

South Island Primary Care Network PCN Overview 2025



PCN: 10 Core Attributes

Within each PCN, local partners work together to achieve the following ten core attributes:

- Longitudinal Care
- Coordinated Care
- Timely Access
- Extended Hours
- Comprehensive Care
- Team-Based Care
- Population Health Promotion
- Digital Enablement
- Culturally Safe Care
- Equitable Access

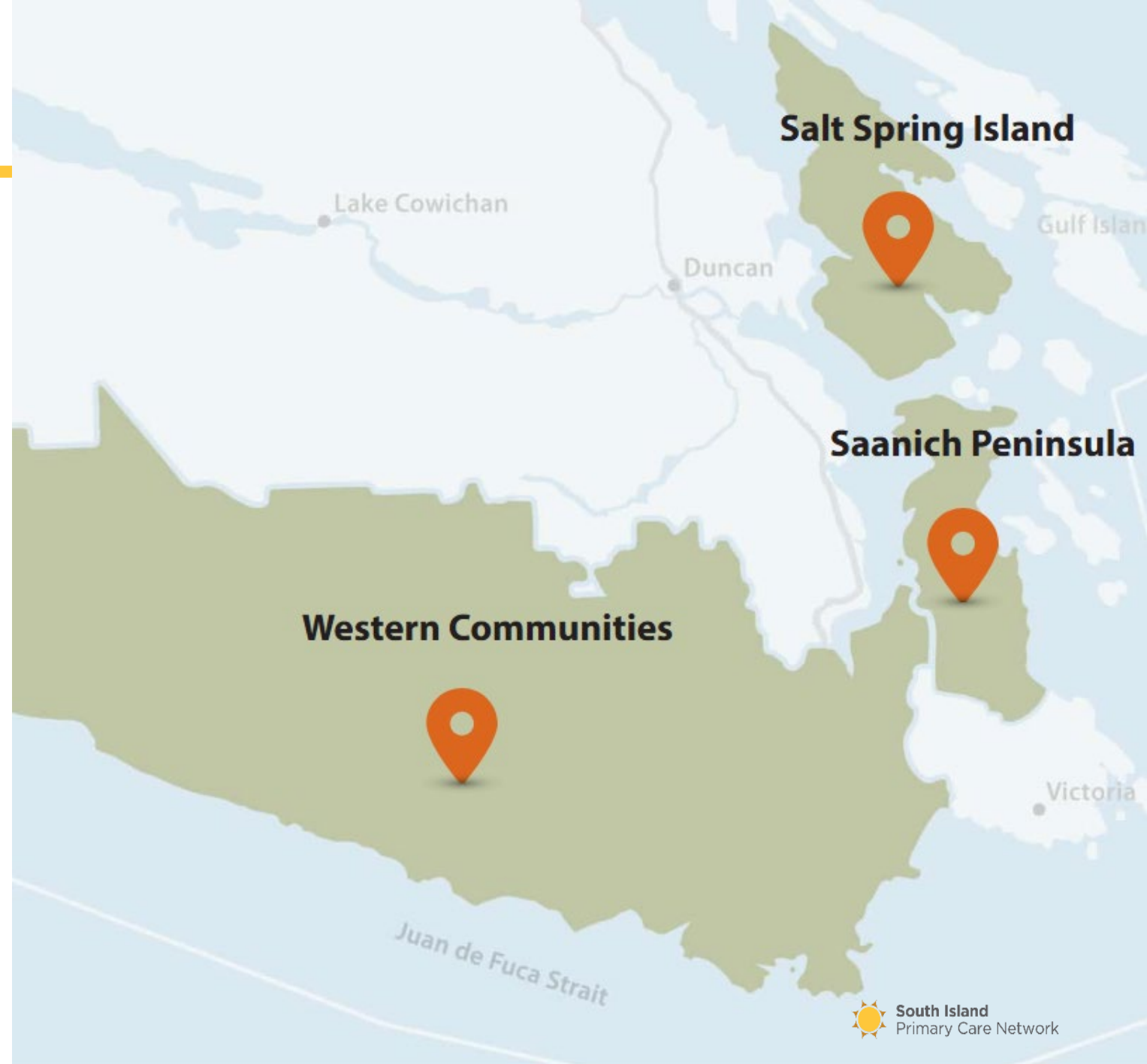
South Island PCN

✓ Four PCN Neighbourhoods

1. Saanich Peninsula
2. Western Communities – Rural
3. Western Communities – Urban
4. Salt Spring Island

✓ 228 Longitudinal Physician and NP Providers

✓ 54 clinics



South Island PCN Governance

Saanich Peninsula (SP) CHSAs

4 First Nations within SP

WSANEC
COMMUNITIES:
TSAWOUT, TSARTLIP,
TSEYUM,
PAUQUACHIN

- 4131 Royal Oak/Cordova Bay/Prospect
- 4132 Central Saanich /Brentwood Bay
- 4133 North Saanich
- 4134 Sidney/Shoreline

Salt Spring Island (SSI) CHSA

First Nations within SSI

- 4141 – Salt Spring Island
- TSAWOUT, PENELAKUT, QUW'UTSUN-COWICHAN

Western Communities (WC) CHSAs

5 First Nations within WC

PACHEEDAHT, T'SOU-KE,
SCIA'NEW, SONGHEES,
ESQUIMALT

- 4118-View Royal
- 4119-Esquimalt
- 4121-Colwood
- 4122-Metchosin
- 4123 Langford North/Highlands
- 4126 Langford South
- 4124 Sooke
- 4125 Juan de Fuca Coast

South Island PCN Steering Committee

Convenors: Dr. Robin Saunders and Dr. Erik Haensel
Frequency: First Wednesday of each Month; 4:30-6:30pm

Community Advisory
Group

Provider Advisory Group

SI First Nations Primary
Care Committee

Salt Spring Island
Implementation Group

PCN Staff Team

Neighbourhood
Project
Task Force

Evaluation
Working Group

Pharmacy Working
Group

Practice
Collaboration
Agreement
Working Group

Division as Backbone for the PCN

South Island Division of Family Practice (SIDFP) is the Backbone support for the PCN.

- Identifies a Family Physician convenor to lead the SI PCN SC and bring partners to the table.
 - Dr. Robin Saunders and Dr. Erik Haensel
- Provides staff support to the Steering Committee, Advisories and implementation of its strategies:
 - Executive Director: Paul Gudaitis - executive.director@sidfp.com – lead for Provider Advisory Group
