

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST



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Primary Care Physician Participation in Northern Health Virtual Clinic

Northern Health would like to invite primary care physicians to indicate their interest in participating in the delivery of primary care services through the Northern Health Virtual Clinic.

The Northern Health Virtual Clinic

- Provides culturally safe primary and community care service for unattached patients or where access to primary care is limited.
- Makes appropriate and timely connections for people requiring primary care, facilitating attachment and continuity through connections with local primary care homes and primary care interprofessional teams
- Reflects the [Northern Health Guiding Principles for Primary Care](#)
- Operates 7 days a week, including holidays, from 10 am to 10 pm
- Utilizes CMOIS electronic medical record for documentation and Solo by InTouch for video appointments (training on CMOIS and InTouch will be provided)
- Is part of the [Northern Health Enhanced Access to Primary and Specialist Care Strategy](#)

Remuneration and Scheduling

In alignment with the Northern Health Guiding Principles for Primary Care, participation in the NH Virtual Clinic should not detract from contributions to community based primary care services. Physicians will be remunerated based on the family practice hourly sessional rate through a group service contract for the NH Virtual Clinic. Scheduling of providers will be managed through ByteBloc. Shifts are scheduled in 4-hour blocks, but opportunities to participate in a routinized schedule are also available. These opportunities will be identified through the expression of interest process. Consideration will need to be made for providers currently on existing service contracts with Northern Health.

Qualifications and Experience

1. Medical degree and current registration with the BC College of Physicians and Surgeons
2. Active family medicine privileges and medical staff membership with Northern Health
3. Demonstrated commitment to longitudinal primary care practice in the Northern Health region

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Guiding Principles for Primary Care

1. Northern Health is committed to supporting longitudinal primary care in community. The relationship that occurs between primary care providers (general practitioners/nurse practitioners) and patients is fundamental and foundational in person-and family-centred care.
2. Northern Health is committed to increasing cultural competency and safety and enabling culturally safe and accessible primary and community care services for people and their families.
3. Northern Health has worked with the Ministry of Health to establish urgent and primary care centres in two communities. Utilizing this resource is foundational to providing access to care, as well as caring for those with urgent needs, and supporting attachment to primary care providers for those who are not attached.
4. Northern Health is committed to supporting our most vulnerable patients in communities, and working with our primary care interprofessional teams, primary care providers, and Divisions of Family Practice to continue with care for this population.
5. Northern Health is committed to not disrupting current primary care services throughout the region.
6. Northern Health recognizes that in many communities primary care physicians are providing not only primary care, but also various additional enhanced sub-disciplinary care including, but not limited to, emergency medicine, obstetrics, anesthesia, oncology coverage and surgical care, and caring for our patients in acute care and long-term care. Any strategy which is developed needs to recognize and support the full scope of service provision by primary care providers within their respective communities.
7. Northern Health is interested in solutions that are locally driven and appreciative of the regional context. Solutions should be replicable and scalable throughout our communities.
8. Northern Health is committed to matching the best resources in the most reasonable and realistic way which will result in the most desirable outcome, while considering risk to care teams, patients, and family members.

Physicians that are interested in participating in this service are asked to review the Northern Health Guiding Principles for Primary Care, and provide a brief reflection on these principles and an up-to-date CV to Dr. Tamara Pacholuk, Medical Lead, NH Virtual Clinic.

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