

CLINICAL TRIALS BC

ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, October 27th 2020

2.00pm-5.00pm

Attendees:	Rob McMaster, Chair Melanie Reid Cindy Trytten Margaret MacDonald Tania Bubela Scott Garrison	Stephania Manusha Gavin Stuart, Incoming Chair Rob Olson Kendall Ho
Ex-Officio:	Alison Orth Danielle Lavallee	Jean Smart
Regrets:	Geoff Payne, Wendy Hurlburt, Terri Fleming	
Recording Secretary:	Aoife Kelly	
Guests:	Dr Ted Steiner – Professor and Division Head, Division of Infectious Diseases, UBC Martin Wong - Smartt Marketing	

1. Call to order / Roll Call / New Members

- 1.1 The Chair welcomed all members to the meeting of the Clinical Trials BC Advisory Council (AC).
- 1.2 The Chair welcomed the new members to the Council, Dr Srinivas Murthy, and Danielle Lavallee.

2. Approval of Agenda / Additions

- 2.1 The agenda was approved as presented.

3. Adoption of ToR

- 3.1 An updated draft of the ToR that is aligned with other AHSN ToRs was pre-circulated.
- 3.2 The ToR was unanimously approved by the Council.

4. Transition of Chair

- 4.1 Consistent with the TOR, Dr Robert McMaster has completed his term as initial Chair. Dr Gavin Stuart was appointed Chair by the Clinical Trials BC Unit Director for the term October 27, 2020 to October 27, 2022.
- 4.2 Dr McMaster welcomed Dr Stuart to this new role.
- 4.3 Dr McMaster will transition to the role of Past Chair and remain on the Council for one year.

5. COVID-19 Trials Update

- 5.1 Dr Ted Steiner presented on the CRCI Clinical Research Node

- The role of this group is to help facilitate clinical research on COVID in BC to avoid duplication, assess feasibility, pair sponsors and investigators and work with health authority administrators.
- Dr Steiner gave background on some of these studies and offered to work with Alison Orth and the CRCI to provide regular updates to the group in addition to the current updates at the BC COVID-19 Clinical Trial Network hosted by CTBC.

5.2 Dr Srinivas Murthy presented on CATCO clinical trial

- 450 patients have been enrolled across 30-50 hospitals in BC.
- Dr Murthy stressed the challenges associated with the trial including operational infrastructure, deployment of research staff and liability. Dr Murthy spoke about this in more detail at the Oct 20th BC COVID-19 Clinical Trial Network meeting.

6. Annual Activities Summary 2019-20

Alison provided a preview of the CTBC Activities Report focused on CTBC's programs and aligning with CTBC's workplans.

- The Report will include KPI from CTBC's programs, quotes, and an overview of activities from September 2019-2020.
- Alison informed the group that the full report would be provided to the group online
- The group discussed promoting the report to raise awareness of clinical trials and the support offered by CTBC.
- **The group suggested a press release and sending the report on the CEO level to health authorities.**

7. CTMS Program Update (Clinical Trial Management System)

Alison Orth shared that an initial two-year contract had been finalized with a vendor, Realtime, at the end of September.

- This allowed BCAHSN to enter into a participation agreement with the health authorities.
- Island Health was the first to sign the agreement, followed by Vancouver Coastal Health with Interior, Fraser, and Northern Health signing imminently.
- PHSA already has their own system with the vendor but they are participating in the program in terms of harmonization where it affects reporting on a provincial level.
- User acceptance training has just been completed and training is now being planned.
- Each participating organization would like to see at least one to two sites up and running before the end of the year.
- Initial implementation will be evaluated at the end of the year and improvements/changes will be made in the new year.

8. Conference Update

Jean Smart provided an update on the conference.

- It will be held 26, 27 & 28th January 2021, it will be virtual and free, and the theme is the Modernization of Clinical Trials.
- Some of the forums will be: Innovative Trials, Diverse Clinical Trial Populations, Pragmatic Clinical Trials, Participant Experience & Voice, Regulatory and Leadership, Town Hall: Change and Modernization, Clinical Trial Marketplace & Keynote Address by Prof Allan Hackshaw.

- Finalization, communications, and registration will be happening in the next few weeks.
- **Tania Bubela stressed the importance of follow-up activity support following the conference.**
- **Gavin Stuart asked about how the conference would be promoted and Tania mentioned that BCAHSN have a resource of researcher emails that she has used previously for the SFU symposium.**
- CTBC will be directly mailing to their mailing list along with that of BC AHSN.

9. Global Marketing of BC and Showcase Website Feedback

Alison provided background info on BC Showcase – it is a website developed by CTBC (at the time as BCCRIN). Originally called the BC Asset Map, it is an asset map of clinical trial investigators and clinical trials sites across the province. This was adopted by the Canadian Clinical Trial Coordinating Center and expanded into a Canadian Asset Map. BC CRIN and the steering committee recognized the need for a BC focused resource and set up BC Showcase in 2015.

- CTBC has undertaken a project to refresh and improve the project.
- Alison introduced Martin Wong who has been working with CTBC on the refresh.
- Martin went through the messaging for the project.
 - Cindy Trytten brought up the inclusion of CTMS before it has been fully implemented. Alison mentioned the tension between overselling something while also highlighting the potential to the targeted audience who are comprised of people who have not thought of BC as a site before.
 - Cindy also noted rural capacity and asked if this capacity is there. Alison explained that this is something we are aspiring to and that the infrastructure is there - Island Health has this capacity and Interior and Northern are looking at building their rural capacity – that the province is connected.
- Proposed website mockup
 - The group provided feedback on the mock-up of the website that it is more modern, streamlined, and logical.
 - **Cindy pointed out that on the map graphic while health authorities and universities are included, it is missing community-based sites, primary care, and independent researchers e.g., nonprofits like Victoria Heart Institute Foundation. Sarah Hanif has been reaching out to these groups to encourage them to update their profiles in the Asset Map.**
 - **Melanie suggested including images to show the ethnic diversity of participants and researchers in the province as this is something that makes the province stand out. Martin suggested we include this as scrolling images on the homepage.**
- **The URL and mockup are to be sent to the group for further feedback**

10. Stakeholder Input to determine Strategic Priorities for Clinical Trials Support in BC

The objective for this piece is to identify the approach CTBC should use to gather feedback to identify strategic priorities.

- **Cindy Trytten mentioned challenges in operational review processes. Tania Bubela suggested a systematic approach to identifying these tension points and tackling them one by one e.g. operational and legal.**

- **Gavin Stuart suggested using the conference in January as a think-tank and opportunity to check in on priorities.**
- **Robert McMaster advised that the Advisory Council should set the priorities for CTBC and that the Board ratify them, and that the Council should start thinking about these for the next Council meeting. Alison suggested bringing Stirling Bryan and other AHSN leadership into that conversation.**
- **Tania Bubela suggested an iterative survey/priority setting exercise that could be woven through the conference. Jean Smart said that she is hoping there will be funding for this as she has looked into it for the previous conference.**
- **Scott Garrison suggested taking advantage of the chat function in the moment at the conference to engage people, without overwhelming them with information.**
- **Melanie Reid suggested inviting members of the political world, local dignitaries or NDP politicians to the conference to see the excitement and progress and why research matters.**

11. Business from the floor

For next meeting to discuss engaging with national groups e.g., Covidtrials.ca

12. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5.01pm

Upcoming meeting dates: February 2021, June 2021