

# Enlighten

*News from the CNPBC*



October 2021



## Important news about PharmaNet and PRIME

The Ministry of Health has advised the College that, in the near future, naturopathic doctors will be required to enrol in PRIME in order to access PharmaNet to deliver patient care.

- is the province-wide network that links all BC pharmacies to a central data system that contains records of every prescription dispensed in a BC community pharmacy.
- is the online application designed for healthcare professionals needing PharmaNet to deliver direct patient care. Practitioners apply to the Ministry of Health for access and secure identity through the [BC Services Card](#) mobile app.

Enrolment in PRIME is required by law as part of BC's [Information Management Regulation](#). You will be able to complete your PRIME application in about 15 minutes. You can enrol on a phone or tablet, or your desktop. It's fast and it's easy.

### What should I do now?

Start by setting up your mobile BC Services Card on a mobile phone or tablet. *Check first to see if you already have a mobile BC Services Card on your phone or tablet.*

The BC Services Card mobile app is used to access government services such as Health Gateway, BC Vaccine Card, MyHealth, and StudentAid. You will use your mobile BC Services Card to begin PRIME enrolment. PRIME uses your name, birthdate, and address from the card (and does not share it). This use is completely separate from your PHN or health information.

Click [here](#) for the steps to set up your mobile BC Services Card.

### **Not currently using PharmaNet?**

You will need to enrol in PRIME in the coming months. For now, please set up your mobile BC Services Card. We will share the specifics on enrolment timing as the information becomes available.

### **What if I join a new workplace?**

You are encouraged to enrol in PRIME now to access PharmaNet.

### **Resources**

Here are some helpful links:

- [Setting up a mobile BC Services Card](#)
- Learn more about [PRIME](#) and access some key resources:
  - PRIME Quick Reference Guide
  - Watch a how-to video for enrolling in PRIME
  - Frequently Asked Questions
- Learn more about [PharmaNet](#) (you may know it by the name of the software that your workplace uses)

In November, the College expects to receive further information about enrolment in PRIME for naturopathic doctors and we will keep you posted.

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## **News from the Allied Health Policy Secretariat (AHPS)**

In June 2020, the Ministry of Health established the AHPS to provide stewardship and focused leadership to more than 70 allied health professions and occupations providing services to British Columbians. The Secretariat is involved with education and training, clinical capacity, policy and program development, and optimizing scopes of practice and models of care.

To inform the development of a three-year strategic plan, the Secretariat undertook a comprehensive provincial consultation which highlighted a lack of recognition of the allied health workforce, the desire of health professionals to feel understood and valued, and the need to raise awareness of the allied health workforce in BC.

The Secretariat announces that it will be acknowledging and celebrating October 14th in recognition of **International Allied Health Professions Day**. This will be a first for the Province of BC, formally recognizing the broad range of professions that make up the allied health workforce and the critical role they play in our health system. International Allied Health Professions Day originated in the United Kingdom and is now celebrated in other countries including Australia and New Zealand.

In BC, the allied health workforce includes about 58,000 individuals and, after nursing, represents the second largest health workforce. They provide a range of preventative, technical, diagnostic, and therapeutic, life-long health care services across the continuum of care. All have risen to the challenges presented by the pandemic and the Secretariat wishes to acknowledge their critical role in keeping British Columbians healthy.

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## **A Note from the Registrar/CEO**

It's the time of year where gratitude and thankfulness become a bit more talked about than usual.

As we gathered for Thanksgiving this year, I'm sure many of us discussed what were grateful for, maybe more than in other years. Perhaps it is fitting that October 14 has been

designated International Allied Health Professions Day.

This acknowledgement comes at a very appropriate time given the hard work, dedication, and challenges faced by health professionals in the last 18 months.

Many thanks to all for all you do. Be well.

Carina Herman



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