

# SPRUCe

SUSTAINING PEDIATRICS IN RURAL  
AND UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES

## Sessions for Medical Students

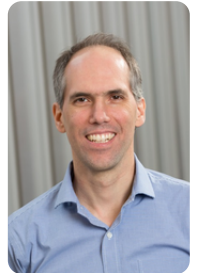
This year SPRUCe will offer virtual sessions for medical students interested in learning about a career in rural pediatrics. The first session was held September 20, 2023, hosted by Dr. Vanessa Percy, a pediatrician who has provided pediatric locums and visiting clinics across BC and is now living in Duncan. A later session will be hosted by Dr. Laura Swaney from Cranbrook.

Medical students from across Canada are welcome to join these casual, one-hour sessions. Spread the word with your colleagues! Details to follow.



## RSV Immunoprophylaxis

We have a great line up for our virtual evening CME accredited sessions planned for this academic year.



Join us on Oct 11, 2023 at 7:30pm, with Dr. Pascal Lavoie presenting on RSV Immunoprophylaxis, a timely discussion about the new Nirsevimab vaccine. Look for later sessions about sedation and analgesia in the pediatric population, safe pediatric transports, suicide risk assessments in youth and Indigenous healing practices.

[Register here](#)

## Kudos to Dr. James Toft



Dr. Toft was awarded the "Rookie Of The Year" award at the annual UBC Pediatrics graduation celebration in late June 2023. Dr. Toft has been practicing in Prince George since August 2022 and is involved in medical education with the UBC Northern Medical Program and in teaching UBC Pediatric Residents who come to Prince George for community pediatric rotations. Congratulations James!

For more information on SPRUCe:

Website: [rccbc.ca/spruce](http://rccbc.ca/spruce)

Email: [SPRUCe@rccbc.ca](mailto:SPRUCe@rccbc.ca)

## Pediatric Critical Care Learning



PCCL sessions bring providers together virtually from across BC to discuss cases of critically ill pediatric patients, highlighting the patient's presentation and the initial management strategies. Learning objectives are set by the team who initially managed the team, and the PICU interdisciplinary team will facilitate a discussion to promote learning. This session is on third Friday of each month from 1-2pm.

[Register here](#)

## Welcome Annalize!

I completed my medical and paediatric training in South Africa in 2007 and worked in paediatric infectious diseases prior to immigrating to Canada with my family in 2009. Since then, I have been working as a general pediatrician in BC (Cranbrook and Prince Rupert), and relocated to Campbell River in April. I see myself as a general pediatrician and enjoy providing all facets of healthcare to children of all ages, and love working in a small community where you can provide longitudinal care from birth to those troublesome teenage years! When not at work, I'm a mom to three boys who keep me busy. In my free time, I enjoy cooking and baking and being outdoors. I love calling Campbell River home and enjoying all this beautiful area of BC has to offer!



## Elective Information Session

The SPRUCe resident reps, Justina Marianayagam and Jacqui van Warmerdam, have organized a resident elective information session, Oct 24th. This is an opportunity for the pediatric residents to learn about the communities and the providers supporting rural pediatric electives across the province as they plan for the next academic year. This session will follow the Pediatric Academic half-day. For additional information, please contact Justin at [justinam@student.ubc.ca](mailto:justinam@student.ubc.ca).



## BCCH PICU Needs Community Provider Input

We need community provider input. Please complete the following survey for providers who have cared for pediatric patients and families after discharge from the PICU. This is a component of a quality improvement project from the PICU at BCCH in collaboration with Child Health BC to develop a provincial follow-up strategy for pediatric patients post critical illness.



[Survey link](#)

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## Children's Healthcare Canada Conference

Working with CHARLiE (Child Health Advice in Real-time Electronically), we were successful in our submission for a concurrent session at the Children's Healthcare Canada conference in Vancouver, December 3-5, 2023. The SPRUCe/CHARLiE session ("Innovative strategies to support pediatrics in British Columbia's rural and Indigenous communities") will be on December 4 at 11 AM. We hope those of you attending the conference will join us at this session!



## HOUSE - Pediatrics Course November 5, 2023

SPRUCe has collaborated with the UBC Hands On Ultrasound Education (HOUSE) course to offer a one-day HOUSE Pediatrics course for 10 pediatricians who work in rural communities. The course will be in Vancouver on November 5, 2023, immediately following the BC Pediatric Society conference. There may still be available spots so if anyone is interested in this course, please reach out to SPRUCe ([spruce@rccbc.ca](mailto:spruce@rccbc.ca)) to inquire about your eligibility.



**HOUSE**  
HANDS-ON ULTRASOUND EDUCATION

## 2023 BC Pediatric Society Children's Health Today Conference: Rural Lunch

The 2023 BC Pediatric Society Children's Health Today Conference is on November 3-4, 2023, at UBC Robson Square in Vancouver, BC. Day 1 of the conference covers a variety of topics relevant for general pediatricians, whereas Day 2 will be presented by the BC Children's Hospital Department of Psychiatry.

SPRUCe has reserved a room for networking and connecting over lunch on Nov 3, 2023. We look forward to seeing rural pediatricians, rural pediatric locum providers, rural outreach clinic providers, pediatric residents or really anyone who just wants to come and meet some of BC's amazing rural pediatricians!

Please join us during the lunch break (lunch is provided by the conference).



[Conference Registration Link](#)

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