The Family Medicine Innovation Forum

Transforming and Improving Patient Care

October 2-3, 2026 | Edmonton, AB

Presented by:

Alberta College of Family Physicians

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"Creativity is thinking up new things. Innovation is doing new things."

Theodore Levitt

Land Acknowledgement

We respectfully acknowledge that we present this Forum on the traditional lands, referred to as Treaty 6 Territory and the traditional name of Amiskwaciy Waskahikan [A-misk-wu-see-wah-sky-gun], which we also call the city of Edmonton. All people attending our Forum are beneficiaries of this peace and friendship treaty.

We would like to thank the diverse Indigenous Peoples whose ancestors' footsteps have marked this territory for centuries, such as nêhiyaw [Nay-hee-yow], Dene [Deh-neyh], Anishinaabe [Ah-nish-in-ah-bay), Nakota Sioux [Na-koh-tah-soo], and Niitsitapi [Nit-si-tahp-ee) peoples. We also acknowledge this as the Métis' [May-tea] homeland and the home of one of the largest communities of Inuit south of the 60th parallel.

We acknowledge we may have participants from Treaties 4, 7, 8, and 10 and other neighbouring nations. We are grateful for the traditional Knowledge Keepers and Elders who are still with us today and those who have gone before us. We recognize the land as an act of reconciliation and gratitude to those whose territory we reside on or are visiting.

Dr. Carola Cunningham

Dr. Carola Cunningham has more than 50 years of experience in housing, education, justice, community wellness, and addictions recovery. She has designed, developed and delivered programming specifically tailored to the needs of Indigenous communities, in particular, those with high-risk lifestyles.

Throughout her career, Carola has demonstrated a strong dedication to bridging cultural differences and creating understanding. Although retired from her role as CEO of Niginan Housing Ventures, which builds, designs and develops housing initiatives primarily for Indigenous peoples, Carola continues to be a servant leader to her communities in providing support, engagement, direction, and consultation nationally.

Message From the President

Hello Attendees,

On behalf of the Alberta College of Family Physicians it is my pleasure to welcome you to the 2026 Family Medicine Innovation Forum (Forum)!

Innovation and iteration are essential concepts in the pursuit of new ideas and solutions—both of which you will find in this year's Forum. There is however, one element remains the same—our desire to provide a meaningful space to showcase the innovations happening in family medicine primary care.

Family physicians and primary care providers are inherently resourceful, often bridging gaps in knowledge, care, and between areas within the health system itself. Because of this, we are uniquely positioned to be great champions of change. Collectively, we can turn insights and experiences into practical solutions that better support patients, providers, and communities, all of which I encourage you to consider throughout the conference.

I would like to thank the 30 innovation project teams who took the time to answer our call for innovations and the nearly 600 individuals who voted for their favourite innovations and helped shape this year's program. It has been such an exciting experience to see our members, innovators, and the communities at large embrace this event and we could not be more grateful for your participation. Additionally, I would also like to thank our scientific planning committee who shepherded our program development every step of the way.

As you take part in today's event, I encourage you to lead with curiosity, build connections, and embrace something new you have learned here among your peers. As you know, even small changes can impact our province's health care system and improve patient care for all.

Yours Sincerely,

Melanie Hnatiuk, MD CCFP FCFP
President, ACFP

Message From the Chair

Welcome to the Family Medicine Innovation Forum!

It is a privilege to serve as Chair of a program that celebrates the innovators and change agents working to improve health care across Alberta. After a successful inaugural year, we are proud to continue this momentum into 2026. This forum brings together frontline clinicians, entrepreneurs, researchers, government officials, and health system leaders for one purpose: advancing better solutions for patients and providers.

While we may not agree on every solution, many of us agree on one reality—the status quo is not sustainable. Health care needs courageous leadership, bold ideas, and a willingness to challenge long-held assumptions.

The Family Medicine Innovation Forum provides a unique space to share ideas, learn from one another, and build the partnerships needed to create meaningful change. Speaking as an innovator who derived tremendous value from last year's program, I am proud to welcome you to this conversation and look forward to the innovations and collaborations that will emerge from it.

