HEPC.BULL
Canada’s Hepatitis C News Bulletin
www.hepcbc.ca

WORLD HEPATITIS DAY
2015 VANCOUVER

Photos from World Hepatitis Day, Vancouver July 28, 2015, held at Creekside Community Centre, near False Creek.


HOLKIRA PAK™ APPROVED!

On World Hepatitis Day 2015, the BC government announced BC PharmaCare would now cover another new interferon-free hepatitis C treatment, AbbVie's Holkira Pak™. It is also covered in Ontario, Quebec, Yukon, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Nova Scotia - perhaps others by the time this is published! This welcome news means that people in BC with genotype 1 now have another choice for treatment which has excellent results for people with or without cirrhosis. It also means that there is now some competition for Gilead's market, which we hope will help control the high cost of new hepatitis C treatments. This treatment (paritaprevir + ritonavir + ombitasvir + dasabuvir) also includes ribavirin in all cases except for people with genotype 1b with no cirrhosis. However, the treatment time for Holkira Pak™ (12

Janssen announced that it has entered into an exclusive worldwide license and collaboration arrangement with Achillion Pharmaceuticals, Inc., to develop and, upon regulatory approval, commercialize one or more of Achillion’s lead hepatitis C virus (HCV) assets which include ACH-3102, ACH-3422 and sovaprevir.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

WHD / Holkira Pak™ Approved! 1
Merger / Allen McCulloch 1
Daklinza™ News/More Leaders Tested 3
Conferences / Marathon 4
Honour Roll 5
Compensation News 6
Care Programs / Compensation 7
Coming Up 8

LOSS OF HEPCBC BOARD MEMBER
ALLEN MCCULLOCH

September 17, 1953 - July 11, 2015

On Saturday July 11, 2015, our beloved Allen passed away at home in Mill Bay, B.C., with his family by his side. Born in Vancouver, B.C., September 17, 1953. Allen was a loving, devoted family man and a loyal friend with a big heart, he had beautiful eyes, a warm smile and an infectious, hearty laugh. Passionate always, living his life to the fullest. Always game for any adventure, loved people and was happiest when he was out in nature or "making things happen", volunteering, cooking, entertaining, sports, firefighting, working and public service. His extensive travels around the world brought him many, cherished lifelong friends and helped develop his vast knowledge of the world he loved. Predeceased by his loving mother Alma, father Glen, and his sister Valerie. Sadly missed, fondly remembered and will be loved forever by his partner Susan Malloch and her large clan, including 7 grandchildren, his two daughters Jenn and Sarah and their mother Diane, his sister Anne Klein (Steve), niece Kelly Little (Mike), nephew Patrick Scott (Jenn), 5 great nieces and 1 great nephew, and his 5 loyal canine

(Continued on page 3)

On World Hepatitis Day 2015, the BC government announced BC PharmaCare would now cover another new interferon-free hepatitis C treatment, AbbVie's Holkira Pak™. It is also covered in Ontario, Quebec, Yukon, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Nova Scotia - perhaps others by the time this is published! This welcome news means that people in BC with genotype 1 now have another choice for treatment which has excellent results for people with or without cirrhosis. It also means that there is now some competition for Gilead's market, which we hope will help control the high cost of new hepatitis C treatments. This treatment (paritaprevir + ritonavir + ombitasvir + dasabuvir) also includes ribavirin in all cases except for people with genotype 1b with no cirrhosis. However, the treatment time for Holkira Pak™ (12

(Continued on page 3)

Janssen announced that it has entered into an exclusive worldwide license and collaboration arrangement with Achillion Pharmaceuticals, Inc., to develop and, upon regulatory approval, commercialize one or more of Achillion’s lead hepatitis C virus (HCV) assets which include ACH-3102, ACH-3422 and sovaprevir.

WORLD HEPATITIS DAY 2015 VANCOUVER

Photos from World Hepatitis Day, Vancouver July 28, 2015, held at Creekside Community Centre, near False Creek.


HOLKIRA PAK™ APPROVED!

