

Since March 2016

BC AHSN

- Established as a legal society, governance & oversight of BC SUPPORT Unit
- Appointed five of a nine-member Board
- Signed agreement with CIHR for SPOR funding
- Created an organizational structure with financial controls, HR framework, permanent governance and related policies
- Developed draft strategy to be further refined through stakeholder engagement

BC SUPPORT Unit (part of BC AHSN)

- Appointment of Executive Director & Scientific Director
- Creation of partner funding agreements
- Detailed work plan/budget submitted to CIHR September 8, 2016
- Regional centre development well underway
- Soft launch of services October

Academic Health Science Networks

Embed research & education across the continuum of health service delivery so that:

- Research/evidence is applied at a system level to improve population health outcomes
- Data are collected ongoing (part of care delivery) for the generation of new knowledge and quality improvement
- A learning culture is fostered across the entire system for the benefit of providers and patients
- Patients and providers are actively engaged to better inform decisions

BC AHSN's Value Proposition

BC AHSN enables meaningful action on issues that no single organization or sector can solve on its own. The network:

- Strengthens BC's capacity to implement health system change in high priority health issues; major burden and significant opportunities for system transformation
- Addresses system issues that are provincial in scope and require multi-level implementation and collaboration across multiple sectors: health care, research, education, patient/public, industry
- Develops solutions/ invests efforts and resources that span the innovation cycle: research & development, knowledge translation & implementation, scale up & spread
- Leverages currently uncoordinated work across close to 100 research institutes, centres of excellence, programs and networks province-wide; develops and links to processes/ resources for knowledge translation & implementation, scale up & spread

A Foundation for Growth

BC AHSN is uniquely positioned to contribute to and build upon an existing foundation of initial core infrastructure within BC:

- The CIHR- and partner-funded BC SUPPORT Unit with its provincial hub, regional centres and methods clusters
- The developing provincial health data platform
- The BC Clinical Research Infrastructure Network, with its focus on transforming the clinical research landscape

Strategy #1: Building Blocks

Two key roles for BC AHSN:

- Partnering with others offering important resources helping people and initiatives access these assets
- Developing, and supporting the development of, key provincial assets

Initially, BC AHSN will focus on four key building blocks:

BC SUPPORT Unit

**Provincial Health Data
Platform***

**BC Clinical Research
Infrastructure Network**

**Implementation Science
Platform**

**This initiative is broader than BC AHSN alone; governance is TBD.*

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Strategy #2: Processes

BC AHSN and the BC SUPPORT Unit will act as a bridge between care, research and education, facilitating partnerships and capacity building across the system:

- Reducing barriers and accelerating progress at the initiative level by providing guidance and connections to resources and key people/organizations
- Providing critical interventions (financial incentives, relationships with government and others) to promote change

Strategy #3: Priority Initiatives

BC AHSN provides the framework and mechanisms for system-wide engagement in and implementation of selected initiatives that align with health sector priorities:

- The network will select and support the implementation of 2-3 priority initiatives to begin
- The collective process of selecting provincial strategic priorities and initiatives will be based on predefined and transparent criteria
- BC AHSN will engage regional nodes and the Lower Mainland Academic Health Science Centre to co-determine priority setting and projects to advance and to be responsible for regional system change
- Potentially a BC AHSN Council to act as provincial and local effectors and drivers of change to help initiatives progress
- BC AHSN will provide ongoing leadership and support through provincial coordination/facilitation and links to resources and partners

Engagement

- September – December: Multiple presentations and discussions with groups and organizations across the province
- Three main objectives:
 1. *Communication*: Broadly sharing BC AHSN's current status, value proposition, draft strategy
 2. *Environmental scanning*: Deepening the shared understanding of how BC AHSN fits within BC's health innovation ecosystem and its potential for driving system change
 3. *Network development*: Establishing and growing the base of people and organizations supportive of, and engaged in, network development and rollout
- Ongoing refinements to the BC AHSN strategy informed by what we hear

Thank you!

Questions or feedback about BC AHSN development should be directed to:

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