

Future Primary Care Networks (PCNs) Expression of Interest Information and Template

Future primary care network (PCN) community partners: divisions, health authorities, First Nations

The following is an update for communities waiting to submit a PCN expression of interest and next steps for those who have not yet formally started planning.

Future PCNs:

- The Ministry is open to accepting new Expressions of Interest (EOI) from communities which have not yet begun the formal PCN planning process, with an updated EOI template.
- We ask that communities work with their partners to assess whether they are ready to enter into the formal planning process prior to submitting their EOI. The new template must be clearly endorsed by each member of the partnership upon submission.
- Planning funding will be issued as capacity allows through 2020 and 2021. Key to approving the release of funding for each community will be:
 - Demonstrated commitment to work together collaboratively as partners in PCN planning and implementation;
 - Community need (such as significant attachment gap); and
 - Capacity within the Ministry/GPSC to support communities through this work.
- In advance of submitting an EOI, we ask that you continue your internal planning and partnership building. One of the key learnings to date is that this challenging work requires intensive collaboration between all parties – and one of the foundational pieces to PCN planning is strong partnerships. All partners have important perspectives to contribute, and respective needs and priorities to bring together under the umbrella of the PCN.
- It is important to achieve an integrated approach to planning, implementing and linking various primary care service models such as patient medical homes (PMHs), Urgent and Primary Care Centres (UPCCs), First Nations-led primary health care (FN PHC) initiatives, nurse practitioner clinics (NP-PCCs) and Community Health Centres (CHCs) together under the PCN umbrella to address the needs of communities.
- Collaboration to this degree is new for many of the partners involved, and as we gain experience and learn lessons, we are improving processes for greater transparency, equity, co-planning and decision-making throughout the process.

- The Ministry has set the ambitious target of having PCNs in place in 70 per cent of B.C. communities by 2021, and – thanks to the hard work of our partners on the ground – we are making significant progress.
- As of January 2020, work is currently underway to implement 20 PCNs and there are an additional 21 PCNs in the active planning stages.
- This is significant work and represents a large piece of the 70 percent target. This is also a good time to pause and reflect on what we have learned so far, and how to best identify and accept proposals from new communities going forward.
- This new submission process, which is different from previous rounds in that **communities are able to assess their readiness and capacity in their own time** (rather than to meet a specific submission deadline) is a direct result of those learnings. We hope will make the process simpler and more efficient for everyone.
- Some communities have already demonstrated readiness to participate. We are currently working with them to move forward to EOI and planning.