

MEMO

DATE: 11/9/2021

TO: ELT, Executive Directors PHC/Population Health/MHA/Clinical Integration/EOC/IHICCs/MHOs/
Directors/Managers PHC/Clinical Integration, ED Professional Practice and Clinical Standards

FROM: Dr. Johnmark Opondo, Medical Health Officer / COVID-19 Pandemic Offensive Strategy Co-Chief
Jacquie Holzmann, ED Primary Health Care / COVID-19 Pandemic Offensive Strategy Co-Chief

RE: Transition Planning CD Offensive Strategy to Operations

Planning began in the summer 2021 to transition the Offensive Strategy to operational leadership and align to the Strategic **A3-Transition and Stabilization of Public Health Service**. The Offensive Strategy at the PHICC and EOC level was supported by 2 Co-Chiefs, Planning Chief (Sherri Buhler) and Operations Chief (Kathy Rossler). In consultation with local Communicable Disease (CD) leadership, PHICC has developed supports for local teams, standards and processes to standardize CD work provincially, inform staffing requirements, and ensured work standards aligned to changing Public Health Orders (PHO) and CD Manual standards of practice.

In order to continue to build a standardized approach to CD work across the province, while still meeting local needs, and to prepare for the transition of provincial work to operational teams, CI Directors, one from each ISA will be drawn into the Offensive Strategy team effective November 8, 2021. The 4 Directors Clinical Integration to align to the EOC Offensive Strategy Co-Commanders (Jacquie Holzmann and Dr. Johnmark Opondo) are Kathy Rossler, Cara Benz-Tramer, Jennifer Hiebert and Wanda Rusk.

Thank you to Sherri Buhler for serving as the Planning Chief for the last 20 months. Her leadership and knowledge has supported many improvements to manage various surges to date. Effective November 8, she will return to her Director of Primary Health Care position in IRH.

The benefit to working collaboratively to support CD work across the SHA is that decisions made will reflect a provincial approach that will be embedded at the local level. This approach will support the integration of CD work with other operational partners, including Digital Health, Central Data Entry team for Panorama/IOM, HealthLine 811, Lab, OH&S, IPAC and Clinical Standards. This will advance our organization design by maintaining matrix level support once we transition to operational leadership.

Planning for transition to operations is an opportunity to build knowledge within teams to understand the work, identify resource needs, and continue to leverage the provincial work that has supported a unified approach to the pandemic, and use this to support our future integrated efforts. Furthermore, this approach will be foundational for our ability to respond to ongoing and future waves of COVID by establishing an enduring leadership team under the direction of the ED PHC/MHO co-leadership for Communicable Diseases.

Safety | Accountability | Respect | Collaboration | Compassion

With a commitment to a philosophy of Patient and Family Centred Care

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