

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Division of Family Practice Announces Results of GP for Me Survey

Division will host press conference at UFV Chilliwack on February 14th, 12:30 pm

Chilliwack, BC- The Chilliwack Division of Family Practice, a non-profit society that represents physicians in Chilliwack, Agassiz-Harrison, Seabird Island and Hope, will share preliminary research findings from surveys that were conducted as part of the Division's A GP for Me initiative. The survey findings, part of the Planning and Assessment phase of the initiative, aimed to grasp a better understanding of local healthcare needs and access issues. Surveys for community members at large were accompanied by surveys designed specifically for family doctors.

Speakers will include Dr. Melanie Madill, Family Physician, Ken Becotte, Executive Director for the Division of Family Practice and John Hamilton, Primary Care Program Director with Fraser Health. In addition, Katrina Bepple, Project Manager for A GP for Me will share some insights about the initiative's findings to date. Commenting on the press conference, Bepple says, "The reason we're hosting this press conference is to demonstrate that health truly is a community issue that must be addressed in collaboration with all those who have a stake in it."

Launched in collaboration with Doctors of BC, Ministry of Health and the Chilliwack Division of Family Practice, A GP for Me is a step towards better physician-patient relationships and improved quality of healthcare. One of the main goals of this initiative is to ensure that member of our local community are able to access primary health care when needed. The key driving force behind the initiative is to enable every patient that wants a family doctor to have one. Ken Becotte, Executive Director of the Division comments, "Now that we have the survey findings, we will be hosting a community forum to discuss these findings with community participants and to get their input on how these healthcare issues should be addressed. We welcome everyone in the community to attend these forums. Having a diversity of voices in this conversation around healthcare will help make our system more adaptable to the various healthcare needs that people have. The community forum will be held on February 26, from 6 pm to 9 pm at the Squiala Community Centre.

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