

# Medical Staff Update

*This Issue: MD Culture Shift; Physician Learning; 2024 Annual Information Verification Attestation; Rural Education Supplement and Integrated Doctor Experience program; Career Opportunities; Resources and Supports for Physicians; News from the AHS Update and more.*

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*AHS recognizes that our work takes place on historical and contemporary Indigenous lands, including the territories of Treaty 6, Treaty 7 & Treaty 8 and the homeland of the Métis Nation of Alberta and eight Metis Settlements. We also acknowledge the many Indigenous communities that have been forged in urban centres across Alberta.*

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*Note: Recognizing some medical staff use an alternate email address instead of an AHS email address, some information is duplicated from the AHS Update to ensure all AHS medical staff have all up-to-date organizational information that may impact their practice.*

## Topics:

### Medical Affairs News

- [MD Culture Shift Newsletter](#)
- [Critical Leadership Conversations Course Part 1](#)
- [Increase your understanding of human factors to enhance patient safety](#)
- [Learn about the AHS Virtual Care Evaluation Framework](#)
- [Explore the ethics of treatment choices and access](#)
- [Physician Learning](#)
  - 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Rural Anesthesia for GP Anesthesiologists – Jan. 19
  - 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Emergency Medicine for Rural Hospitals – Jan. 19-21
  - Mindful Practice in Medicine Workshop – Feb. 21-24
- [2024 Annual Information Verification Attestation \(AIVA\)](#)
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  - Increase your understanding of human factors
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## Medical Affairs News

### MD Culture Shift Newsletter

Check out the [January edition](#) of the MD Culture Shift newsletter.

### Critical Leadership Conversations Course Part 1

You are invited to participate in the **second offering** of Critical Leadership Conversations course that will be delivered in a unique format to optimize learning, practice, and reflection. This virtual course runs from Nov. 23 through Feb. 8, 2024.

Facilitated by Dr. Curtis Johnston and Heather McMorrow, this course will be a series of five one-hour virtual lectures and large group discussion sessions delivered over eleven weeks where you will learn the skills necessary for planning, delivering, and concluding a critical conversation.

Dates	Time	Registration Link
Jan. 25	4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.	<a href="#">Register here</a>
Feb. 8	4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.	<a href="#">Register here</a>

To find out more about participation expectations and benefits, please contact [lori-ann.paul@ahs.ca](mailto:lori-ann.paul@ahs.ca) for more information.

### Increase your understanding of human factors to enhance patient safety

Human factors studies the interrelationship between humans, the tools and equipment they use in the workplace, and the environment in which they work. During this three-day course, you will explore the role of human factors in healthcare using hands-on activities and case studies in various clinical areas.

We are pleased to co-host this upcoming course with HQCA, W21C and the University of Calgary, with course offerings in both Edmonton and Calgary. Learn more [here](#).

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### **Learn about the AHS Virtual Care Evaluation Framework**

Please join the Virtual Health team and special guests from Evaluation & Analytics, Primary Health Care Integration Network, for a webinar where we'll introduce the [AHS Virtual Care Evaluation Framework](#). This presentation will be useful for anyone in AHS wishing to evaluate virtual care services.

The webinar will provide an overview of why the framework was created, how it was developed and what's included. The Virtual Health team will also be providing an update on the Virtual Care Shared Data Model, a shared virtual care data repository in the Enterprise Data Warehouse.

**Date:** Wednesday, Jan. 17, 2024

**Time:** 11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. [Register](#)

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### **Explore the ethics of treatment choices and access**

Many everyday issues in healthcare are complex with unclear answers. Identifying and thinking through these issues using an ethics lens can help you navigate them.

The Ethics Lunch 'n' Learn Series explores common healthcare issues, identifies the ethical concerns at play, and provides an ethical framework for thinking through challenging situations.

Join the next session: Treatment choices and access: Rights, responsibilities, and consequences.

- Jan. 25, 2024: 11:30 a.m. [Register](#)
- Jan. 26, 2024: 12:00 p.m. [Register](#)

Learn more about the [Clinical Ethics Service](#).

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### **Physician Learning**

There are many learning and development opportunities outside of AHS offered to physicians. Here are some upcoming opportunities:

- [26<sup>th</sup> Annual Rural Anesthesia for GP Anesthesiologists – Jan. 19](#)
- [40<sup>th</sup> Annual Emergency Medicine for Rural Hospitals – Jan. 19-21](#)
- [Mindful Practice in Medicine Workshop – Feb. 21-24](#)

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## 2024 Annual Information Verification Attestation (AIVA)

On Jan. 22, you will receive an initial notification for your 2024 AIVA, which will be due Feb. 17.

We'd also like to remind you that AIVAs have a new look this year. The Service Now platform upgraded, allowing for opportunities to improve user experience. You will be able to navigate pages, rather than tabs and will be prompted to confirm you have reviewed a page before moving to the next. Progress is saved, so, if you are pulled away, you can return to your AIVA and complete it within the same day. You will also receive a PDF copy of your completed AIVA via email.

We still anticipate the AIVA should take on average about five minutes to complete.

