

## Jamieson, Julian [CORP]

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**Subject:** FW: BC Rural Physician Program Update - Rural Continuing Medical Education (RCME)

From: **Webb, Tania** <[twebb@doctorsofbc.ca](mailto:twebb@doctorsofbc.ca)>

Date: Wed, Jan 31, 2018 at 9:53 AM

Subject: BC Rural Physician Program Update - Rural Continuing Medical Education (RCME)

To:

**COMMUNICATION: BC RURAL PHYSICIAN PROGRAM UPDATE - Rural Continuing Medical Education (RCME)**

Dear Rural Physicians / Recipients of the RSA RCME Benefit;

On behalf of the Joint Standing Committee on Rural Issues (JSC), we are pleased to announce the following significant improvements to the Rural Continuing Medical Education (RCME) Program.

**1. \*\*\*ENHANCEMENT\*\*\* Earned RCME benefits/funds will now be directly paid to rural physicians.** This means that you will no longer be required to go through an application process and submit receipts to receive your RCME benefit. Instead, you will receive your RCME funds automatically directly through the health authority. This change is effective immediately and includes all of your banked individual funds. All funding levels and eligibility criteria under the RCME Program will remain the same.

This is a substantive change in process for the health authorities, and we kindly request your patience as we implement this meaningful change. You should expect to receive your funds by the end of May. Any questions regarding the status and balance of your individual funds should be made to your health authority. A contact list for the health authorities has been provided below.

**2. \*\*\* NEW\*\*\* RCME Community Fund.** As part of our consultation process, we heard from physicians, Divisions of Family Practice and health authorities on how important the reverted RCME community funds are. To ensure this continuity, the JSC will also be providing new on-going funding to establish an RCME Community Fund Program to ensure that physicians in rural communities continue to have access to community funds to use in much the same way they currently are. All currently reverted funds will additionally remain with those benefited communities. Program details are still being developed and it is expected that this program will begin rolling out in late Spring.

All general inquiries about any of the RCME program changes can be made to Meredith Cormier, Rural Lead at the Doctors of BC ([mcormier@doctorsofbc.ca](mailto:mcormier@doctorsofbc.ca)).

For specific information on your RCME account, please contact your respective health authority at the below contact:

Fraser Health Authority (FHA): [Joan.Gu@fraserhealth.ca](mailto:Joan.Gu@fraserhealth.ca)

Interior Health Authority (IHA): [Claims@interiorhealth.ca](mailto:Claims@interiorhealth.ca)

Northern Health Authority (NHA): [Heather.Gummow@northernhealth.ca](mailto:Heather.Gummow@northernhealth.ca)

Vancouver Coastal Health Authority (VCH): [julian.jamieson@vch.ca](mailto:julian.jamieson@vch.ca)

Vancouver Island Health Authority (VIHA): [physician\\_comp@viha.ca](mailto:physician_comp@viha.ca)

Sincerely,

Dr. Alan Ruddiman

Doctors of BC - Co-Chair

Joint Standing Committee on Rural Issues (JSC)

Rod Frechette

Ministry of Health - Co-Chair

Joint Standing Committee on Rural Issues (JSC)

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