New BC Physician Onboarding Information

The following resource provides an overview of key information for physicians that are new to BC.

Business Pathways is an initiative that exclusively focuses on supporting and streamlining business operations for BC doctors. Whether you are opening your office, planning for retirement, or at one of the many stages in between, Business Pathways provides operational support every step of the way.

Explore our resources by clicking on the boxes below:

Starting in practice
Managing your office
Closing your practice
Business Corner
Virtual events
Business Advisors

In 2023, Business Pathways introduced BUSINESS ADVISORS to provide doctors with one-on-one support to help navigate running their business. Business Advisors are here to understand business issues and direct doctors to the right sources for starting a business, setting up a clinic, managing an office, optimizing a business, or closing practice.

Business Advisors will:
1. Listen to understand your needs.
2. Communicate your options and contextualize them to your unique situation.
3. Be there for you as you run your business, every step of the way.

Discover how a Business Advisor can help you in your practice.
It is important to have all legal contracts reviewed by a professional to ensure you fully understand all the contract’s implications and the terms are in your best interest.

- Contact the **Negotiations** department at Doctors of BC for assistance with contract compliance within the Physician Master Agreement.
- Contact a law firm if using a **contract template**, available through Business Pathways. These could include:
  - Physician to Agent Contract template, Cost Sharing Agreement template, Release of Information Agreement template, and/or Group Governance Agreement template
- Take advantage of professional legal services available at preferred rates from Club MD.
  - [Campbell Froh May & Rice LLP](#)
  - [Watson Goepel LLP](#)
  - [West Coast Workplace Law](#)
  - [Hamilton Duncan Law Corp](#)

### WORKPLACE ORIENTATION

Review the appropriate orientation and onboarding resources available from the Health Authorities:

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<th>Fraser Health Authority</th>
<th>Interior Health Authority</th>
<th>Vancouver Island Health Authority</th>
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<td>Northern Health Authority</td>
<td>Vancouver Coastal Health Authority</td>
<td>Public Health Services Authority</td>
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Connect with your local Medical Staff Association (MSA) and familiarize yourself with key contacts:
- Review a [list of MSA websites](#) available from SSC Facility Engagement.
Divisions of Family Practice are community-based, non-profit groups that bring family doctors together and provide the infrastructure to support them in addressing common needs and health care priorities in their regions.

Familiarize yourself with other medical regulatory bodies and organizations by reviewing this list from Health Match BC:

- **Canadian Resident Matching Service (CaRMS)**: A national, not-for-profit, fee-for-service organization established in 1969 at the request of medical students seeking an independent entity to provide a fair and transparent application and matching service for entry into postgraduate medical training throughout Canada.

- **College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC)**: A national organization providing certification in family medicine.

- **College of Physicians and Surgeons of BC (CPSBC)**: A provincial regulatory body that licenses physicians in British Columbia and reviews candidate qualifications.

- **International Medical Graduate (IMG) Office**: Supports Postgraduate Medical Education, University of British Columbia (UBC).

- **Locums for Rural BC**: Administers the Rural GP Locum Program (RGPLP), the Rural GP Anesthesia Locum Program (RGPALP), and the Rural Specialist Locum Program (RSLP) on behalf of the Ministry of Health and Doctors of BC.

- **Medical Council of Canada (MCC)**: A national organization responsible for establishing and promoting qualification in medicine.

- **Medical Services Plan of BC (MSP)**: Insures medically required services provided by physicians in BC.

- **MCC Physician Credentials Repository**: A centralized electronic repository of a
physician’s core medical credentials.

- **Practice In BC**: The Practice in BC interactive guide outlines the key steps to be eligible to practice as a family physician in British Columbia for undergraduate students, medical students, Canadian medical graduates, international medical graduates, or Canadians studying abroad.

- **Practice Ready Assessment - British Columbia (PRA-BC)**: A program for internationally educated physicians who have completed residences in family medicine outside of Canada.

- **Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada**: A national organization providing certification in all specialties.

- **Rural Coordination Centre of British Columbia (RCCbc)**: Provides rural health education, network facilitation, and interprofessional training and practice.

- **Rural Practice Programs in BC**: Lists programs that support rural medicine in British Columbia.

**OTHER HELPFUL RESOURCES**

- Business Pathways
  - Starting in practice
  - Starting a business
- Doctors of BC — **Members Services benefits and insurance**
- Practice in BC
  - Job tips and resources
  - Transition into Practice Program
- CMA Joule — **Starting as a professional checklist**
- Resident Doctors of BC — **Transitioning to practice information**
- University of British Columbia — **Transition into practice**