 - PCN Director– SP and SSI: Aspasia (Sia) Zabaras) aspasia.zabaras@sidfp.com – lead for Steering Committee
 - PCN Director – Rural WC and Urban WC: Kelly Aucoin kelly.aucoin@sidfp.com –Lead for Community Advisory Group
 - PCN Indigenous Manager - Michele Nault – Mortimer —michele.nm@sidfp.com lead for SI First Nations Primary Care Committee
 - PCN Administrative Coordinator: Tina Dickson tina.dickson@sidfp.com –admin for Steering Committee
- Fund holder for non-clinical administrative PCN support, governance, Indigenous Wellness and Cultural Safety Resources and contract management
- Supports PCN to achieve SIDFP Strategic Direction and priorities

SI PCN Steering Committee (SI PCN SC)

- Family Physician Co-convenors approved by the SIDFP Board
- Oversight to operationalize the PCN's clinical services, as defined in its PCN Service Plans approved by the Ministry of Health (MoH)
- Makes decisions and supports the ongoing operations of the SI PCN which currently includes four PCNs: Western Communities (WC) - Rural WC, Urban WC, Saanich Peninsula (SP) and Salt Spring Island (SSI).
- Governed by Terms of Reference
- Reports to and is funded through the Family Practice Services Committee (Doctors of BC and MOH)

SI PCN SC Membership

The SC is comprised of 11 voting members and secretariat PCN staff:

- 1 Co-Convenor - Physician Lead – Family Physician Member of the SIDFP (appointed),
- 1 Co-Convenor - Family Physician Member of the SIDFP (appointed),
- 2 Family Physician (FP) representatives,
 - 1 FP from an active PCN (e.g., Saanich Peninsula, Salt Spring Island, Western Communities) (nominated and approved).
 - 1 FP from a Health Authority run clinic/Urgent Primary Care Centre (appointed).
- 1 Nurse Practitioner (NP) Provider (nominated and approved),
- 2 SI First Nations Primary Care Committee representatives,
- 1 Director Clinical Services Delivery, Island Health, Western Communities (appointed),
- 1 Director Clinical Services Delivery, Island Health, Saanich Peninsula and Salt Spring Island (appointed),
- 1 Community Advisory representative(nominated and approved),
- 1 Provider Advisory Group representative (nominated and approved).

