

Spring 2021
Volume 1, Issue 1

SPRUCe Newsletter

Sustaining Pediatrics in Rural and Underserved Communities

CME Session #3 Alternative Models of Service

March 30, 2021 7:30pm - 9:00pm (Virtual)

This CME session will focus on explaining in detail three alternative models of service already in use in some rural and remote communities. The following three models will be discussed:

- CHARLiE – Real Time Virtual Pediatric Support
- GP Extender Program
- Long-Term Metronomic Locum Support

Join this CME activity to learn how these programs could be applicable to you and your community.

[Register here](#)

Point of Care Ultrasound (POCUS)

On Saturday, February 27, four northern pediatricians came together in Prince George for an introduction to the use of POCUS in clinical care. The full day of learning provided hands on scanning experience for the rural pediatricians.

Please reach out to SPRUCe@rccbc.ca if you would like to know more and to learn about funding options for such learning opportunities.



SPRUCe is a new network developed by pediatricians Dr. Kirsten Miller and Dr. Jenny Retallack with the support of the Rural Coordination Centre of BC (RCCbc). The goal of the network is to connect community pediatric providers (pediatricians, family physicians, residents, and nurse practitioners) who have an interest in supporting and sustaining excellence in pediatric care in rural and remote communities across British Columbia.



Reflections on Residency

May 12, 2021 7:30 - 9:00pm (Virtual)

Residents, please join our three speakers, all recent graduates from the UBC Pediatrics program, as they reflect on how their residency prepared them for general pediatric practice outside the lower mainland. They will share some tips about training and what opportunities to seize while still in residency.

Speakers:

- Dr. Jennifer Cutting – General Pediatrician in Trail
- Dr. Zaneta Lim – General Pediatrician in Terrace
- Dr. Alysha Mackenzie-Feder – General Pediatrician in Kelowna

Email SPRUCe@rccbc.ca to register.



“Just for Coffee” Virtual Sessions

These informal virtual sessions will allow trainees to hear from rural pediatricians who will speak frankly about how to balance work, family and personal life while living and practicing in a rural community.

Residents:

Dr. Carrie Fitzsimons, from Nelson, will be speaking at the first session, April 12, 2021, 7:30pm - 8:30pm. Email SPRUCe@rccbc.ca to register.

Rural Pediatricians:

If you are interested in speaking to trainees as the host of a future "Just for Coffee" session, please email SPRUCe@rccbc.ca.

Request: Coaches and Mentors for Pediatric Residents

The UBC CAMP (Coaching and Mentoring Program) is available to rural pediatricians, locum rural pediatricians and residents interested in rural pediatrics.

SPRUCe is looking to build a team of rural coaches and mentors to support interested pediatric residents. In signing up as a coach/mentor, the relationship is meant to be approximately 6 months, with funding and educational support for the coach/mentor.

For more information, please see ubccpd.ca/camp

New Communication Platform - Signal

To increase communication and networking between the pediatricians, two ‘group chats’ in an application called Signal have been created:

- 1) SPRUCe Logistics – this group chat will be specifically about the logistics of rural pediatrics: Locum needs, education programs, funding questions etc. We encourage you to join this group if you want to be part of planning for locums to rural or less well served communities (either as a potential locum pediatrician, or as a pediatrician in a community which would benefit from locum support).
- 2) SPRUCe Clinical – this group chat will be specifically about patient care and discussion of clinical scenarios. We encourage you to join this group to foster connecting and supporting one another in the work we do to provide pediatric care to less well served communities of BC (whether you live and work in such a community, provide locum or outreach coverage to such a community, or work as a CHARLiE pediatrician).

In order to join:

- 1. Download the Signal app (go to signal.org, click on "get Signal" and choose "Signal for Mobile").
- 2. Email your name, contact number and the communities you provide pediatric service in/for to SPRUCe@rccbc.ca
- 3. Indicate if you want to be part of both groups, or specify the single group you are interested in.

For more information on SPRUCe:

rccbc.ca/spruce
SPRUCe@rccbc.ca