

## Transfer of Provincial Assessment Centre to PHSA

### Q&A for families

#### What is happening with Provincial Assessment Centre (PAC) and why?

- Following a review of services, the Provincial Assessment Centre (PAC) is transferring from Community Living BC (CLBC) to BC Mental Health and Substance Use Services (BCMHSUS), a part of Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA).
- Individuals with developmental disabilities and concurrent mental health challenges have highly specialized needs. Under BC Mental Health and Substance Use Services, an organization providing care to individuals with the most complex mental health and substance use needs in the province, clients will have access to specialized assessment and treatment services and health care professionals.

#### When are these changes happening?

- The process to transfer PAC from CLBC to PHSA is ongoing, and is expected to be complete in fall 2023.

#### How will these changes affect the service?

- Current PAC services will remain intact during the transfer to PHSA and ongoing.
- CLBC is working closely with PHSA to ensure a smooth transition so there is no disruption to service for individuals and families.
- As part of the transfer of services, PAC will receive additional funding to strengthen and improve services, meaning more support for individuals with developmental disabilities and concurrent mental health challenges, and an increase to the number of people who can access the service.
- Under PHSA, individuals supported by PAC will continue to have access to mental health services and support.

#### Will our loved ones still have the same care teams as before?

- Staff currently working with PAC will become employees of PHSA and continue working with the supported individuals at PAC. Contracted physicians will become PHSA medical staff, governed by the medical staff bylaws and rules.
- CLBC and PHSA have communicated all relevant information to physicians and staff to support the smooth transition of the service and avoid any disruptions. Our priority continues to be providing the best possible care to your loved ones.

### **Will the transfer of PAC to PHSA change the referral process?**

- The referral pathway for PAC remains the same. Individuals who are eligible are referred by a CLBC facilitator or analyst and in the case of youths, the Ministry of Children and Family Development.

### **Who can we contact for more information?**

- If you would like to find out more about the transition, contact Koji Azegami, PAC Interim Director & Clinical Operations Leader, at [Koji.Azegami@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Koji.Azegami@gov.bc.ca), or Franca Pitassi at [Franca.Pitassi@phsa.ca](mailto:Franca.Pitassi@phsa.ca).