Provider Engagement and Leadership in PCN

Provider Advisory Group

- ✓ Provide recommendations to the PCN Steering Committee on the following:
 - Determine and guide the Project Working Groups and activities of the PCN, e.g. Rapid Access for Attached, Enhancing clinicians in practice, etc. with a QI focus
 - EOI Clinical Resource Requests
- ✓ Engage other FP and NPs and partners by gathering feedback and informing them of the impact of current activities
- ✓ Monitor and enhance FP/NP engagement and provide their perspectives to the Steering Committee on primary care issues and priorities
- ✓ Lead working groups and Project Initiatives
- ✓ **Membership:** FP/NPs

Indigenous Cultural Safety in the PCN

- ✓ South Island First Nations Primary Care Committee is the self-determined Indigenous voice for SI PCN
- ✓ Representatives from all nine First Nations within SI: Pacheedaht, T'sou-ke, Scia'new, Songhees, Esquimalt, Tsawout, Tsartlip, Tseycum and Pauquachin First Nations
- ✓ Goal is to ensure expertise and direction on:
 - Indigenous engagement
 - Indigenous resources
 - Indigenous Cultural Safety



Community Engagement in the PCN

- The SI Community Advisory Group is a recently formed, growing group made up of:
 - Up to 12 members, including 2 co-chairs.
 - Members selected for diversity (geography, culture, age, gender, lived experience).
 - Representation of Indigenous, 2SLGBTQ+, youth, seniors, caregivers, and local community organizations.
- Goal to ensure:
 - Opportunity for community organizations, patients, caregivers to inform PCN work
 - Support for decisions and advise PCN plans and activities
 - Offer feedback and ideas to strengthen community health and collaboration



PCN Resource Allocations

The PCN Clinical resources approved in the Services Plans include:

- New to Practice (NTP) Family Physician Contracts – 1,250 attachments per 1.0 FTE
- NTP Nurse Practitioner contracts – 1,000 attachment per 1.0 FTE
- Registered Nurses (RN) – 500 attachment per 1.0 FTE
- Social Workers (SW)
- Mental Health Consultants (MHSU)
- Pharmacists
- Physiotherapist

PCN Funding letters

- In spring every year, the MoH sends the SI PCN SC its funding letters and schedules for each PCN which outlines the expectations that correspond to the funding:
 - provide funding guidelines for how the funding can be spent.
 - outline the funded strategies of each PCN and expected attachments.
- Funding is flowed through the SIDFP for non-clinical PCN resources and to Island Health or the First Nations Health Authority for clinical PCN resources.
- This funding is spent under the direction of the SI PCN SC.
- The SIDFP and Island Health submit Period Reports to the MoH on the progress of spending against the funding allocated.

Requesting Resources

- To access the resources within the Service Plan, clinics are required to complete and sign the PCN Expression of Interest (EOI) form
- Criteria
 - Alignment
 - Equity
 - Clinic Readiness
 - Feasibility

PCN Program Supports – some of what we do

- Securing **New to Practice** Contracts for FP and NPs and support for onboarding
- **Resource allocation** decision making and developing and refining **models of care**
- Onboarding, troubleshooting and ongoing support in **integrating team-based care** in clinics
- **Space planning** for team-based care - including technology needs
- **Optimizing the roles** for Team Based care in clinics, establishing workflows and monitoring progress in access to care
- Ensuring **Legal agreements** are completed and supported by all parties
- **Submit Funding Requests and Respond** to MOH requests and changing policies
- Requesting **additional resources** from Ministry of Health above Service Plan requests
- Oversee **Attachment process**, Health Connect Registry and achieving contract targets
- **Cultural Safety** Learning Supports
- **Evaluation** and data collection for the program
- **Support changes** identified by FPSC, Ministry of Health and Island Health that impact clinics and longitudinal care
- **Support advocacy** at Partnership tables to meet local Primary Care needs through SI PCN SC