Charles Wong, MD CCFP (EM)
Chair, FMIF

Scientific Planning Committee Members

The ACFP would like to thank the time and dedication of the following scientific planning committee members:

- Dr. Charles Wong, Calgary
- Dr. Marjan Abbasi, Edmonton
- Dr. Munib Ali, Calgary
- Dr. Helen Cuddihy, Edmonton
- Dr. Melanie Hnatiuk, Calgary

Presenting Partner

Alberta College of Family Physicians (ACFP)

The ACFP is a professional voluntary organization, representing more than 6,000 family physicians, family medicine residents, and medical students in Alberta.

We are the provincial chapter of the College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC), the credentialing body responsible for the specialty of family medicine and steward of the Patient's Medical Home.

The ACFP supports our members by providing continuing professional development (CPD) opportunities and upholding the established standards for CPD delivery. As the voice for family physicians in Alberta, we advocate on behalf of our members to advance excellence of family practice; define and celebrate the role of family medicine as the foundation of our health care system; and work to ensure Albertans can access high quality care from family physicians.

Mainpro+ Certification

This activity has been certified by the College of Family Physicians of Canada and the Alberta Chapter for up to 3.75 Mainpro+® Certified credits.

The ACFP is pleased to submit a direct credit entry report on behalf of ACFP members to the CFPC.

Link Learning Assessment Credits

You may earn five certified Assessment-category credits by completing a Linking Learning to Practice exercise. To learn more about how to complete a Linking Learning exercise, visit https://acfp.ca/cpd-cme/mainpro/linking-learning/ or https://acfp.ca/cpd-cme/mainpro/linking-learning/.

Schedule-At-A-Glance

TIME	ACTIVITY
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2	
17:00-19:00	Welcome Reception
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3	
07:15 – 08:00	Breakfast
08:00 – 08:30	Welcome, Land Acknowledgment, Opening Remarks
08:30– 09:15	Scaling Innovation in Alberta's Primary Care: An Entrepreneur's Playbook, Ashif Mawji
09:15 – 09:30	Transition
09:30 – 10:30	Innovation Presentations - Block 1
10:30 – 11:00	Innovation Showcase Displays Alberta, British Columbia, Yukon Ballroom
11:00 – 12:00	Innovation Presentations - Block 2
12:00 – 13:30	Lunch
13:30 – 14:30	Innovation Panel – A Fireside Chat
14:30	Award Presentation
14:45	Closing Remarks

"When all think alike, then no one is thinking."

Walter Lippmann

Session Descriptions

08:30-9:15 A.M.

Scaling Innovation in Alberta's Primary Care: An Entrepreneur's Playbook, Ashif Mawji

Alberta is full of incredible medical innovators, but scaling a brilliant clinical pilot into a sustainable, province-wide solution is incredibly difficult. This talk is a high-energy "how-to" guide on how health care providers can think like social entrepreneurs to fund, pitch, and scale their innovations, promoting early adoption and implementation. Join Ashif as he walks us through his playbook, drawing from his experience as a venture capitalist and managing director of venture funds.

At the end of this session, participants will be able to:

- Identify key elements required for a successful pitch
- Apply strategies that help make health care innovations attractive for adoption and implementation, system support, and investment
- Recognize barriers for adoption and distribution

ASHIF MAWJI

Ashif Mawji is a serial entrepreneur, philanthropist, venture capitalist, mentor, and community builder. He chairs the Ben Stelter Foundation and Hockey Canada Foundation and serves on numerous private and nonprofit boards, including the Edmonton Police Foundation (past chair), TELUS Friendly Future Foundation (past chair), Invest Alberta Corporation (comp Feb 2026), Sarah McLachlan Foundation, and others.

Ashif has directly invested in about 200 companies globally; he is invested in over 10 funds and is the managing director of the ScaleGood Fund LP (Social Impact VC Fund). He advises and mentors entrepreneurs globally. Ashif has built (ground up) and exited several companies in the tech space, with one of his companies having a presence in over 150 countries and in virtually every industry.

Over the years, Ashif has been recognized as the EY Prairies Entrepreneur of the Year award, named one of Canada's Top 40 under 40, and received Canada's 50 Best Managed companies award three years in a row. He was inducted into the Junior Achievement (JA) Business Hall of Fame in 2019. Ashif is an active member of YPO (Young Presidents Organization) and served as Chair of Young Presidents Organization (YPO), where he received the coveted Laing Award.

