

Department of Pediatrics Action & Advisory Committee on Advocacy

Purpose

The Committee's purpose is to support and enhance advocacy for child and youth population health by members of the Department of Pediatrics (based at the IWK Health Centre and elsewhere in NS, NB and PEI) and their child health colleagues through

- 1) development of strategic partnerships and support for specific advocacy themes.
- 2) training/mentoring in advocacy tools and approaches

Note: The committee does not focus on advocacy for individual cases/patients.

Chair / Co-Chairs

The Co- Chairs will come from the Committee.

The Committee co-chairs develop the meeting agendas based on member interests, elicit expressions of interest in particular advocacy issues, encourage actions to promote advocacy, provide minutes of Committee meetings, and maintain communication between members and the Department of Pediatrics.

Membership

Several interested members of the Department of Pediatrics (including members from NB, PEI, and NS sites outside Halifax)

Pediatric Residents (2)

Representative, IWK Primary Health

Representative, IWK Communications

Other interested members of the IWK child and youth health community

Reporting Structure

The Committee is responsible to the Chair and to the Department of Pediatrics, and will provide updates through the Co-Chairs to the Department at the regular departmental meeting. The Chair of the Department, when appropriate, will advise the Senior Leadership team on advocacy issues raised at the Committee.

Meetings

Meetings will be held monthly (except July or August). Members will determine days and times most suitable.

Attendance

Attendance is strongly encouraged. A toll-free telephone number is provided for those who are unable to attend in person.

Terms

Members will serve based on interest. The Co- Chairs' terms will be staggered and renewable at 3-year intervals. Resident committee members will serve a minimum of one year with the option of continuing, and will be encouraged to take on an advocacy project.

Agenda

Co-chairs will collaborate with committee members to set the agenda for meetings. Any Department of Pediatrics member or other IWK child and youth health stakeholder may bring to

the Committee issues or proposals on which they are seeking input or suggestions for advocacy action.

Meeting notes are the responsibility of the Co-chairs. They are recorded for circulation to the Committee and to the Chair, Department of Pediatrics, and are reviewed at the next Committee meeting.

Communication

The majority of communication outside of meetings is done via email. The co-chairs are available by email to answer questions, provide clarification, or to hear suggestions and ideas.

An annual update of Committee activities will be completed in a log format and communicated to the Department Chair in the fall of each year.

Approval date: 27/02/2017

Update: 12/2019