

**DATE** April 14, 2014

**TO** Mary Guise, Co-Chair National HSPnet Alliance  
Erin Walling, Co-Chair National HSPnet Alliance

**FROM** Sherry Hamilton, Chief Nursing & Liaison Officer, Provincial Health Services Authority

**SUBJECT** **TRANSFER OF HSPNET<sup>1</sup> FROM THE BC ACADEMIC HEALTH COUNCIL TO THE  
PROVINCIAL HEALTH SERVICES AUTHORITY**

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Ownership of the Health Sciences Placement Network (HSPnet) has been transferred to BC's Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA) following the dissolution of the BC Academic Health Council.

PHSA, established in December 2001, is one of six health authorities in BC and is responsible for select specialized and province-wide health care services across BC. The first organization of its kind in the country, PHSA works with the five BC regional health authorities and the Ministry of Health Services to meet local and provincial health needs. (See website for more information <http://www.phsa.ca>)

PHSA and its agencies have provided leadership for student practice education over many years and will continue to do so. PHSA is an active member of the Association of Canadian Academic Health Sciences Organizations and is affiliated with more than 70 educational institutions in British Columbia, across Canada and internationally.

PHSA welcomes more than 4,000 students every year for learning experiences in PHSA agencies. In 2013, PHSA launched a strategic plan for student practice education including leveraging HSPnet data to support efficient provisioning of student access to electronic health records. PHSA is very committed to the continuation of HSPnet services to meet the needs of students and academic partners.

With the transfer of HSPnet to the Provincial Health Services Authority, PHSA looks forward to the participation and collaboration of the National HSPnet Alliance to continue to make HSPnet a successful cost-effective system that is current and meets the needs of quality practice education.

PHSA is committed to ensuring HSPnet continues to have satisfied users and is a high-functioning system. HSPnet service continuity will continue through PHSA under the leadership of BJ Skladanowski, Business Operations Manager, HSPnet & Provincial Practice Education, and Sherry Hamilton, Chief Nursing & Liaison Officer, PHSA.

Please contact [BJ.Skladanowski@phsa.ca](mailto:BJ.Skladanowski@phsa.ca) for more information as required.

- i HSPnet is a comprehensive, web-enabled Practice Education Management system for the health sciences, which matches students to available placements in health organizations. The system is used by both academia and practice to support student placements.

HSPnet has been supporting and operationalizing practice education in Canada for over 10 years. Provinces across Canada are increasingly using data harvested from HSPnet to inform decision making and generate meaningful conversations about clinical education capacity, utilization and processes. Last year HSPnet coordinated nearly 100,000 placement requests, had over 4000 user accounts and over 5600 student accounts. These numbers are on the rise as more users and programs join and as some provinces move towards 100% implementation.