Ashif received the Alumni of Distinction Award from the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT). Named one of the Top 50 Graduates in 50 years, he received an Honorary Degree in Bachelor of Business Administration and recognized as a Distinguished Friend of the Institute in 2021. He is also a Henry Crown Fellow (Aspen Institute) and one of a handful of Canadians invited to be a fellow.

Ashif has served as an Honorary Colonel in the Canadian Army and received the Queen's Golden, Diamond, and Platinum Jubilee medals and the Alberta Centennial Medal.

Pitch Presentations

Our top six innovations take the stage in a fast-paced pitch presentation for our guest judges to provide one last adjudication round.

09:30-10:30 A.M.

Innovation Pitch Presentations – Block 1

- The Alberta Network for Community Health Outreach and Rural Mental Health (ANCHOR-MH)
- Alberta's Pathway Hub: Optimizing for Primary Care
- Alethea eConsult Platform

11:00 -12:00 P.M.

Innovation Pitch Presentations – Block 2

- D2Type: AI-Powered Diabetes Prevention and Population Health Platform for Primary Care
- Digital Access in Action: Connecting Partners, Patients, and Caregivers
- Harmoni - Peace of Mind for Families of Aging Parents

"You can't use up creativity. The more you use, the more you have."
Maya Angelou

01:30-2:30 P.M.

Innovation Panel – A Fireside Chat

This Keynote Panel will feature panelists working in the innovation space representing a broad level of perspectives including local innovators, who have developed solutions from proof of concept to system implementation.

At the end of this session, participants will be able to:

- Recognize the different phases of the innovation ecosystem and cycle
- Identify networking techniques and opportunities for growth
- Describe strategies that support successful implementation models

Our Moderator

REG JOSEPH, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, HEALTH CITIES

Reg Joseph was appointed as the CEO of Health Cities in 2018. He has over 20 years of experience spanning the health, technology, and investment sectors. At Health Cities, Reg is focused on developing new models of health care delivery to drive better access and health outcomes for Albertans.

Reg has served in a wide variety of roles including as an analyst with Boston-based Leerink Swann & Co. and led a global business unit at US-based Invitrogen Corporation (now Thermo Fisher).

In addition to serving on multiple boards of health technology companies, Reg currently serves as Past Chair of the Board of BioTalent Canada and as a public member on the MacEwan University Board of Governors. Reg has a B.Sc. in Physiology and an MBA in Finance.

About Health Cities

Health Cities is Alberta's trusted partner in creating and scaling care models that work here and beyond our borders. We transform health care challenges into working solutions by convening invested parties who rarely sit at the same table—clinicians, people with lived experience, administrators, and community partners—and navigating complex health care systems to co-develop implementation-ready care models.

"Dream more, learn more, care more, and be more."

Dolly Parton

Our Panelists

DR. MIKE FORSETH, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, AVA INDUSTRIES

Dr. Mike Forseth is co-founder, CEO, and director of Ava Industries, one of the country's leading electronic medical record (EMR) systems trusted by clinics across Alberta, British Columbia, and Ontario.

Ava was designed by physicians who were looking for a modern platform that met the real needs of Canadian health care: faster charting, simpler workflows, and more time for patients. As recent co-founders of their family practice clinic, Britannia Medical Clinic, they were looking for an EMR system that made their work easier not harder. First developed in 2017, Ava EMR started from one clinic to now hundreds across Canada, and has raised the standard for Canadian EMRs.

Dr. Forseth grew up in Calgary, obtained an undergraduate degree from Simon Fraser University, and completed his medical studies at Flinders Medical School in Australia. He stayed in Australia for a total of 10 years where he worked in rural general practice and learned to surf, before returning back to Calgary.

He is an avid skier, mountain biker, and outdoorsman. He is a proud husband and father to two boys.

ABOUT AVA INDUSTRIES

Ava Industries is a leading electronic medical records (EMR) platform used by over 8,500 health care professionals and clinics across Alberta, British Columbia, and Ontario, managing more than six million patient charts. Built by physicians, Ava's cloud-based Smart EMR integrates AI to make it easier to have real conversations with patients again. Designed for scalability and interoperability, Ava connects health care providers across Canada with a secure, intuitive system that can save more than two hours of daily administrative work and enhance patient outcomes.

