

SUMMER 2026 NEWSLETTER

July We Celebrate Being Canadian

What It Means to Be a Canadian in 2026

Being Canadian in 2026 is defined by unity, equal opportunity, and a shared dedication to a common future. Rather than dividing the population into separate categories, the modern Canadian identity rests upon a foundation of absolute equality. To be Canadian today means belonging to a single, interconnected community where every individual possesses the same rights, responsibilities, and valued status under the law.

Equality Under the Law

*At the core of the Canadian experience is a commitment to universal fairness. Anchored by the **Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms**, the nation guarantees that every individual is completely equal before and under the law [Charter]. This framework ensures that no citizen is elevated above another and no one is excluded, providing everyone an equal opportunity to thrive.*

A Single Civic Community

The strength of Canada lies in its oneness. The national identity firmly rejects separating people into distinct factions, weaving the diverse personal histories of all residents into a single tapestry. Generations-old families and brand-new citizens are fully and equally part of the national family, creating a deep bond of mutual respect and common purpose.

Global Responsibility and Shared Stewardship

As a unified people, Canadians look outward to the world with a single voice. Being Canadian means working together to protect our vast natural landscape from coast to coast to coast. On the international stage, a united citizenry continues to champion diplomacy, peacekeeping, and humanitarianism, driven by a shared belief in liberty and justice for all people



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The entire history
of Canada

Keri Kidd



MOA Feature

I am an MOA at the Kamloops Vascular Surgery Clinic. Since joining the team in 2025, I have supported the vascular surgeon team, providing dedicated administrative care primarily alongside Dr. Grab and Dr. Dreksler. Though I hold a background in Natural Resource Sciences, I have long held a keen interest in healthcare administration and was thrilled to bring my diverse skill set to the vascular team.

Outside of the clinic, I enjoys hiking and spending quality time with my husband and family. As a proud mother of four, I can often be found cheering on our daughter at volleyball tournaments or planning the family's annual vacation to discover a new destination.

I have had the privilege of supporting this medical practice and our patients for over 17 years, working closely alongside Dr. Azad since January 2009 and Dr. Johnson since 2016. In August 2025, I relocated to Vancouver Island and successfully transitioned into a fully remote Office Manager role. Operating from my home office, I specialize in the precise coordination of Operating Room (OR) bookings and patient appointments, ensuring our day-to-day scheduling runs seamlessly. Outside of clinic logistics, living on the island perfectly fuels my love for the outdoors—you can usually find me motorcycle riding, kayaking, or hiking the local trails.

Courtney Hawley



MOA Lounge

Newsletters of Interest

- **Global Immunization Newsletter**

Receive the latest news and updates on vaccines and immunization.

- **Influenza Newsletter**

Receive interesting and informative news on seasonal and zoonotic influenza.

- **Canadian Public Health Newsletter**

Weekly Updates

- **Interior Health News Alerts**

- **Second Shift**

Bridging the gap

Social Media

- [Interior Health](#)
- [BC Health Care Matters](#)
- [Mighty Oak](#)
- [Public Health](#)

- [WorkBC](#) - Thompson Nicola
- [Work Safe BC](#)
- [City of Kamloops](#)

The new Health Professions and Occupations Act (HPOA)

is now in effect across B.C., introducing stricter safety rules and changing the official term "registrant" to "licensee" [CPSBC]. While your daily EMR, scheduling, and billing tasks stay exactly the same, the law places a much heavier focus on cultural safety and anti-discrimination.

The primary driving force behind the HPOA is to eliminate harm and systemic discrimination within the provincial healthcare system. The Act embeds a mandatory commitment to cultural safety, anti-racism, and humility into the regulatory framework.

As the literal face of the clinic, the front desk is where this commitment is felt most by the community. While you don't need to change your technical data entry protocols, your role as an empathetic gatekeeper is more important than ever. Front-desk staff should remain deeply conscious of patient privacy, inclusive intake practices, and welcoming triage protocols to align with the province's heightened expectations for anti-discriminatory care.

[Read More HERE](#)

Coach's Corner

Doctors Of BC

LFP Billing Education:

Panel Payment Transition Webinar

The FPSC Billing Support team is hosting an LFP Billing Education:

- Panel Payment Transition webinar on June 25 from 6-8pm. *(Due to timing of NewsLetter Release you may want watch the webinar recording after the session, it will be shared on the Doctors of BC YouTube channel and in the LFP Billing Update newsletter)*

Will help family physicians to:

- Identify the upcoming changes to the Panel Payment
- Understand how the Panel Payment is calculated
- Prepare your practice for the changes to the calculation methodology
- Claim the Panel Payment

As space is limited, registration is open to family physicians/residents only.

For those interested in viewing the .