On World Hepatitis Day 2015, the BC government announced BC PharmaCare would now cover another new interferon-free hepatitis C treatment, AbbVie's Holkira Pak™. It is also covered in Ontario, Quebec, Yukon, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Nova Scotia - perhaps others by the time this is published! This welcome news means that people in BC with genotype 1 now have another choice for treatment which has excellent results for people with or without cirrhosis. It also means that there is now some competition for Gilead's market, which we hope will help control the high cost of new hepatitis C treatments. This treatment (paritaprevir + ritonavir + ombitasvir + dasabuvir) also includes ribavirin in all cases except for people with genotype 1b with no cirrhosis. However, the treatment time for Holkira Pak™ (12

Janssen announced that it has entered into an exclusive worldwide license and collaboration arrangement with Achillion Pharmaceuticals, Inc., to develop and, upon regulatory approval, commercialize one or more of Achillion’s lead hepatitis C virus (HCV) assets which include ACH-3102, ACH-3422 and sovaprevir.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

WHD / Holkira Pak™ Approved! 1
Merger / Allen McCulloch 1
Daklinza™ News/More Leaders Tested 3
Conferences / Marathon 4
Honour Roll 5
Compensation News 6
Care Programs / Compensation 7
Coming Up 8

LOSS OF HEPCBC BOARD MEMBER
ALLEN MCCULLOCH

September 17, 1953 - July 11, 2015

On Saturday July 11, 2015, our beloved Allen passed away at home in Mill Bay, B.C., with his family by his side. Born in Vancouver, B.C., September 17, 1953. Allen was a loving, devoted family man and a loyal friend with a big heart, he had beautiful eyes, a warm smile and an infectious, hearty laugh. Passionate always, living his life to the fullest. Always game for any adventure, loved people and was happiest when he was out in nature or "making things happen", volunteering, cooking, entertaining, sports, firefighting, working and public service. His extensive travels around the world brought him many, cherished lifelong friends and helped develop his vast knowledge of the world he loved. Predeceased by his loving mother Alma, father Glen, and his sister Valerie. Sadly missed, fondly remembered and will be loved forever by his partner Susan Malloch and her large clan, including 7 grandchildren, his two daughters Jenn and Sarah and their mother Diane, his sister Anne Klein (Steve), niece Kelly Little (Mike), nephew Patrick Scott (Jenn), 5 great nieces and 1 great nephew, and his 5 loyal canine

(Continued on page 3)
Researchers in South Italy investigated the role of hairdressers in spreading blood-borne diseases. They set out to survey a random sample of 105 hairdressers in 2008, who remained anonymous. That HIV and hepatitis could be spread by razors was known by 93.3%, but even so, gloves were often not available, 30% didn’t use them, and half of those re-used them. 90% of them sterilized their tools with UV light, but only 20 did so between customers, and only slightly more than a third of them disinfected brushes daily. The younger operators knew more about preventing transmission, especially if they studied beyond primary school. Only 32 participated in a free course about avoiding occupational risk, given by the U. of Palermo. The researchers concluded that health messages need to improve and be available to the general population, and that obligatory refresher courses should be organized for hairdressers.

Source: www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/19892853

WHD 2015
VICTORIA, BC

A number of local groups joined to commemorate this day with an afternoon of speeches, a march to Parliament Building, and educational exhibits. In the evening, the Parliament Building was lit up in red and yellow for the first time, and there was an open microphone for people to share their experiences with hepatitis C and their memories of people lost due to liver disease.

British Columbia Parliament Buildings.
Photo at night, Barbara Pedrick

Letters to the Editor

The hep.c.bull welcomes and encourages letters to the editor. When writing to us, please let us know if you do not want your letter and/ or name to appear in the bulletin.
This year the following landmarks were lit up: The CN Tower, The Canadian and American sides of Niagara Falls, Skylon Tower in Niagara Falls, The Heritage Building Ottawa, Halifax City Hall, BC Legislature in Victoria, BC Place Stadium and Science World Vancouver. Can you think of a place to light up next year? Let us know: info@hepcbc.ca #LightsUp4Hep

August 20, 2015: Today we received news that another upcoming drug, daclatasvir (Daklinza™) from Bristol-Myers Squibb, has received a Notice of Compliance from Health Canada. Approved for GT 1-2 (conditionally for 3), it is also being considered for coverage by BC Pharmacare, though not yet approved. This drug is unique in its potential to mix and match with other drugs in order to treat a variety of genotypes, including hard-to-treat genotype 3 (combined with Gilead's sofosbuvir [Sovaldi™]). Though BMS could have combined it with one or more of its own drugs, it chose to submit daclatasvir on a stand-alone basis which could be combined with drugs from other companies, which is what HepCBC has been advocating that pharmaceuticals should do whenever possible, in order to quickly give physicians the option to treat individual patients according to their unique circumstances and the most recent clinical research. Read full press release: http://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/health-canada-approves-daklinza-daclatasvir-for-the-treatment-of-chronic-hepatitis-c-infection-across-multiple-genotypes-including-genotype-3-522375441.html

Aboriginal people freely sharing information about hepatitis C was a big part of this day. Woman above is holding educational materials for First Nations from the BC Centre for Disease Control.