CAM LINKE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, AMII

Cam Linke is a longtime leader in Canada's technology and startup community. Over the past 10 years, he has worked as a CEO, investor, community builder, product manager, software entrepreneur, academic, and developer. His past roles include Co-founder of Startup Edmonton, Founder of Flightpath Ventures, CEO of Touch Metric, Product Manager at Nexopia.com, and Founder of DemoCamp Edmonton.

He holds a Master's degree which was supervised by Dr. Richard Sutton and Dr. Adam White. His research, which focused on AI adapting behaviours to improve their own self-learning, has been published at top conferences. Linke is a sought-after speaker and mentor and has been recognized as one of Avenue Magazine's Top 40 Under 40.

ABOUT AMII

Amii (the Alberta Machine Intelligence Institute) is a world-leading AI institute dedicated to advancing AI for good and one of Canada's three national AI institutes, advancing the country's leadership in artificial intelligence as part of the Pan-Canadian AI Strategy.

Launched in 2017 as the world's first national AI strategy, it has positioned Canada as a global leader in AI by fostering collaboration between academia, industry, and government. By 2030, our vision is for Canada to have one of the world's strongest national AI ecosystems, built on scientific excellence, top-tier training, deep talent pools, public-private collaboration, and a commitment to advancing AI for positive social, economic, and environmental impact.

ARDEN TSE, PRINCIPAL, YALETOWN PARTNERS AND ACCELERATE FUND II, III, IV

Arden is an Edmonton-based investment professional with Yaletown Partners who heads up the team that manages the Alberta Enterprise Corporation's Accelerate Funds II to IV, focusing on early-stage tech startups in Alberta. With more than 20 years of investment management experience in the private and public sector, Arden has been fortunate enough to cover multiple asset classes, from commercial real estate to public equities to venture capital.

Arden is a well-known figure in the Alberta tech startup scene, where he is always ready to mentor, connect, and coach up-and-coming entrepreneurs. Arden's diverse background in various asset classes gives him a unique view of the capital markets, helping him spot what really drives investment value. Before joining Yaletown, he became immersed in the startup world as the Manager of the University of Alberta's Venture Mentoring Service, an entrepreneur development program originating from MIT. Arden loves the strategic side of business and thrives on the hands-on work of early-stage investing, enjoying the chance to collaborate closely with founders.

Arden is also a certified Executive Coach and a former business owner, so he gets what it takes to align business operations with capital-raising strategies. He holds a Bachelor of Science and an MBA in Finance from the University of Alberta and is also a graduate of the Certified Executive Coaching program at Royal Roads University.

ABOUT YALETOWN PARTNERS

Yaletown Partners is a venture capital investment firm based in Vancouver, Canada. Yaletown envisions a future driven by innovation, sustainability, and growth. Its strategic investments empower businesses to modernize, scale, and thrive in a connected digital world and modernize traditional sectors.

Innovation Award Presentation

The ACFP truly is committed to be a catalyst for change and improvement for the system. We believe by offering this forum to share ideas it can help spread and scale the innovative solutions being created despite the systemic barriers our members face.

THE PRIZE

In addition to being showcased at the Innovation Forum, the top innovation pitch will receive the following:

NAIT Centre for Advanced Medical Simulation (CAMS) Innovation Testing Award

Estimated value of $2,500–$10,000

- The top innovation will receive a complimentary customized usability and/or systems integration testing engagement with NAIT's CAMS.
- The engagement could include: usability testing, workflow assessment, human factors evaluation, simulated clinical environment testing, or systems integration testing.
- CAMS' in-kind contribution would include access to the professional expertise with our Applied Research Chair – Simulation and Health and the research team, project design, simulation/testing environment, and delivery of the customized engagement based on project scope and complexity.

and

A Spread and Scale Support Package from the ACFP

- The top innovation will have an opportunity to present at the ACFP's 2027 Family Medicine Summit (this includes a free registration and a travel and accommodation package for one presenter).
- The winner will also be featured in ACFP's monthly Newsletter.
- If applicable, the ACFP will provide application support for Mainpro+ certification and administrative support for an online delivery of the webinar.