[Register here](#)

PAS Panel Reconciliation

Join FPSC's Practice Support Program (PSP) and Ministry of Health Provincial Attachment System (PAS) teams to learn how to reconcile your PAS panel with your EMR panel.

Please reach out to psp@doctorsofbc.ca if you have any questions.

You can choose to attend one or more of the following webinars.

[Open for Registration](#)

- Jul 10, 2026 12:00 PM
- Aug 11, 2026 12:00 PM
- Sep 10, 2026 12:00 PM

COMING AND GOING

Departing

- Dr Baikie's office will be closed as of June 30th 2026
Medical records can be accessed by emailing: drbaikie.moa@gmail.com
- Dr Mayba's office will be closed as of June 19th
- Dr Navratil will be retiring in July

Arriving

New Neurologist

Dr Ryan Chrenek Has joined The
Welcome Back Clinic
101-474 Columbia St, Kamloops, BC,
V2C 2T5, Canada
Phone: 778 399 0500
Fax: 778 399 0501
Billing# Q0031

Vascular Surgeon

Dr Dreskler
has joined Dr Azad and Johnson's
Practice
Address: 210-546 St Paul St,
Kamloops, BC, V2C 5T1, Canada
Phone: 1 250-377-3331
Fax: 250-571-3362
Billing# QA1152

B.C.'s targeted cross-border recruitment campaign

has successfully drawn 26 U.S.-trained physicians to the Interior Health (IH) region, part of a broader influx of 83 American health-care professionals, including nurses and practitioners. Streamlined provincial credentialing has further allowed over 210 U.S.-trained physicians to register for practice in B.C., with many finalizing placements to bolster the regional network. Read more on the official [British Columbia Provincial Website](#).

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FOR? TRY THE RESOURCE PACKAGE

(SEE WHATS [AVAILABLE BELOW](#))

- Alternative Clinics
- Child Development and therapy
- Community and information Centres for Seniors and resources
- Downtown/Aberdeen X-ray/Ultrasound
- Emergency Crisis Support
- Employment
- Family and Community Centres
- Family and Specialized Parent Support
- Government Contacts
- Government Resources
- Health and Wellness
- Home Support
- Hospitals and Health Centres
- Housing and Shelters
- ICBC and Worksafe
- Indigenous and Cultural Resources
- Kamloops Community Services
- Kamloops Pharmacies Dispensing Fees
- Labs
- Legal Assistance and Finances
- Meals on Wheels
- Medical Imaging
- Midwives
- MSP Contacts/ Information / Out Of Province Health Care # Search
- Naturopathic and integrated health clinics
- New Parent Resources
- Opioid/Alcohol use Disorder
- Pharmacies
- Provincial and Private Virtual Clinics
- Provincial Health Sites
- Public Health and Prenatal
- Public Health Units
- Resources for chronic Brain diseases
- RIH - Directory
- RIH- Medical Staff
- TNRD
- Transportation services
- Travel Assistance Program
- TRFO
- Women's Clinics

In The Know

Self X-ray Booking

Effective April 1st, 2026, Medical Imaging will be utilizing a new centralized model for the Kamloops - Royal Inland Hospital (RIH) Medical Imaging department. This central office will manage outpatient X-ray requisitions for the sites listed below:

- Kamloops Royal Inland Hospital • Kamloops Northhills Centre Medical Imaging
- The fax number for the X-ray central scheduling office is 250-314-2227.
- Please ensure that X-ray requisitions are sent to the new central scheduling office's fax line (effective March 23, 2026).
- Please note, all other imaging modality requisitions will be handled as per current processes.
- Starting April 01, 2026, patients will be able to self schedule X-ray appointments via MyHealthPortal.

Say in the News - with the latest updates

[WHO News](#)

[MAYO Clinic News](#)

[CMA News](#)

[Interior Health News](#)

Radiology Interruptions

Interventional Radiology (IR) services at Royal Inland Hospital (RIH) are currently affected by a shortage of Interventional Radiologists. There will be intermittent coverage provided by locum IR physicians. Regular IR Services are available at RIH:

Regular IR Services are available at RIH: ☐

- August 24-28 ☐
- September 14-18 ☐ S
- September 28-
- October 2 ☐
- October 13-16

Non-urgent IR procedures *Please continue to submit ALL non-urgent IR requisitions to RIH Medical Imaging Booking at 250 314-2326. RIH Medical Imaging will triage ALL requisitions and direct them to the appropriate radiologist, procedure, or surgical service. *Do not directly send non-urgent IR requisitions to KGH. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Stephanie Carr, Medical Imaging Patient Care Coordinator (PCC), 250-318-9203. 2. Urgent cases during daytime hours (M-F 8am-4pm) Please direct referrals to the appropriate surgical service or call 250 314-2100 to be transferred to the appropriate RIH Radiologist. The Radiologist will assist in directing the referral to the most appropriate provider. 3. Urgent cases during evenings and weekends Please follow the usual after-hours referral process.

