

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS UPDATE

- The committee welcomed Dr Paula Lott, Obstetrician & Gynecologist as Doctors of BC representative (Alternate).

### PHYSICIAN MASTER AGREEMENT (PMA) UPDATE

- A summary of the new ratified PMA for the period of April 2019 to March 2022, was presented.
- The new PMA provides for new annual funding for specialists to address fee-for-service Specialist compensation disparities. This new funding falls outside of the SSC mandate and allocation will be determined through a separate process.
- The SSC received a \$5 million increase to its budget over the term of the three-year agreement, which will allow SSC to continue to support existing initiatives.
- As well, under the new PMA the SSC and Labour Market Adjustment (LMA) Fees will be moved out of SSC's budget into the Ministry of Health's Medical Services Plan (MSP), effective April 1, 2020. Specialists are encouraged to continue to use these fees prudently as SSC will still be responsible for funding utilization growth of these fees above 2.4% annually during the term of the PMA.
- More information on the new PMA can be found [here](#).

### SPECIALIST SYMPOSIUM & STRATEGIC PLANNING

- The SSC approved the [Specialist Symposium Report](#), including a [video](#) captured during the event held in January 2019.
- The committee is considering making the Symposium an annual/recurring event, with a vision to incorporate a part of the event to bring GPs and Specialists together to connect and discuss opportunities to collaborate.
- A summary of all the consultations regarding SSC's new strategic plan to date was presented and the committee members prioritized themes to further refine the

priorities for the next SSC three-year strategic plan (2019-22), which will be released in June.

### SSC REVISED WORKPLAN AND BUDGET (2019-20)

- The revised draft work plan and budget based on the new PMA was approved by the committee.
  - An increase to the budget of \$3M was approved to support the [Physician Quality Improvement Initiative \(PQI\)](#) based on the request by health authorities to expand its support to physicians.
  - SSC one-time funding will be used to support initiatives and projects aligned to strategic priorities.

### MISCELLANEOUS:

- **Revised Honoraria Policy:** The honoraria claim form and submission policy has been revised by Doctors of BC to standardize claims across the organization.
- **Patient Medical Homes/Primary Care Networks:** An update was provided by Dr Shelley Ross, GPSC Co-chair on the status of Patient Medical Homes and Primary Care Networks with discussion on how to best involve specialists. Further concrete ideas will be explored.
- **Ministry of Health Strategy Feedback:** The draft digital health strategy was presented by the Ministry of Health representative for feedback by the committee. The SSC encouraged further engagement and involvement of specialists as the Ministry implements the strategy.
- **UBC Sauder Physician Leadership Program:** An impact evaluation of this program was conducted by an external evaluator. This program is jointly funded by SSC and the Shared Care Committee to provide physicians in leadership roles with advanced training. The evaluation found very positive feedback from participants and sponsors, and also suggested opportunities to strengthen connections and supports for physicians in leadership roles within the health authorities.



The Specialist Services Committee (SSC) is one of four Joint Collaborative Committees representing a partnership of Doctors of BC and the government of BC. SSC aims to improve patient care by engaging physicians to:

- collaborate within the health system
- lead quality improvement initiatives
- deliver high quality services with SSC