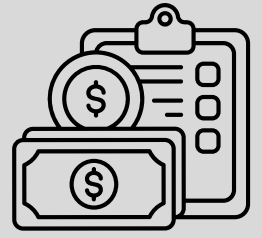


WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM AND HOW IT ALL WORKS



Ministry of Health (the Ministry):

- Obligated to maintain a publicly managed and fiscally sustainable health care system for BC, supporting access to necessary medical care based on need and not the individual's ability to pay.
- Overall responsibility for health services emphasizing accessibility, quality, and cost-effectiveness.

Health Authorities:

- Primarily responsible for health service delivery.
- Five regional health authorities cover different geographic regions. A sixth, Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA), is responsible for provincial clinical policy, clinical services, commercial services, and digital/information management.
- Health Authorities are public sector organizations that operate under varying levels of government oversight, depending on how they're defined, funded and the types of services they provide. All public sector organizations are accountable for specific financial and reporting requirements.

Health authorities receive direction from the B.C. government through **Mandate letters** and communicate their governance and accountabilities through **Service plans** and **Annual reports**.

Mandate Letters

- Each health authority receives an annual Mandate Letter from the B.C. Government. The letter outlines the health authority's direction for the year and confirms its obligations and priorities for the remainder of the Government's term.
- Health authorities review and discuss their mandate letter with the Ministry of Health to ensure clarity regarding their accountabilities and roles.
- Mandate letters (previously called government letters of expectation) are posted on the websites of all regional and provincial health authorities.

Service Plans

- Health authorities in B.C. develop three-year service plans that outline how they will achieve their organizational goals in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, their medical, facility, and many health-care partners.
- These plans are updated annually and are available on the websites of regional and provincial health authorities.

Equipment and Building Things

- While the mandate letter itself doesn't directly approve projects or equipment, it shapes the overall healthcare landscape and influences decision-making at various levels:
 - Health authorities align their initiatives, projects, and funding requests with the priorities outlined in the letter.
 - The MOH policies guide health authorities on matters such as procurement processes, safety standards, and technology adoption.
 - The mandate letter informs the budget allocation process based on strategic goals, community needs, and government priorities.
 - Health authorities report on their progress in achieving the goals outlined in the mandate letter. Accountability measures ensure that projects and equipment purchases align with the government's vision.
 - The mandate letter often emphasizes specific areas of healthcare transformation (e.g., primary care, mental health, Indigenous health). Projects and equipment acquisitions are expected to contribute to these transformations.