Hepatitis C Advocate Karen Felske sharing her lived experiences with hepatitis C treatment and liver cancer. Her strong, positive message inspired us all.

Susan Malloch, sharing memories of the life and recent loss of her partner, Allen McCulloch, urged every Baby Boomer to get tested and treated for hepatitis C before their liver gets badly damaged.

Smilin’ Sandi in Oshawa, ON invited anyone wishing to promote HCV awareness to drop by her workplace. It’s amazing what even one person can do! She had lots of chairs to sit at the front of the store.

“I do my best to serve my customers first and then share my personal cause. I have over 20 baskets this year. So far I have collected $75 in donations for OCHC. I will continue the raffle until September. I have encouraged people to get tested, met some people who have family or friends with Hep C, recently diagnosed individuals, and a lot of people uneducated about HCV. Links, etc., can be found on my main page of Sandi’s Crusade Against Hepatitis C: http://www.creativeintensity.com/smking/

This year the following landmarks were lit up: The CN Tower, The Canadian and American sides of Niagara Falls, Skylon Tower in Niagara Falls, The Heritage Building Ottawa, Halifax City Hall, BC Legislature in Victoria, BC Place Stadium and Science World Vancouver. Can you think of a place to light up next year? Let us know: info@hepcbc.ca #LightsUp4Hep

Aboriginal people freely sharing information about hepatitis C was a big part of this day. Woman above is holding educational materials for First Nations from the BC Centre for Disease Control.

Douglas Laird, Victoria-based Hepatitis C Activist and writer, spoke from his heart. Thanks DOUGLAS! Credit: CD Mazoff

Hermione Jefferis (below left) of AVI has been the Chief Organizer of World Hepatitis Day Victoria for several years. THANKS, HERMIONE! Credit: CD Mazoff

Hepatitis C Advocate Karen Felske sharing her lived experiences with hepatitis C treatment and liver cancer. Her strong, positive message inspired us all.

Smilin’ Sandi in Oshawa, ON invited anyone wishing to promote HCV awareness to drop by her workplace. It’s amazing what even one person can do! She had lots of chairs to sit at the front of the store.

“I do my best to serve my customers first and then share my personal cause. I have over 20 baskets this year. So far I have collected $75 in donations for OCHC. I will continue the raffle until September. I have encouraged people to get tested, met some people who have family or friends with Hep C, recently diagnosed individuals, and a lot of people uneducated about HCV. Links, etc., can be found on my main page of Sandi’s Crusade Against Hepatitis C: http://www.creativeintensity.com/smking/

This year the following landmarks were lit up: The CN Tower, The Canadian and American sides of Niagara Falls, Skylon Tower in Niagara Falls, The Heritage Building Ottawa, Halifax City Hall, BC Legislature in Victoria, BC Place Stadium and Science World Vancouver. Can you think of a place to light up next year? Let us know: info@hepcbc.ca #LightsUp4Hep

Aboriginal people freely sharing information about hepatitis C was a big part of this day. Woman above is holding educational materials for First Nations from the BC Centre for Disease Control.

Hepatitis C Advocate Karen Felske sharing her lived experiences with hepatitis C treatment and liver cancer. Her strong, positive message inspired us all.

Susan Malloch, sharing memories of the life and recent loss of her partner, Allen McCulloch, urged every Baby Boomer to get tested and treated for hepatitis C before their liver gets badly damaged.
THANKS!!

HepCBC thanks the following institutions and individuals for their generosity: The late John Crooks, Allison Crowe, Billie Wood and Adrian, Victoria Positive Living Centre, Provincial Employees Community Services Fund, the Victoria Foundation, Dr. C. D. Mazoff, Judith Fry, and the newsletter team: Beverly Atlas, Diana Ludgate, Alp, Cheryl, Anamaria, and S.J.

Please patronize these businesses that have helped us: Top Shelf Bookkeeping, Merck Canada, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Roche Canada, Vertex, Gilead, Janssen, Boehringer-Ingelheim, AbbVie, Rx&D, VanCity, Country Grocer, and Thrifty Foods.