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## Apply to the Rural Education Supplement and Integrated Doctor Experience (RESIDE) program

The Rural Education Supplement and Integrated Doctor Experience (RESIDE) Program is designed to address challenges in patient access to physicians and health services in rural and remote areas of the province by supporting new-in-practice physicians to explore living and working in rural Alberta. The RESIDE program lets you go where your diverse skill set is most needed, enabling you to work within your full scope of practice while enjoying a rewarding and affordable lifestyle in rural Alberta.

Selecting rural communities is based on criteria set by the Government of Alberta's rural remote communities which have an immediate need for physicians. You may be eligible for a physician retention grant worth up to \$120,000 if you RESIDE in rural Alberta. Successful participants who elect to go to any of these communities will receive up to \$80,000 for a two-year return-of-service term or up to \$120,000 for a three-year return-of-service term.

Note: Applicants must not already have a signed offer letter for a full-time family medicine position in a RESIDE-eligible community.

The RESIDE application deadline is March 31. More information is available at [Rhpap.ca/reside](https://rhpap.ca/reside).

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## Career opportunities

Practice opportunities across a broad range of specialties are available. All vacant AHS physician practice opportunities are posted on our physician recruitment website, [Doctor Jobs Alberta](https://www.doctorjobsalberta.ca).

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## Support for physicians

The [Physician & Family Support Program](#) (PFSP) continues to offer CONFIDENTIAL services on an individual basis that you can access by calling the 24-hour assistance line at 1-877-767-4637.

AHS also has resources aimed at offering support to physicians. These are available online:

- [Webinar](#)
- [Resource Guide](#)

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## Additional resources for physicians:

- [AHS Virtual Health](#)
- [CPSA's Physician Portal](#)
- [Cumming School of Medicine Continuing Medical Education \(CME\) Resources](#)
- [How to Access AHS Insite and Email](#)
- [IPC Emerging Issues](#)
- [MD News Digest](#)
- [Physician & Family Support Program](#) - 1-877-SOS-4MDS (767-4637)
- [Physician Wellness Educational Resources: Well Doc Alberta](#)
- [Support Services: Well Doc Alberta](#)

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## From the AHS Update

You can read the [full version online](#).

## Action on Our Priorities

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### Steps being taken to meet 2023/2024 budget

AHS is responsible for ensuring healthcare dollars are spent effectively and front-line teams have the resources they need to provide safe, high-quality patient care. To ensure we are managing and meeting our budget for this fiscal year, AHS is looking to find cost efficiencies over the coming months. Leaders have been asked to work with their teams to effectively manage overtime, vacancies and agency staff usage, as well as limit discretionary spending. No restrictions have been placed on recruitment into clinical positions, and we continue to actively recruit and fill vacancies as quickly as possible.

AHS shares a collective sense of urgency around addressing staff shortages and finding better ways to support you. We are grateful to our teams for all you do, including careful cost management that does not compromise patient care or the well-being of our workforce.

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### **Health Workforce Strategy's Q2 report now online**

The Health Workforce Strategy Action Plan is a coordinated approach to addressing AHS' workforce challenges. [\(more...\)](#)

## Your Wellness

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### **Elevate the well-being of both you and your team**

Boost your well-being with individual or team wellness seminars provided by our [Employee and Family Assistance Program](#). [\(more...\)](#)

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### **Mental Wellness Moment**



Dr. Nicholas Mitchell offers advice on how to plan for making sustainable, positive changes in your life. [\(more...\)](#)

Watch Video 

Listen as a Podcast 

## Latest News

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### **Construction to start this spring on new Beaverlodge health facility**

Construction of a new health facility in Beaverlodge is expected to begin this spring. The facility is slated to open in 2028. [\(more...\)](#)

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### **Webinar to outline MyAHS Connect changes**

Attend a [webinar](#) on Jan. 22 to understand upcoming changes for access by proxy to MyAHS Connect youth accounts. [\(more...\)](#)

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### **Nominations open for RhPAP's 2024 Rhapsody Awards**

The Rural Health Professions Action Plan (RhPAP) is seeking [nominations](#) for healthcare heroes in rural Alberta. [\(more...\)](#)

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### **Apply for rural health research, QI project funding**

The Rural Health Professions Action Plan is accepting applications for its [Rural Research and Quality Improvement Grant Program](#). [\(more...\)](#)

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### **Professional development funding for rural health providers**

[Applications for funding](#) are now open for professional development and education opportunities for rural health professionals. [\(more...\)](#)

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### **Explore the ethics of treatment choices and access**

Join the upcoming Ethics Lunch & Learn about treatment choices and access. Offered [Jan. 25](#) at 11:30 a.m. and [Jan. 26](#) at noon. [\(more...\)](#)

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### **Increase your understanding of human factors**

[Register](#) for a three-day course to explore the role of human factors in healthcare using hands-on activities and case studies. [\(more...\)](#)

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### **Learn about the AHS Virtual Care Evaluation Framework**

If you use virtual care in your healthcare delivery, consider [registering](#) for this webinar to learn more about the virtual care framework. [\(more...\)](#)



Healthy Albertans.  
Healthy Communities.  
**Together.**