

SPRUCE News

Sustaining Pediatrics in Rural & Underserved Communities



Reflections on Residency

Thank you to Dr. Cynthia Gunaratnam (Courtenay/Comox), Dr. Kaie Rosborough (Terrace) and Dr. Kayla Parker (Kamloops) for presenting at the Reflections on Residency evening on May 14th.

Our 3 speakers were inspiring, and amazing advocates for rural and regional pediatric practice! They reflected on their training, discussed how it prepared them to work in smaller communities, and about their first few years of practice. The evening was full of great suggestions and thoughtful encouragement.

For any residents who missed the session, please email SPRUCE@rccbc.ca for a link to the recording.

This is the third time we have held Reflections on Residency over the last 3 years, and we look forward to hosting it annually.

Rural Pediatric Meeting

June 18, 7:30 - 8:30 pm | Virtual

[Join us - Register](#)

SPRUCE is bringing rural pediatricians together for two virtual meetings to provide an update on the work of SPRUCE, allow discussion around recruitment and retention, and discuss a potential in person get together at the November 2024 BC Pediatric Society Annual Conference.

The first meeting was held on May 31, and a second is planned for June 18. Please join us by following the registration link to sign up.

Welcome Dr. Michelle Roos, New Pediatrician in Terrace

"I recently relocated to Terrace from South Africa and am excited to join the Northern Health team! I completed my undergraduate medical training in Pretoria and went on to specialize in Pediatrics at the University of Stellenbosch, where I completed my master's degree and fellowship in 2017. Since then, I have been working in private practice in South Africa- I started off in a large urban centre and then moved to small rural hospital in the countryside.

I thoroughly enjoy the outdoors and love going camping and hiking. Other hobbies include cooking, reading (mostly cookbooks!), and crafting. I moved to Terrace with my husband and look forward to exploring all that Northern BC has to offer!"



CPS Rural Paediatrics Special Interest Group

Did you know... The Canadian Paediatric Society now has a Rural Paediatrics Special Interest Group (SIG)! Surprised it didn't exist before? We were!

So, SPRUCe submitted a proposal to start this important group and (for now) the Co-Chairs are none other than yours truly, Kirsten Miller and Jenny Retallack. If you are a CPS member and have not joined the Rural Paediatrics SIG yet, please join! There's no cost and anyone who is interested in learning more about and supporting rural paediatrics is welcome.

To join, simply [login to your CPS account](#) and click "Join a Section or Special Interest Group" from the home page, then choose the 'Rural Paediatric SIG'. You will be added to the Discourse email communication and invited to future events or meetings. The initial goal is to hear what rural paediatricians across Canada need from this forum for collaboration and communication. We hope that all initiatives will prioritize workforce planning/ recruitment and retention as important goals. Please join us to have a voice in the direction this SIG takes!

[Join the CPS Rural Paediatric SIG](#)

Opportunities to be involved in Undergraduate Education

Student Affairs is gathering names of interested faculty to participate in career nights, mentorship groups, and shadowing opportunities for pre-clinical students.

See the link below for full details and to express interest.

[Expression of Interest](#)

Open position: Systems Lead for Growth and Development in MEDD421. Unique to MEDD421, there is cohesion in the first 4 weeks of the course as the content all relates to pediatrics. The System Lead acts primarily as a consultant to the Course Leads, Associate Director of Curriculum for Years 1&2, and Director of Curriculum. Use the link for Dr Peebles if you are interested.

[Contact: Erin.Peebles@cw.bc.ca](mailto:Erin.Peebles@cw.bc.ca)

BCPS Conference Get Together

November 8, 2024 | In-person

At last year's BC Pediatric Society Annual Conference (Children's Health Today), it was wonderful to get those interested in rural pediatrics together during lunch on day 1. This year, we are planning a get together over dinner (funded by the Rural Coordination Centre of BC) on Friday, November 8, 2024.

In order to determine if we should plan this (rather than just booking space to eat our lunch together at the conference), please let us know what you think about a dinner get together. This will be for pediatricians who practice in rural or small communities and those who provide rural locum or visiting outreach service (as well as for pediatric residents who are 'rural-curious'). Networking with residents is always fun, and you never know when you may convince someone to later come and locum for you, or even join you as a colleague!

[? Do you want to join us for dinner? Let us know](#)

CME Events

Cerebral Palsy Online Workshops

June 20 & July 4, 5:30-7:30pm

Join us online for a two-part series to learn more about evidence-based tools that support an early diagnosis of cerebral palsy (CP) in community pediatrics. The sessions will be led by development pediatricians Drs. Ram Mishaal & Mor Cohen-Eilig.

Each session is eligible for CME Credits: 1.5 MOC Section 1



REGISTER - Part 1: The Neuromotor Assessment for Cerebral Palsy Diagnosis: Physical Exam and the HINE

REGISTER - Part 2: Diagnosing Cerebral Palsy: Your Questions Answered and Next Steps

Familial Hypercholesterolemia in Children & Adolescents

Did you know that 1:250 people have Familial Hypercholesterolemia? Are you screening ALL your PEDIATRIC patients as guidelines suggest?

Thanks to Kevin Harris, MD, MHSc and Venessa Thorsen, BSc (Hons), MSc Candidate, who presented at this month's SPRUCE CME session.

The recording will be available to watch online - please email spruce@rccbc.ca to access the link.