(Allen — Continued from page 1)

companions. A celebration of Allen’s life was held on Saturday, August 15, 2015 at the S.V.I. Rangers Hall at 3498 Luxton Rd off Happy Valley Rd., 1:00-4:00pm. Sincere thanks to the staff at Coolaid Clinic Victoria, HepCBC (where Allen was a valued board member), and 4 south RJH. If desired, any donations to HepCBC in Allen’s honour would be much appreciated.

Source: www.legacy.com/obituaries/timescolonist/obituary.aspx?n=allen-glen-mccullock&gid=1754050444#shash.1QxIyS.4kE7JWhc.dpuf

NEW!! UPDATED!!
Peppermint Patti’s FAQs, Version 10.1!!

Download for free:

HEPCBC LIVER WARRIORS 5TH YEAR AT THE MARATHON

Fighting HCV stigma, demonstrating the benefits of exercise for liver health, getting in shape, meeting new people, having fun, raising HCV awareness—that’s what being on the Liver Warriors team is about. 2015 is the fifth year of the HepCBC Liver Warriors team at the GoodLife Fitness Victoria Marathon. This year the event will occur Sunday, October 11th, wending through Victoria’s heritage downtown, into its elegant older neighbourhoods and gardens, and along its pristine beaches. There! So now you’re coming, right? This is not just a marathon, but you can choose to do a half-marathon and an 8k race, as well. People are welcome to either walk or run, but if you’re a serious runner, this one is a “Boston Marathon Qualifying” course. Consider making the commitment to join our team this year. It’s an amazing feeling, flying over that finish line!

Take a look at the site now:
http://runvictoriamarathon.com/register.aspx

If you decide to go for it, be sure to join the “HepCBC Liver Warriors” team. It’s on the 1/2 Marathon site already, so just select it from the dropdown list. For other events, you may have to create the team name yourself. Please let HepCBC know if you join the team by writing us at marathon.hepcbc@gmail.com.

Regular Prices to Sept. 15th (which include a "Boston Marathon Qualifying" course).

Full Marathon (26.2 km) $175
Half Marathon (13.1 km) $125
10K Race $65
5K Race $45

Hope you will decide to join our team!

HEPCBC AGM

Tuesday September 22nd, 2015 7:00 PM
1947 Cook Street, Victoria, BC
(Victoria Health Unit, Activity Room)

SCHEDULE
7:00-7:30 PM Welcome and Presentation by Roz Milne, hepatology nurse from Cool Aid Society, about "Cooperative Efforts Between our Organizations: Current and Potential" 7:30-8:30 PM Annual General Meeting

AGENDA of Annual General Meeting

Approve minutes of AGM 2014
Financial Report
Set number of directors, introduce slate Election of those directors President’s Report Coordinator and Staff Report Adjourn

DETAILS
Refreshments provided. Members of the public are welcome. No charge. 
Hope to see you there!
LEADERS GET TESTED FOR HEPATITIS C

HepCBC wants to thank Elizabeth May, MP (Saanich-Gulf Islands riding) who decided to get publicly tested for hepatitis C on July 29, 2015, the day following World Hepatitis Day (July 28th every year). In the video below, she explains why.

We also wish to thank Roz Milne, RN with Cool Aid Society in Victoria who performed the testing. Ms. May joins at least one other MP (Murray Rankin), 13 MLAs, 2 mayors and numerous City Councilors who have taken this courageous step.

In addition, Dr. Evan Adams, Chief Medical Officer of the First Nations Health Authority also decided to take this step in hopes of demonstrating his commitment to doing whatever he can to conquer hepatitis C which is unusually prevalent among aboriginal populations. Dr. Alexandra King performed the test.

See videos of these three brave leaders: being tested for hepatitis C and explaining why.

Dr. Evan Adams VIDEO
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9D-hISvkn1g
MP Elizabeth May VIDEO
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q20-pYTMVAo
MP Murray Rankin VIDEO
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NTBA9g64LEU

Chief Medical Officer, First Nations Health Authority, Dr. Evan Adams on July 10, 2015, Vancouver.