Saanich Peninsula PCN –Community Health Service Area CHSAs



22 clinics

6
Sidney
Clinics



2
North
Saanich
Clinics



7
Central
Saanich
Clinics



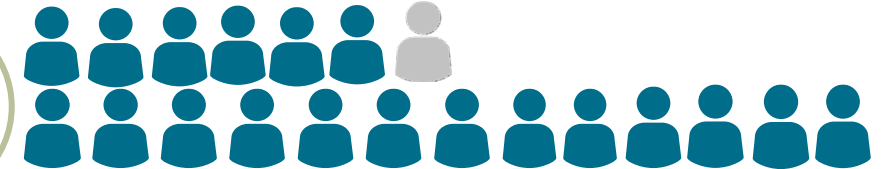
7
Royal
Oak/CB
Clinics



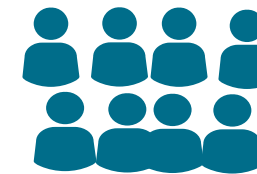
**51.90
PCN
Resources**

 Filled  Vacant

20.30
FPs



7.8
NPs



4
SWs



13.8
RNs



1
PCCP



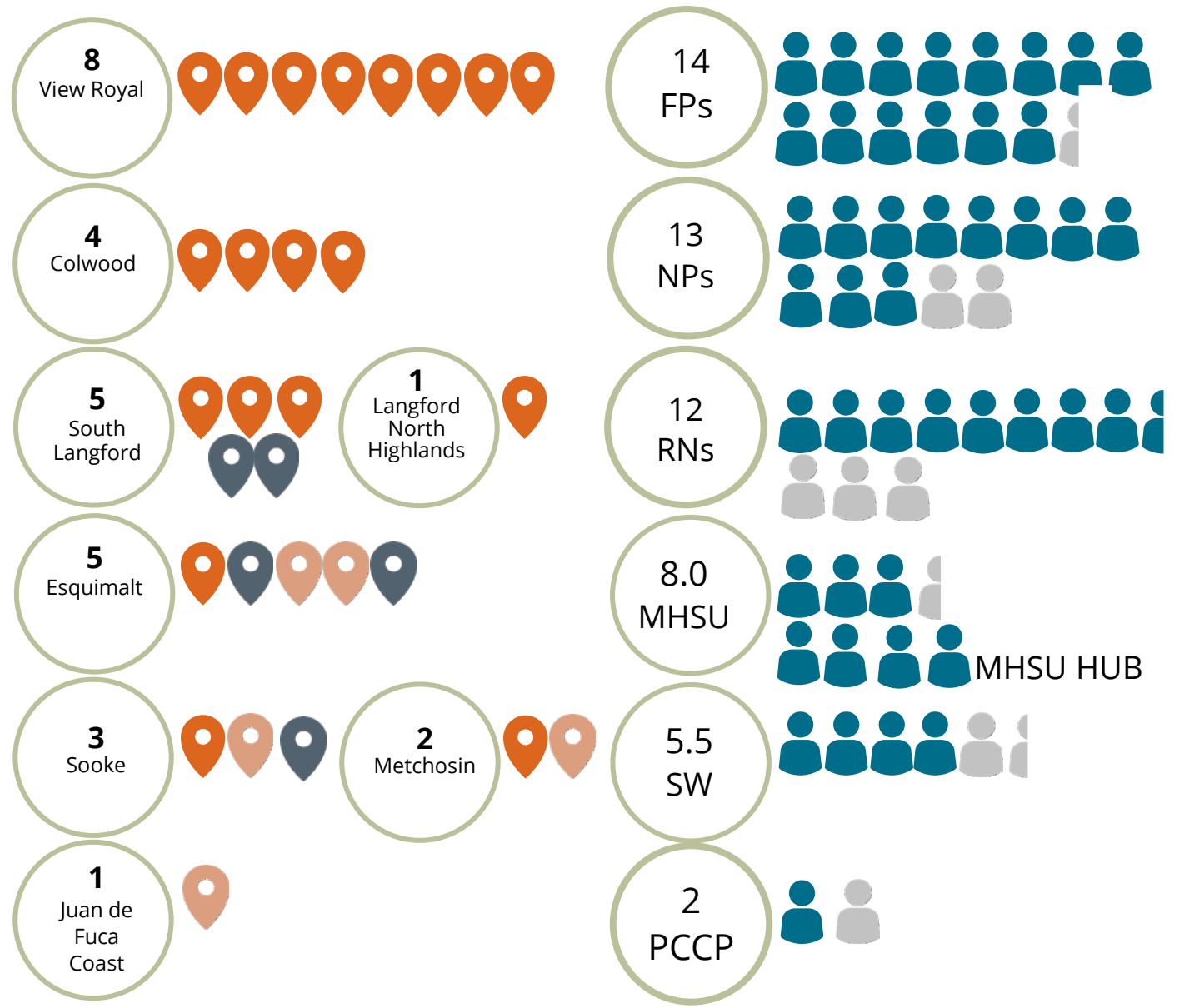
1
PT



4
MHSU



Western Communities PCNs- Community Health Service Area CHSAs



Patient Attachment

- ✓ PCN uses [Health Connect Registry](#) (HCR) to attach new patients
- ✓ HCR: provincial platform operated by [Healthlink BC](#) to register for a Family Physician
- ✓ PCN Attachment Coordinator pulls registered patients for clinic providers to attach
- ✓ Clinics no longer need to maintain a waitlist, freeing up administration time for clinic staff
- ✓ PCN Attachment Coordinator works with PCN clinics to merge existing waitlists with the

Registry



Challenges

- Collaboration Agreements not signed by clinics - Hiring of PCN RNs in these clinics and flow of overhead halted –April 1
 - SI PCN SC secured Interim MOU with Island Health
- Uncertainty of funding letters and resources available
 - Request for Island Health to share at Dec PCN SC meeting
- Government Review of Primary Care Networks and transparency of approach
 - Request on Monthly MOH Meeting for updates.
- Limited Pharmacy Resources – clinics wanting access
 - Limited resources makes current model not equitable
 - Additional Resource for WC to meet growing number of clinics and attachments
 - SP PCN also has 6 clinics waiting – Marigold, Arbutus, Viewmont, West Saanich, Cordova Bay, and SPOT
- WIC Stabilization and compensation options post March 2026

Priorities for 2025/26

- Pharmacy Review
- Collaboration Agreement Working Group
- Evaluation Strategy
 - Working Group
 - Indicators and Benchmarks
 - Optimization and Standards of Practice
 - Data Collection and Analysis