Read the Memo

Education

Videos

- MedAccess -DTO Skill Building
All aspects
- OSCAR - DTO Skill building
All aspects
- Profile - DTO Skill Building
All Aspects
- Accuro - Tips and Trick
Training Session

StrongerBC Future Skills Grant

The StrongerBC future skills grant empowers B.C. residents to shape their own futures. The grant covers up to \$3,500 for eligible short-term skills training at public post-secondary institutions across the province.

Employment

Medical Office
Assistant - Foundry-
540 Seymour Street,
Kamloops, BC V2C
2G9

\$25.95-\$29.76 an hour
- Full-time

[Foundry Website](#)

Foundry is a provincial model that provides integrated health and wellness services for young people. Foundry Kamloops is preparing to open its doors in 2026, and we are seeking a Medical Office Assistant to join the founding team.

This is a unique opportunity to support the setup and launch of a new centre, working closely with the Foundry Manager and interdisciplinary team to prepare clinical spaces, organize systems, and help create a welcoming, youth-friendly environment.

As the centre becomes operational, you will transition into a core role supporting daily clinic flow, coordinating appointments and referrals, and ensuring youth and caregivers receive accessible, responsive care.

Health Awareness

LONG QT SYNDROME

Long QT syndrome (LQTS) is a heart rhythm disorder that causes fast, chaotic heartbeats. The irregular heartbeats can be life-threatening. LQTS affects the electrical signals that travel through the heart and cause it to beat. It is considered a rare condition effecting 1 in 2000 people.

[MAYO Clinic](#) [Long QT Resources](#)

The Morning My World Stopped: The Hidden Danger of Long QT Syndrome

On Wednesday, June 4th, 2025, my world came to a sudden halt at 6:30 a.m.

With my husband away, my daughter, Izabela, was sleeping beside me. I woke up early to check on her for college, only to realize in an instant that something was terribly wrong. She suddenly flopped face-first into her pillow. When I flipped her over, she was pale, unblinking, and her breathing had completely stopped.

My son, Will, rushed in and became my rock. Together, we got Izabela to the floor and started emergency CPR (thanks to training from Fast Beats CPR and First Aid Ltd.) until she began breathing on her own. But while CPR saved her life that morning, the hardest battle was uncovering why her heart had failed.

The Danger of Misdiagnosis

What followed was a heartbreaking search for answers. Despite my own professional experience working with seizure disorders, multiple ER doctors insisted Izabela had simply suffered a seizure and sent her home. Even when our family doctor raised concerns about her heart, hospital staff dismissed us.

For weeks, specialists ruled out epilepsy and sleep apnea, while Izabela's symptoms—severe dizziness, fatigue, and fainting—never went away. Later, we discovered a terrifying truth: her prolonged QT interval had actually been visible, but was missed or mislabeled, on several previous ECGs.

Understanding Long QT Syndrome

Finally, a fifth cardiologist identified the issue immediately: Long QT Syndrome (LQTS).

LQTS is a rare, often genetic electrical disorder of the heart. It disrupts the heart's recharging system after each beat, making it vulnerable to sudden, chaotic rhythms that can trigger a fatal cardiac arrest. Because these episodes can cause fainting and muscle spasms, LQTS is tragically and frequently misdiagnosed as epilepsy.

A Mother's Message

This journey has changed our family forever. My goal is to raise awareness about this silent condition so other families don't experience the same medical blindspots:

- Know the Warning Signs: Unexplained fainting (syncope),
- seizures during sleep or exercise, and
- extreme dizziness in young adults are primary red flags for Long QT Syndrome.

Request an ECG Review: If a young person experiences these symptoms, ensure an ECG is performed and explicitly reviewed for QT prolongation.

Trust Your Instincts: If a diagnosis like "epilepsy" doesn't feel right, keep fighting for a cardiac screening. Izabela is still here with us today because we refused to accept the wrong answers—**and awareness is what will save the next life.** *(posted with permission)*



Because WE matter

The heartbeat of any clinic or physician's office.

Medical office assistant recognition

Mark these dates on your calendar:

Entire Last week in April

(that's right-the Entire week)

&

**On the Wednesday of the third business week in
October**

21 October 2026

20 October 2027

18 October 2028

17 October 2029

"I need someone
capable of doing
fifty things at once
in twenty areas of the
office."

And a medical
assistant was born....



created and compiled by Connie Walker

Please send suggestions to " almostanything.cw@gmail.com "