SVR HONOUR ROLL

Have you been undetectable for at least 12 weeks after treatment? Give others hope. Add your name! Congratulations to our friends:

1. PJ - SVR Dec 1998 - IFN/RBV 52 wks - Dr. Anderson/Natalie Rock, Vancouver, BC.
3. Amorebe - (GT2a/2c) - SVR 2000 - Schering IFN/RBV 24 wks
5. Darlene Morrow - (GT1 relaper) - Mar 2004 - Hyperthermia/Induction + pegIFN/RBV.
6. Kirk Leavels - (GT1) - 2004 - Roche
9. Gloria Adams - (GT1b relaper) - Fall 2009 IFN/RBV/teleaprevir 48 wks - Drs. Erb & Yoshida, Vancouver, BC.
10. Don Crocock - (GT1 Stage II) - Dec. 2010 IFN/RBV - 48 weeks
11. Daryl Luster - (GT1a) - Feb 2011 - IFN/RBV/R05024048 48 wks.
13. Hermione Jeffers - (GT 1a) – SVR 2011, PegIFN/RBV, 48 wks, Dr. Partlow, Victoria, BC.
14. Cheryl Reitz - (GT1b previous partial responder) SVR12 Mar 2013 - asunaprevir/dacلاتاسvir 24 wks - Dr. Ghesquiere, Victoria, BC.
15. Anita Thompson - (GT1a treated 3 times) Cirrhosis - Apr 2013 - Pegassys/boceprevir 48 wks. Dr. M. Silverman, Whitby, ON.
17. Joan King - (GT1b treated 5 times) SVR24 June 2013 - asunaprevir/daclatesvir 24 wks Dr. Ramji, Vancouver, BC.
18. Jackie - (GT1 relaper) - SVR24 June 2013 - IFN/RBV/boceprevir 48 wks. Dr. Keith Bovell, Guelph, ON.

DIANE PARSONS FORSYTHE DEPARTED AUGUST 1, 2015

Diane Parsons, led the Canadian Hep C tainted blood class action lawsuit. She fought valiantly as the lead plaintiff for those transfused between 1986 abd 1990. (See http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/nova-scotia/diane-parsons-who-led-hep-c-tainted-blood-lawsuit-dies-in-halifax-1.3179767 ) She was only 64. She had received a transfusion for dental surgery in 1989. She became very ill, and the complications of hepatitis C precipitated her death, according to her doctor.

Harvey T. Strosberg, the lead lawyer for the case, was quoted, “She was a visionary and a leader. She put her faith in the judicial system and she was not disappointed. Thousands of Canadians have benefitted because she led the way,” he said.

The Joint Committee has a mandate to implement the 1986-1990 Hepatitis C Settlement Agreement and to supervise the ongoing administration of claims. Every three years, we also review the financial sufficiency of the Trust Fund to ensure that it is adequate to meet the expected needs of Class Members and Family Class Members.

WHY WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

On the most recent financial sufficiency review, the actuaries retained by the Joint Committee and the federal government expressed the opinion that the Trust Fund is sufficient to meet the expected needs of Class Members and Family Class Members and there is a surplus. The surplus is estimated to be between $236 million to $256 million. The orders approving the settlement allow the Joint Committee and the governments to apply to the Courts where there is a surplus. The Courts have discretion to decide what to do with the surplus. They can also decide that all or a portion of the surplus should be kept in the Trust Fund. The Joint Committee will be making an application to the Courts to request that all or a portion of the surplus be allocated in favour of Class Members and Family Class Members. The Joint Committee wants your input on the areas of the settlement that you feel fall short and how you think the surplus should be used. The Joint’s Committee’s application and any application made by the federal government regarding the surplus will be considered by the Courts at a Joint Hearing that will take place in Toronto, Ontario on June 20-22, 2016. There will be a video link of the hearing to a court room in British Columbia where the public can attend. A schedule of the steps leading up to the Joint Hearing is attached. For up-to-date information, to see the documents filed with the Courts, and for the location of the hearings go to www.hepc8690.ca.

HOW YOU CAN PROVIDE YOUR INPUT

Members of the Joint Committee will be holding consultation sessions in various cities in English and French, some of which will be webcast live on the internet. You may also make a written submission. You can provide your input in 3 ways:

--by attending a consultation session in person at the places and times listed below. Additional sessions may be announced, so visit http://www.hepc8690.ca for further updates. If you plan to attend in person, please let us know in advance by calling 1.866.228.0073 or emailing hepc@strosbergco.com so that we know how many people to expect for planning purposes

--by watching a webcast consultation session live on the internet, which will allow you to ask questions and make comments while the session is taking place. To participate in any of the webcast consultation sessions, please go to http://www.postelvideo.com/webcast/single3/login.php . On the day of the session, sign in with your name, email address and use the password hepc

--by calling or writing a member of the Joint Committee, whose contact information is listed below. Written submissions sent to a Joint Committee member will receive serious consideration and may be provided to the Courts for their consideration at the Joint Hearing

CONSULTATION SESSIONS

Additional sessions across the country may be announced. Visit http://www.hepc8690.ca for updates and more info such as where to send submissions, names of committee members, submission deadlines, etc.