Meet Our Guest Judges

LESLIE AYRE-JASCHKE, ADVISOR, EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM, IMAGINE CITIZENS NETWORK

Leslie (BEd, MSc in Health Promotion) is a retired program evaluation consultant with clients that included two northern Alberta Primary Care Networks (PCNs). Previous to that, she was the former Peace Health Region's health research and information office/regional data coordinator.

She also served a term on Peace River Town Council and has had a rich volunteer life, including 10 years with Imagine Citizens Network as founding board member; Executive Leadership Team member.

ABOUT IMAGINE CITIZENS NETWORK

Imagine Citizens Network is an Alberta-based network of people and community-oriented partners that creates pathways to bring citizen voices into the health care system to drive transformation.

"If you always do what you've always done, you'll always get what you've always got."

Henry Ford

LEONARD FRANK

Executive Director, Prevention and Primary Care, University Hospital Foundation

Len Frank is a strategic and forward-thinking health care executive with over 25 years of experience in health service delivery, organizational leadership, and system transformation. As Executive Director of Prevention and Primary Care, Len leads the Foundation's efforts to champion innovative, community-centered approaches that strengthen primary care and prevention across Alberta.

Prior to joining the Foundation, Len held senior leadership roles at Alberta Blue Cross and Leduc Beaumont Devon Primary Care Network. He is also the Founding President of Prescription to Get Active, a nationally recognized initiative promoting physical activity as a vital component of health and wellness.

DR. MELANIE HNATIUK

President, Alberta College of Family Physicians

Dr. Melanie Hnatiuk (she/her/hers) is a family physician of Ukrainian ancestry and is grateful to live, work, and play on the traditional territories of the Blackfoot Confederacy (Siksika, Kainai, Piikani), the Tsuut'ina, the Iyarhe Nakoda Nations, and the Otipemisiwak Métis Government of the Métis Nation within Alberta District 6.

She is a Clinical Associate Professor and Faculty Wellness Lead, Department of Family Medicine, Cumming School of Medicine, University of Calgary. Clinically, Dr. Hnatiuk has been a comprehensive family physician for the last 20 years and works at the South Health Campus Family Medicine Teaching Clinic. She currently serves as the President of the Alberta College of Family Physicians and is the Deputy Director of The Well Doc Initiative, where she works to advance physician wellness across Alberta and throughout Canada.

DR. MIKE SPADY

Chief Medical Officer, Primary Care Alberta

Dr. Michael Spady serves as Chief Medical Officer for Primary Care Alberta, where he provides clinical leadership to support the growth, innovation, and advancement of primary care across Alberta. Since joining Primary Care Alberta, he has been committed to strengthening partnerships with community providers, health care organizations, Indigenous communities, and health system partners to improve access to patient centered, team-based care for Albertans.

Raised on a farm near Alliance, Alberta, Dr. Spady completed his undergraduate studies and medical degree in Edmonton before moving to Calgary for residency training. His career has spanned family medicine, urgent care, acute care, long-term care, and rural and remote practice throughout northern Alberta and the territories. He has also worked closely with vulnerable populations, collaborating with primary care providers to support patients with complex health care needs.

Drawing on extensive experience across the health care continuum, Dr. Spady brings a deep understanding of both the patient journey and the realities facing health care providers. He is passionate about fostering collaboration across disciplines and sectors to ensure Albertans, whether living in urban, rural, or remote communities, have access to high-quality care when and where they need it.

Outside of his professional role, Dr. Spady remains closely connected to his rural roots and is actively involved in initiatives that make hockey more accessible in the community. He is also an enthusiastic jazz musician.

"Our greatest glory is not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall."
Confucius

THERESA TANG

CEO and Co-Founder, Praxus Health

Theresa Tang is the co-founder and CEO of Praxus Health (formerly 19 To Zero) a national not-for-profit focused on empowering communities toward safer health behaviours. She is the co-chair and co-founder of the Canadian Immunocompromised Advocacy Network and on her second maternity leave launched Vela Health, a mental health company focused on helping employers successfully return their staff back to work.

Her previous roles included supporting the launch of Alberta's first Primary Care Integration Network at Alberta Health Services and Alberta Medical Association's first portfolio of population health projects. She was also part of the founding team invited to build the Institute for Better Health at Trillium Health Partners in Mississauga and was part of the initial team that launched the McMaster Health Forum in Hamilton, Ontario. Theresa has worked at the University Health Network in Toronto, the World Health Organization in Switzerland, and supported evidence-informed policy making in Australia.

