

Happy Allied Health Professionals Day!

A message of thanks and celebration from the Allied Health Policy Secretariat

In 2022, the B.C. government proclaimed **October 14th** as **Allied Health Professionals Day**. This year we are excited to continue to profile and raise awareness of the allied health workforce on October 14th through this proclamation.

B.C. joins health care systems around the world by acknowledging and celebrating the allied health workforce as we take steps towards raising awareness and recognition of the key roles the allied health workforce play in contributing to timely, accessible, appropriate, culturally safe, high quality health care services.

In B.C., the allied health workforce includes more than 70 disciplines and approximately 75,000 individuals providing a range of preventative, diagnostic, technical, and therapeutic health care and clinical support services across the lifespan and care continuum.

Allied health professions and occupations contribute specialized expertise, education, research, and leadership, often working as integral members of a collaborative health care team to improve the health and wellbeing of the people of British Columbia.

On July 31, 2023, the Ministry of Health appointed Lorrie Cramb as the Provincial Chief Allied Health Officer (PCAHO)- the first position of its kind in Canada, based on best practice evidence from several international jurisdictions. Establishing this leadership role in government highlights how British Columbia continues to lead the way in recognizing and supporting allied health professionals, raising the profile of this diverse, highly specialized workforce and strengthening leadership for allied health planning and service delivery.

September 29, 2023 marks the one-year anniversary of the release of [B.C.'s Health Human Resources Strategy](#) (HHR Strategy), B.C.'s strategy for a diverse, accessible, and sustainable health care workforce and system. The AHPS is pleased to be leading or supporting 42 of the 70 actions to help train, recruit, retain and optimize the allied health workforce.

We also wish to acknowledge the professions and occupations that are celebrating their own recognition dates in October including occupational therapists, pharmacy technicians, spiritual health practitioners, and respiratory therapists.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to providing safe, high quality health care to the people of British Columbia.