 Anyone who was diagnosed before June 30, 2007 must have made a claim within 3 years of diagnosis or by June 30, 2010 whichever was later.

 Anyone diagnosed after June 30, 2010 must make a claim within 3 years of diagnosis.

 Secondarily infected persons (spouses or children of primarily infected persons) must make a claim within 3 years of the primarily infected person's claim.

In addition, the Administrator is "registering" people who have missed these deadlines in case the courts permit some or all such persons to apply in the future. Class Counsel previously made an application but did not succeed. Another application may be made as part of the surplus applications.

Class Members: See details on this website:

http://www.hepc8690.ca/PDFs/Important%20Notice/Notice%20to%20Class%20Members%202015.pdf

Important for Class Members 1986-1990

Any person who was diagnosed with hepatitis C before June 30, 2007 must have made a claim within 3 years of diagnosis or by June 30, 2010 whichever was later.

Any person diagnosed after June 30, 2010 must make a claim within 3 years of diagnosis.

Secondarily infected persons (spouses or children of primarily infected persons) must make a claim within 3 years of the primarily infected person's claim.

The personal representatives and family members of deceased persons who died of hepatitis C must make claims within 3 years of the date of death.

Persons who first applied under the pre-86 post-90 settlement but were rejected from that settlement because they were infected between 1986 and 1990 must apply within 3 years of that rejection.

More information on these deadlines can be found on the Administrator's website in the "protocols" section at: http://www.hepc8690.ca/content/documents/CAPs/index-e.shtml
With the approval of HOLLKIRA PAK™, AbbVie is launching AbbVie Care, which is a program that will provide best-in-class solutions to improve outcomes for people living with hepatitis C.

Canadians prescribed HOLLKIRA PAK™ will have the opportunity to request to be enrolled in AbbVie Care. The signature care program is designed to provide a wide range of customized services including reimbursement assistance, education and ongoing disease management support. AbbVie Care will not only support health care professionals but people living with genotype 1 hepatitis C throughout their treatment journey to achieve high cure rates in the real world.

For enquiries: 1-844-471-2273.

NEW! -- CLAIRE

Bristol-Myers Squibb Canada has created Claire, a patient support program designed to provide patient health information and reimbursement assistance for patients who have been prescribed DAKLINZA™ (daclatasvir). This personalized patient support program represents a service offered at no cost to the patient and is fully confidential. It will be available to patients once the product is commercially available, which is expected before the end of September. Once it is available, you can call the information line for more details at: 1-844-428-2559. Should you have medical enquiries regarding DAKLINZA™, please contact our Medical Information Department at 1-866-463-6267.

MOMENTUM™ SUPPORT

To learn more about SOVALDIT™, HARVONIT™ or the Momentum Program in Canada, the patient should speak to his/her doctor or nurse or call the Gilead Sciences Canada medical information line at 1 855 447 7977. Eligible patients may receive an integrated offering of support services for patients and healthcare providers throughout the entire treatment journey, including:

* Access to dedicated case managers/reimbursement navigators to help patients and their providers with insurance-related needs, including identifying alternative coverage options through private, federal and provincially-insured programs.

* The SOVALDIT™/HARVONIT™ Co-pay assistance program, which will provide financial assistance for eligible patients who need help paying for out-of-pocket medication costs.

* Medication delivery services.

PEGASSIST

The PegAssist Reimbursement Assistance Program provides reimbursement coordination assistance for patients who have been prescribed Pegasis or Pegasis RBV. The program will assist in securing funding for patients to ensure that they can start, stay on, and complete their treatment successfully. PegAssist Reimbursement Specialists are available from Monday to Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. EST. Patients can also obtain a program enrollment form from their nurse/physician to gain access to the program.

The program provides financial aid to qualified patients, alleviating financial barriers which may prevent patients from starting treatment, i.e., deductibles and/or co-payments. In partnership with CALEA Pharmacy, the program can conveniently deliver the medication directly to patients’ homes or to the clinics.

INCIVEK CARE

Vertex’s INCIVEK™ Care Patient Assistance Program supports patients with the reimbursement process for INCIVEK™ (telaprevir) treatment (INCIVEK™, pegIFN, ribavirin). It will give you an efficient assessment of your options and eligibility. You may qualify to receive co-payment and other financial assistance to supplement your private and provincial drug program coverage. The program also provides dispensing and home delivery options, and expert treatment advice. Call the Support Line at 1-877-574-4298. (Select option 2 for English, then 2 for INCIVEK™ Care.)

