

# Addressing the Primary Care Shortage in Whistler

Winter 2022





## Purpose of Today's Presentation

Information Sharing - to let you know what we are doing/planning

Get your Feedback - to answer any questions you might have and get your feedback on the plan

Objective: Improve the quality and availability of Primary Care in Whistler; specifically, full service family practice with a commitment to longitudinal care.

#### Taskforce members from the following organizations

















### Current Situation in Whistler



Fewer doctors providing full service family practice in the past five years

Practices are closing



Many people don't have a family doctor

And those that do may face long wait times



Current estimates show Whistler needs a minimum of 14 to 16 full time equivalent GP's

We have 7 - 8

### Why are doctors not choosing full service family practice?

Complexity of Running a Practice

Patient care has grown increasingly complex requiring more diagnostics and labs than in previous years and requires far more comprehensive record keeping and patient tracking

Structures Don't Support Team-based Care

Doctors want to, and are encouraged to, work in healthcare teams but the present structures do not support this

Financially Challenging to Run a Practice

Whistler overheads are high, staff are hard to find and retain, billing under fee for service model is financially challenging

### Opportunity to Create a Solution that is Best for Whistler

We know we aren't unique - many communities are facing the same issue.

We can lead the change, or have it happen to us.

We have an opportunity to ensure the best interests of the community are kept in mind.



#### What Others are Doing



- Gabriola Community Health Care Centre
- Rebalance
- Seymour Health
- Bowen Island Health Care Centre
- Shoreline Medical

#### Whistler Community Primary Care Centre Concept

- Co-Located with the Whistler Health Care Centre
- Community Governed,
  Non Profit Organization

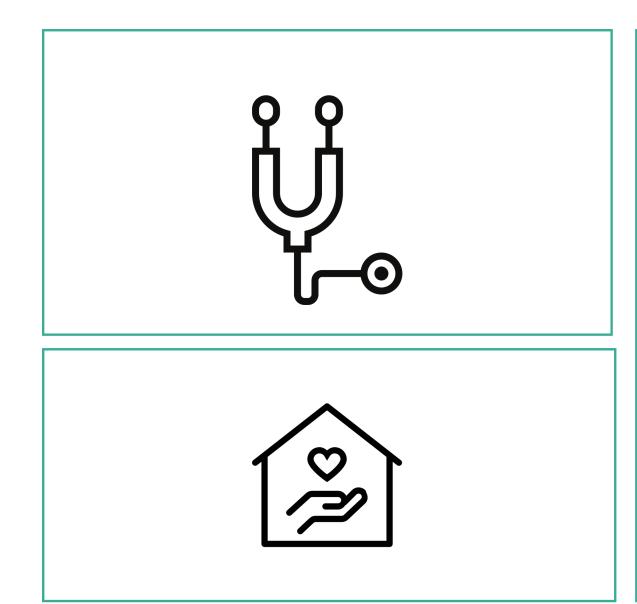
Professionally Managed

Full Service Family Practice

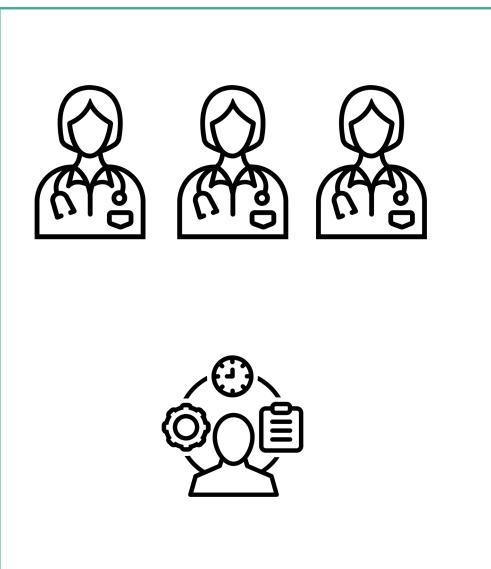
- Team-based Care, with Space for Visiting Specialists
- Focus on Community
  Health

- Accessible to Everyone
- Supports Learning

#### Getting there - 3 Phases







Phase 2
More GPs/NPs and
Professional Management



Phase 3
Full Community Health
Centre

# Whistler 360 Health Collaborative Society

#### Vision

Whistler is a healthy community where patients can easily access a strong, connected network of primary healthcare providers who collaborate to prevent illness and promote wellbeing.

#### **Mission**

To create a team-based, professionally managed, community governed centre of excellence where health care professionals provide patient-focused longitudinal care. We provide leadership in healthcare to the community and collaborate to improve social determinants of health.

Questions?





Whistler Primary Care Taskforce

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