

# FORENSIC PSYCHIATRIC SERVICES COMMISSION 2008-2009 ANNUAL REPORT



BC Mental Health &  
Addiction Services

An agency of the Provincial Health Services Authority



*Cover photo: Forensic Psychiatric Hospital in Port Coquitlam. Photo by Jeff Yarske.*



## Forensic Psychiatric Services Commission Annual Report 2008-2009



*Michael Marchbank,  
Co-chair, Forensic Psychiatric  
Services Commission*

The mandate of the Forensic Psychiatric Services Commission (FPS) is to provide court-related forensic psychiatric assessment, treatment and community case management, and to enable the safe reintegration of patients/clients into the community. FPS provides specialized hospital and community based services for adults with mental disorders who are in conflict with the law.

The 190-bed Forensic Psychiatric Hospital (FPH) serves individuals referred by the Courts for treatment and assessment. Community based services are provided on an outpatient basis through regional programs coordinated by six community clinics in Vancouver, Victoria, Nanaimo, Prince George, Kamloops and Surrey.

### **Members of the Commission**

- Michael Marchbank, Executive Vice President, Quality Management, Performance Improvement & Innovation, Provincial Health Services Authority (Co-Chair);
- Leslie Arnold, President, BC Mental Health & Addiction Services (Co-Chair);
- Dr. Soma Ganesan, Physician Leader, Riverview Hospital and, Medical Director, Adult Mental Health Services, Vancouver Community;
- Robert W.G. Gillen, QC, Assistant Deputy Attorney General, Criminal Justice Branch, Ministry of Attorney General;
- Craig Knight, Assistant Deputy Minister, Corporate Policy, Legislation and Intergovernmental Relations, Ministry of Health Services;
- Alan Markwart, Assistant Deputy Minister, Ministry of Children & Family Development;
- Robert Watts, Assistant Deputy Minister, Community Corrections and Corporate Programs, Ministry of Public Safety & Solicitor General.



*Leslie Arnold,  
Co-chair, Forensic Psychiatric  
Services Commission*





*Interim Director of Patient & Client Services Angus Monaghan with completed Strategic Plan*

## Highlights for 2008-2009

During the 2008-2009 fiscal period, Forensic Psychiatric Services (FPS) has developed and participated in a number of initiatives in the ongoing effort to improve patient care and safety across the organization. Notable successes have been achieved in strategic planning, research and in initiatives at local, regional and national levels that support our goal of delivering forensic services at the highest possible standard in an efficient and effective manner.

### ***Comprehensive Strategic Plan***

With the leadership of the Director, Clinical Services and Scientific Director and the Director (Interim), Patient & Client Services, FPS developed a five-year strategic plan to achieve its vision to be a national and international leader in forensic mental health services. The process included extensive consultation and input from staff, clinicians, partners, patients and clients and was an integral part of a broader BC Mental Health & Addiction Services (BCMHAS) strategic planning initiative during the summer and fall of 2008.

The key strategic directions are:

- Putting in place the infrastructure and supports we need to deliver forensic service at the highest possible standard in an effective and efficient manner.
- Working with our partners to develop a provincial approach to manage the needs of the forensic population. By clarifying roles and accountabilities based on who has the best skills and resources to serve sub populations of this group, we hope to maximize our highly specialized resources.
- Incorporate emerging best practice and clinical risk management approaches into care plans and clinical decision making.
- Further establishing clinical service models that are evidence based and patient-centred, ensure collaboration, and fully engage all disciplines in the provision of the best quality care.

The plan is structured, but flexible in order to evolve as progress is made and new opportunities become available.



## Highlights for 2008-2009 (continued)



*Dawn Morgan with new multi-lingual information brochures and video*

### ***Communicating with patients and families***

Forensic Psychiatric Services serves a multi-cultural patient population and it is critical that patients and their families are provided with clear information about the services and processes at the hospital and clinics. During the past fiscal year, an initiative was completed to make updated service information available in English, French, Punjabi, Spanish, Japanese, Chinese and Vietnamese. These languages reflect the most prevalent languages in the population served.

An updated client and family orientation video was produced in 2008-09 which is now available on the BCMHAS website. The video outlines the hospital and clinic based services and the process that patients follow through the continuum of care including the Forensic Psychiatric Hospital and the Regional Forensic Clinics.

### ***Meeting demands through process improvement***

Using the process improvement model adopted by PHSA (imPROVE), Forensic Psychiatric Services continues to address the increasing demand for court ordered services. In 2008-09, the processes for receiving and completing psychological and psychiatric pre-sentence reports (PSRs), were examined with the specific goal of meeting increasing demand while maintaining quality reports.