Class Action Suit Hotline: 1-800-229-5323 ext. 8296
Health Canada Compensation Line: 1-888-780-1111
Red Cross Compensation pre-86/post-90 Registration: 1-888-840-5764 HepatitisCanada@kpmg.ca
Ontario Compensation: 1-877-222-4977
Quebec Compensation: 1-888-840-5764

CLAIMS ADMINISTRATOR 1986-1990

Claims may be reimbursed for costs of treatments and accepted hepatitis C medications not covered by public or private healthcare plan while they wait for reimbursement from the 1986-1990 plan.

Administrator 1-877-434-0944
www.hepc8690.com
info@hepc8690.com

Pre-86/Post-90
Administrator 1-866-334-3361
preposthepc@ccrowco.ca
www.pre86post90settlement.ca
Settlement Agreement: www.pre86post90settlement.ca/PDFs/SA/
SUPPORT BC/YUKON

Armstrong  HepCURE Phone support 1-888-437-2873
AIDS Vancouver Island The following groups provide info, harm reduction, support, education and more:
- Campbell River: Drop in, harm reduction, needle exchange, advocacy. 1371 C - Cedar St. Contact leanne.winger@avsi.org 250-830-0787
- Comox Valley: Harm reduction, counseling, advocacy. 355 6th St., Courtenay. Contact Sarah sarah.sullivan@avsi.org 250-338-7400
- Nanaimo  AVHI Health Centre. Counseling, advocacy. 910-155 Victoria Rd Contact Anita for details. 250-753-2437

ANKORS Hepatitis C Project Hep C Info, support for prevention, testing, treatment and living well with Hep C.
- Boundary, Nelson, West Kootenay Women’s gathering monthly. 101 Baker St, Nelson. Contact Laura 1-800-421-2437 250-505-5906 korston@ankors.bc.ca
- East Kooteney 209 16th Ave N, Cranbrook, Contact Michelle 250-426-3383 1-800-421-2437 ankorscw@gmail.com
- Castlegar Contact Robin 250-365-6137 eor@shaw.ca

Chilliwack PCRS Hep C Prevention, harm reduction. 45904 Victoria Avenue, Chilliwack. Contact Kim lloyd 604-798-1416. bindala@pcrs.ca www.pcrs.ca

Comox Valley Positive Wellness North Island Treatment/Pre & Post-treatment Support Group 2nd & 4th Wed., 615-10th St, Courtenay. Lunch. Contact Cheryl 250-331-8524. Cheryl.taylor@viha.ca

CoolAid Community Health Centre, Victoria. Meetings each Wed 10 AM and Thu 1:30 PM. 713 Johnson St. Support for all stages of treatment (deciding, during, after). Contact Roz rmiline@coolid.org for treatment or group info.

Courtenay HCV Peer Support and Education. Contact Del 70-503-0231 dggmskat@shaw.ca

Covichan Valley HCV Support Contact Leah 250-748-3432 r-satch@shaw.ca

Haida Gwaii support. Contact Wendy wendy@cowenswellness.ca www.wendywellness.ca

HepBCP info@hepbcp.ca www.hepbcp.ca Call for office hours.

Victoria Peer Support: 4th Tues. monthly 7-8:30 PM, Victoria Health Unit, 1947 Cook St. Contact 250-395-3892 Phone support 9 AM-10 PM.

Fraser Valley Support/Info: 604-576-2072

Kamloops ASK Wellness Centre. Chronic illness health navigation/support. info@askwellness.ca 250-376-7558 1-800-661-7541 ext 232 or Merritt health housing & counseling 250-315-0098 www.askwellness.ca

Kamloops Hep C support group, 2nd and 4th Wed monthly, 10-1 PM, Interior Indian Friendship Society, 125 Palm St. Kamloops. Contact Cheri 250-376-1296 Fax 250-376-2275

Kelowna Hepkop: Phone support, meeting info. Contact Lisa 1-866-637-5144 lmorrell@shaw.ca

ONTARIO:
Barrie Hepatitis Support Contact Jeanie for info/appointment jeannivelleneuve@hotmail.com

Hamilton Hepatitis C Support Group 1st Thurs, monthly. 6-7 PM, Hamilton Urban Core Community Health Centre, 71 Rebecca Hamilton Contact Macie Kowalski, Health Promoter 905-522-3233 mkowalski@hucche.ca