- Governance Refresh
 - Developing and sustaining the Community Advisory Group
 - Developing and sustaining the Provider Advisory Group
 - Developing and sustaining the SI FN Primary Care Committee
 - Revising TOR and Onboarding new SI PCN SC members
- Space Planning and Role Optimization in Team based care

PCN Successes to Date

✓ **Maintained Patients and Caregiver access to Episodic Care**

- ✓ Stabilized 5 Walk-In Clinics
- ✓ Launched Urgent Care at Peninsula Health Unit
- ✓ Launched Urgent Care At Colwood Clinic
- ✓ Endorsed NQUPCC
- ✓ Endorsed Esquimalt UPCC
- ✓ Endorsed Sooke UPCC - pending

✓ **Access to care for High Needs Populations**

- ✓ Supported HCCT
- ✓ Endorsed and provided resources for the Westshore CHC
- ✓ Endorsed Sooke CHC – Pending
- ✓ Endorsed SPOT – Pending
- ✓ Supported Sooke Outreach
- ✓ Supported an NP Midwives collaborative clinic



PCN Successes cont.

- ✓ **Access to Care for Indigenous patients, caregivers and community**
 - ✓ Supported the addition of 8 clinical resources and a clinic coordinator (one time) for WSA NEC communities
 - ✓ Added a social worker to Pacheedaht
 - ✓ Supported Western Health Directors to identify needs to maintain and equip clinics
 - ✓ Supporting self governance - facilitating MOUs with VNFC
 - ✓ Hired cultural safety lead and held events over the past year
 - ✓ Hired PCN Indigenous Manager



PCN Successes cont.

✓ **Access to Care Generally**

- ✓ Supported 54 clinics across the PCNs to integrate new providers & clinicians
- ✓ Supported Westshore Primary Care Society to stabilize Grow Health and Langford Clinic and establish Colwood Family Practice
- ✓ One of the first PCNs to launch the health connect registry (HCR) (2021-September 2025):
 - ✓ 32,128 Registered plus 1,556 pending attachment

Attached to date from HCR:

- ✓ 18,298 patients attached in Western
- ✓ 9,803 patients attached in Saanich Peninsula
- ✓ 309 patients attached in Salt Spring