patients accessing the ED to get faster (same day) tests, which aren't possible when seeing their family physician

Models of remuneration

- No flexibility with MSP caps on daily patient volumes, which translates to no incentive to see a full week of patients if you have already done a few days in the ED
- Alternative Payment Plan vs. Fee for Service
- Access to allied health in relation to funding and scope of practice



Oliver physicians from Main Street Medical Associates (pictured above from left): Drs. Alan Ruddiman, Claire Kuzmocha, Ansunette De Vries, Madia Smallwood and Jan Venter

Osoyoos physicians (pictured below) from the Desert Doctors' Clinic: Drs. Matie De Vries (left), Garnett Tarr (middle), resident Gagan Saran (fourth from left); from Osoyoos Medical Centre: Lorraine Kane (second from left) and Jaco Bellingan (right).



SPECIAL THANKS TO EVENT CONTRIBUTORS:

Local wineries



Guests enjoyed wine from:

Maverick Estate Winery

Dr. Elzaan de Witt (Osoyoos) is married to winemaker and viticulturist Bertus Albertyn and is the daughter of operations manager Schalk de Witt. www.maverickwine.ca

River Stone Estate Winery

Family physician Dr. Lorraine Kane (Osoyoos) is co-owner with her husband Ted who is the winemaker, viticulturist and vineyard manager. www.riverstoneestatewinery.ca/

Dr. Madia Smallwood



Dr. Madia Smallwood helped organize this successful poolside event, which attracted 17 physicians, 1 resident, 13 spouses, partners and extended family, and 24 children and teens.

Children's Events Coordinators



Thanks to babysitters, to Bricks4Kidz for Lego, Duplo games and paper plate creations, and Canadian Outback Adventures for the Paparazzi challenge.

**Stay tuned for our next
Get Connected Event early
in the new year.**

We hope to see you there!

For more information, or to request event photos:

Division Project Assistant Sheila Johnstone
778 462 7942 sheila.johnstone@sosdivision.ca

Division Project Manager Aarin Frigon
tel: 778 476 1878 aarin.frigon@sosdivision.ca