Hep C Team, AIDS Committee of North Bay & Area. Education, outreach, treatment, individual, group. Contact: 705-497-3560, 1-800-287-3701 or hepccommunication@gmail.com, www.aidsnorthbay.org

Hepatitis C Network of Windsor & Essex County Last Thurs. monthly. 7 PM, Windsor Health Centre Health Program Office, 711 Pelissier St., Suite 4, Windsor. Contact Andrea Monkmann 519-967-0480. herman@windsorhcv.ca http://hepcnetwork.net

Kingston Hep C Info HIV/ AIDS Regional Service. Contact 613-545-3698, 1-800-565-2209 hars@kingston.ca www.hars.ca

London Hepatitis C Support Group 186 King St, London. For those infected as well as affected by Hep C. Contact: 519-434-1601, 1-866-920-1601 www.hivaidscounsellors.ca

Halton Hepatitis C Support Group 1st Thurs. monthly. 4:30 PM, 330 Ellis Ave. Contact Melinda 604-485-3310 Melinda.herceg@vhv.ca

Prince George Hep C Support Contact Ilse ilse.kuepper@northernhealth.ca

Sunshine Coast-Seychelt Healthy Livers Support Group Information/resources. Contact Catharina 604-886-5611 cartronhardwick@vhv.ca or Brent 604-740-9042 brent.fitzsimmons@vch.ca

VANDU The Vancouver Area Network of Drug Users. 380 E Hastings St. M-F 10-4 Contact 604-683-6061 vandu@vandu.org www.vandu.org

Vancouver HCV Support Contact Beverly 604-435-3717 batlas@telus.net

Vancouver Hepatitis C Support Group Contact 604-454-1374 or 778-898-7211, or call 604-454-1374 (Terry), to talk or meet for coffee.

Vernon telephone buddy, M-F 10-6 Contact Peter, pwanbo@gmail.com Tel. 250-309-1385.

YouthCO HIV and Hep C Society of BC. Call for appoi or drop in M-F 10-6, 205-566 Seymour St, Vancouver 604-688-1441, 1-855-YOUTHCO Stew- art info@youthoc.ca, www.youthoc.ca

Whitehorse, Yukon—Blood Bids Four Directions Contact 867-633-2437 1-877-333-2437 admin@bloodties.ca

To list Canadian groups here, please send your details to info@hepbcp.ca It’s free!

OTHER PROVINCES

Peel Region (Brampton, Mississauga, Caledon)
Contact 905-770-6165

Toronto CLF 1st Mon. Monthly: Oster June—July 7:30 PM, North York Civic Centre, 5100 Yonge Street. Contact Billie 416-491-3353, ext. 4932. bpskompak@live.ca

Thunder Bay Hep C support. Contact Sarah Tychozil 807-345-1516 (or for 807 area only 1-800-488-5840)

Unified Networkers of Drug Users Nationally undis@sympatico.ca

York Region Hepatitis C Education Group 3rd Wed. monthly, 7:30 PM, York Region Health Services, 4261 Hwy 7 East, B4-9, Unionville. Contact 905-940-1333, 1-800-361-5653 info@hepvcorkregion.org www.hepvcorkregion.org

QUEBEC:

Quebec City Region Contact Renée Daruo 814-836-2070 renee.daruo@hotmail.com

CAPAHC support group meetings 3rd Thurs. monthly 6-30 PM, 3055 Rivard St., Montreal Contact 514-521-0444 or 1-866-522-0444

ATLANTIC PROVINCES

Hepatitis Outreach Society of NS. Info and support line for the entire province. Call 1-800-520-0572, 902-428-1767

Online Peer Support: info@heps.ca www.heps.ca

PRAIRIE PROVINCES:

Manitoba Hepatitis C phone and email support and outreach. Contact Kiri at info@mbhepc.org.

Direct line: 1-204-231-1437

Medicine Hat, AB Hep C Support Group 1st & 3rd Wed. monthly, 6:30 PM, HIV/AIDS Network of S.E. AB, 505 Allowance Ave. Contact 403-527-7099 betty2@hivnetwork.ca

The information in this newsletter is published in good faith, for general information purpose only. We do not make any warranties for the completeness, reliability and accuracy of this information, and it is not medical advice. We try to document our sources, but cannot guarantee their accuracy. Any action you take upon the information in this newsletter is strictly at your own risk. And HepCNET will be liable for any losses and damages – directly or indirectly – arising out of your use of a...