Provincial court judges, members of Crown Counsel, BC Corrections Branch, psychiatrists, psychologists and other disciplines were involved in the work, which resulted in new guidelines for referrals and standardized content and format for the reports.





*Sonya Manhas of the Vancouver Clinic with the Premier's Award*

## Highlights for 2008-2009 (continued)

### ***Supporting Vancouver's Downtown Community Court***

Vancouver's Downtown Community Court (DCC) opened its doors in September 2008. Working with health and social service partner agencies, the DCC impacts complex issues such as mental illness, addictions, homelessness, poverty, unemployment and poor social skills among offenders.

Forensic Psychiatric Services provides psychiatric support and a forensic liaison nurse who completes assessments about the offenders' mental status, clinical, financial and social needs. This information becomes the basis for release planning and referrals to a variety of resources in the community, including mental health teams, health clinics and social agencies.

In February 2009, the Downtown Community Court and all its contributing agencies and services, were honoured with the Premier's Award for Cross-Government Integration. The Vancouver Regional Forensic Clinic was one of these recipient agencies.

### ***Supporting Professional Practice***

Nursing Professional Practice Councils were established in 2008-09, to support the Forensic Psychiatric Hospital and the six regional clinics. The councils are a forum for nurses to identify, examine and make decisions regarding current and future practice issues in forensic psychiatric nursing. This includes initiatives that influence professional practice, strategies for addressing special issues, collaboration with other professionals, and evaluation and change of practices. Council members interpret the implications of impending legislation and professional standards, enhance nurses' professional development through leadership roles and facilitate two-way communication.



## Highlights for 2008-2009 (continued)



*Dennis Ishikawa demonstrates the Patient Safety and Learning System for incident reporting*

### ***Technology for safety and learning***

Patient safety and ongoing learning are touchstones of a quality health care service. Forensic Psychiatric Services launched the Patient Safety and Learning System (PSLS) in September 2008 allowing providers to report incidents electronically so that responses and reporting can occur more quickly.

The migration from the old system of handwritten reports to the PSLS was part of a province-wide initiative, and Forensic Psychiatric Services—along with other BCMHAS services—were among the first mental health services to adopt the new technology.

Implementation of the PSLS was a significant achievement for 2008-09 and required large-scale effort on the part of FPS and other BCMHAS and PHSA staff and resources.

### ***National leadership and education***

The 5th Annual Forensic Psychiatry Conference, co-sponsored by BCMHAS, was held in April 2008 at Vancouver's Coast Plaza Hotel. The three-day conference was a great success with more than 450 delegates in attendance. The theme was mental health and the justice system across the lifespan.

Extensive planning and preparation was completed in 2008-09 in order to host the 6th Annual Forensic Psychiatry Conference which took place in Vancouver in April 2009.

Planning and organizing for the first-ever meeting of national forensic mental health leaders was also completed in 2008-09 with the meeting coinciding with the annual conference. The meeting was conceived as a forum for senior leaders in forensic mental health in Canada to identify opportunities for collaborative action and to further the practice of forensic mental health through sharing of information about research initiatives, knowledge exchange and best or emerging best practices.





*Dr. Johann Brink, Director, Clinical Services & Scientific Director*

## Highlights for 2008-2009 (continued)

### **Research highlights**

Research continues to be an active area for Forensic Psychiatric Services with research projects underway in the areas of risk assessment, health promotion, stigma, aggression in patient populations and patient and staff safety. As a component of the broader BC Mental Health and Addictions Research Institute, together with the opening of the PHSA's new Translational Research Building in November 2008, the FPS research program continued to evolve, build capacity and strengthen its program through partnerships with health authorities, universities, researchers and other agencies within the province, nationally, and internationally. We are committed to the critical link between research and knowledge exchange, translating knowledge into action to promote evidence-informed change of practice and system-wide improvements.

Research accomplishments in 2008-09 year include 25 papers published, 27 conference presentations, and 26 workshops on risk assessment. In addition, our research team has attracted \$305,000 in salary awards and funding for research projects.



### AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF FORENSIC PSYCHIATRIC SERVICES COMMISSION

We have audited the statement of financial position of Forensic Psychiatric Services Commission as at March 31, 2009 and the statement of operations, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Commission's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In our opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Commission as at March 31, 2009 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

KPMG LLG  
Chartered Accountants  
Vancouver, Canada  
May 1, 2009



## Financial Statements (continued)

### FORENSIC PSYCHIATRIC SERVICES COMMISSION

#### Statement of Financial Position

(Expressed in thousands of dollars)

March 31, 2009, with comparative figures for 2008

	2009	2008
<b>Assets</b>		
Current assets:		
Cash	\$ 559	\$ 335
Restricted cash	83	112
Accounts receivable	14,002	13,164
Inventory	91	102
	<b>14,735</b>	13,713
Capital assets, net	<b>2,835</b>	1,983
	<b>\$ 17,570</b>	\$ 15,696
<b>Liabilities and Net Assets</b>		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 5,647	\$ 5,181
Current portion of obligations under capital leases	37	37
Current portion of retirement allowance	104	127
	<b>5,788</b>	5,345
Long-term obligations under capital leases	124	161
Retirement allowance	1,310	1,350
Asset retirement obligations	316	392
Deferred capital contributions	2,409	1,190
	<b>9,947</b>	8,438
<b>Net assets:</b>		
Invested in capital assets	265	595
Unrestricted	7,538	6,663
	<b>7,623</b>	7,258
	<b>\$ 17,570</b>	\$ 15,696



**FORENSIC PSYCHIATRIC SERVICES COMMISSION**

**Statement of Operations**

(Expressed in thousands of dollars)

**Year ended March 31, 2009, with comparative figures for 2008**

	2009	2008
<b>Revenue:</b>		
Provincial Health Services Authority operating grants	\$ 48,500	\$ 47,595
Medical Services Commission	4,978	5,180
Other contributions	78	-
Amortization of deferred capital contributions	251	180
Other	127	320
Patients, clients and residents	5	5
	<b>53,939</b>	<b>53,280</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>		
Compensation and benefits	38,803	37,699
Referred-out and contracted services	4,906	4,946
Supplies	2,214	2,167
Amortization of capital assets	394	341
Equipment and building services	5,735	6,330
Sundry	1,501	1,427
Accretion of asset retirement obligations	21	19
	<b>53,574</b>	<b>52,929</b>
<b>Excess of revenue over expenses</b>	<b>\$ 365</b>	<b>\$ 351</b>



## Statistical Summary

### FPS 2008/09: The Quick Picture

Annual operating budget:	\$53,604,022
Number of inpatients admitted:	375
Number of outpatients admitted:	3063
Average wait time for admission:	3 days
Number of inpatient beds at the Forensic Psychiatric Hospital:	190
Number of regional clinics:	6

### Admissions by FPS Location

Location	Treatment	Assessment	Total
FPH	147	228	375
Surrey	394	200	594
Victoria	304	142	446
Vancouver	630	165	795
Kamloops	257	116	373
Nanaimo	169	45	214
Prince George	200	86	286
On-call assessment	0	355	355
<b>Total</b>	<b>2101</b>	<b>1337</b>	<b>3438</b>

### Admissions by Referral Source

Referral Source	FPH		Clinics	
	#	%	#	%
Court	246	66	1263	41
Correctional Facility	65	17	214	7
Bail-Probation	0	0	1449	47
FPS Clinics	62	17	32	1
Mental Health Team	0	0	2	0
FPH	0	0	86	3
Review Board	0	0	2	0
Self	0	0	2	0
Other	2	1	13	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>3063</b>	<b>100</b>

### Number of Clients Discharged

Location	Treatment	Assessment	Total
FPH	220	170	390
Regional Clinics	1987	1102	3089
<b>Total</b>	<b>2207</b>	<b>1272</b>	<b>3479</b>





## **FORENSIC PSYCHIATRIC SERVICES COMMISSION**

### **Forensic Psychiatric Hospital**

70 Colony Farm Road  
Port Coquitlam, BC V3C 5X9  
Telephone: 604.524.7700  
Facsimile: 604.524.7905

## **REGIONAL SERVICES & COMMUNITY OFFICES**

### **Kamloops**

No. 5, 1315 Summit Drive  
Kamloops, BC V2C 5R9  
Telephone: 250.377.2660  
Facsimile: 250.371.3894

### **Nanaimo**

101 - 190 Wallace Street  
Nanaimo, BC V9R 5B1  
Telephone: 250.739.5000  
Facsimile: 250.739.5001

### **Prince George**

2nd Floor, 1584 7th Avenue  
Prince George, BC V2L 3P4  
Telephone: 250.561.8060  
Facsimile: 250.561.8075

### **Surrey/Fraser Valley**

10022 King George Highway  
Surrey, BC V3T 2W4  
Telephone: 604.529.3300  
Facsimile: 604.529.3333

### **Vancouver**

300 - 307 West Broadway  
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### **Victoria**

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