

### Cultural Humility Corner

Using language as recognition restores balance to the original keepers of this land, and celebrates the cultural identity, interconnectedness, and history of the families from BC Nations since time immemorial.



To learn more about the richness and diversity of Indigenous languages in BC, the

[First Peoples Map of BC](#) is an excellent resource.

### Enabling the Work of HAMAC: Priorities

HAMAC's top three priorities for fiscal year 2022-23 were approved by the HAMAC Executive Committee and presented to HAMAC:

- Quality
- HHR Challenges – Recruitment and Retention
- Health and Wellness of Staff

2022-23 work planning is underway by the HAMAC leadership team to establish the committee structure and activities of our work ahead.

### Enabling the Work of HAMAC: Meeting Schedule

The new meeting schedule for fiscal year 2022-23 was presented, with weighting on subcommittees and working groups. The HAMAC leadership team is refreshing the subcommittee and working group structure to enable the work of HAMAC.

Each HAMAC meeting will be two hours in length.

### Welcome to HAMAC

Emily Wale, HAMAC Project Manager



Emily joined the team in January 2022, completing the HAMAC leadership team complement. She

can be reached at [emily.wale@vch.ca](mailto:emily.wale@vch.ca).



## Communication & Information Flow

HAMAC is reviewing its standing consent agenda reports, Regional Department Head reports, and AMAC reports to ensure they align with our mandates, remain standardized and purposeful, and meet the quality indicators. Discussion at HAMAC occurred regarding the best ways to create alignment.

### What we heard:

- A one to two-page summary of HAMAC meetings to share with AMACs would be useful ([this is it!](#))
- Standardized report formats are key
- Clarity around reporting structures is needed across various levels at VCH
- The intersection between different Regional Department Heads and how they intersect with Regional Programs needs to be better understood

The HAMAC leadership team has taken away this input for action and will follow up with individual teams directly.

## Quality Conversation

### Mental Health Act Forms

There has been an emphasis on Quality and Safety across VCH over the past year. With the increase in mental health admissions, we are seeing more complex patient care complaints arise. [The Mental Health Act \(MHA\) forms](#) audit is a good example of ensuring due diligence for safe and appropriate care.

HAMAC members noted that better compliance could be achieved through education of non-mental health clinicians and greater accountability for closing the loop on the completion of MHA forms. All medical staff leaders are reminded of the importance to complete MHA forms. A quality update on form completion will be provided to HAMAC in six months' time.

### Resources

The [BC Ombudsperson's](#) publicly released report largely contributed to the attention being put on Mental Health Act forms.

## HHR Challenges

### Physician Assistants (PAs)

Following a request from SET, HAMAC was asked to provide perspectives on the use of PAs at VCH and in BC as an extension of our workforce. PAs are an unregulated health profession in BC, but are used in four other jurisdictions across Canada.

Members were asked to consider if Physician Assistants could be a valuable asset to help relieve some of our medical HHR pressures.

### What we heard:

Areas of opportunity and concern for PAs were discussed. HAMAC members identified a need for further understanding of the scope of this profession in order to provide a complete recommendation on the application of PAs at VCH and in BC.

More information on Physician Assistants, including their scope of practice in Canada can be found [here](#).

## HAMAC Decision Making

Going forward, HAMAC will use a consensus-based decision-making model where appropriate and permitted by the VCH Medical Staff Rules and Bylaws. Consensus-based decision making creates space for rich discussion that generates stronger decisions reflective of the diverse perspectives of HAMAC members. The goal is to ensure that each decision is fit-for-function.