She is a passionate health leader who believes in building emerging leaders to pursue an understanding of unmet needs in their communities, consider the future, and engage in activities to foster innovative and sustainable solutions to social and health challenges. She was the Curator for Global Shapers, an initiative of the World Economic Forum and Co-Chair for Emerging Health Leaders in Calgary.

"The secret of getting ahead is getting started."

Mark Twain

Thank you Sponsors

Health Quality Alberta

Health Quality Alberta is a provincial agency that brings together patients, families, and our partners from across health care and academia to inspire improvement in patient safety, person centred care, and health service quality.

The Linden Health Centre

The Linden Health Centre is an interventional psychiatry office offering outpatient psychiatry, IV ketamine infusions, and transcranial magnetic stimulation.

NAIT Centre for Advanced Medical Simulation

The Centre for Advanced Medical Simulation (CAMS), part of the School of Health and Life Sciences at the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT), provides simulation-based education to over 20 NAIT programs, primarily in health and life sciences, though all areas of the institute can access our facilities. Through immersive, hands-on experiences using multiple simulation modalities, CAMS enhances clinical skills, strengthens interprofessional collaboration, and bridges the gap between academic theory and real-world health care practice. The Centre delivers a robust Interprofessional Education (IPE) program that brings together learners from multiple disciplines. Patient partners play a vital role, sharing lived experiences to build empathy, communication, and patient-centered care skills.

With over 6,000 square feet of space, CAMS is one of Western Canada's largest accredited simulation centres that's available for public use, offering fully customizable environments for testing health technologies and training health care professionals using remarkable high-fidelity, highly accurate simulation tools. As a trusted innovation partner, CAMS is the ideal testing ground for health-tech startups and scaleups to safely validate, test, and refine products — accelerating the path to commercialization.

Praxus Health

PRAXUS HEALTH

Praxus Health is a not-for-profit that collaborates with a diverse range of partners to drive meaningful change and improve the health of communities.

By connecting diverse sectors, from public to private, we solve complex health problems and empower communities to take control of their health.

Réseau santé Alberta

RSA RÉSEAU SANTÉ ALBERTA

Réseau santé Alberta (RSA) works to improve access to health care services in French for Alberta's francophone community. Serving more than 120,000 Franco-Albertans, RSA has provided French-language health system information since 2006 and fostered partnerships across the continuum of care. RSA also maintains a directory of French-speaking health care professionals and physicians, helping Albertans connect with services and providers in their preferred language.

The ACFP would also like to thank its Bronze Sponsors:
Clinisys EMR
FinFlent

Innovation Showcase

The Alberta Network for Community Health Outreach and Rural Mental Health (ANCHOR-MH)

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Innovation Pitch: The Alberta Network for Community Health Outreach and Rural Mental Health. ANCHOR-MH is a unique educational program designed to address the structural gaps that limit care for individuals with mental illness by strengthening connections between Family Medicine physicians, other primary care providers, and psychiatrists. This fully virtual program is built on a tri-partite model that includes: a unique, experiential learning curriculum; the opportunity for direct case conferencing with psychiatrists; and participation in a community of practice that allows for ongoing mentorship and support.

Problem Being Addressed: Approximately 20% of Canadians experience a mental health problem in any given year and 50% experience a mental illness before age 40. Most individuals rely on their primary care providers to address their mental health needs. While this may be effective for many patients, there is a subset of individuals who present with a severity and complexity that requires specialist care. Unfortunately, because of the shortage of psychiatrists, many of these cases must be managed in a setting that is not designed for specialized psychiatric care, creating a mismatch that can lead to provider frustration and potentially suboptimal patient outcomes.

How It Works: ANCHOR-MH empowers and supports primary care providers to effectively manage patients who would otherwise require specialist services. Each week, participants work through common clinical cases that are paired with high-yield learning materials; they have direct dialogue with specialists who can answer questions and help identify additional community resources. They also become part of an asynchronous, online community through which they can post questions, review resources, and consult with experts.

What Kind of Support Are You Looking For:

- Early adopters to help spread and scale the solution,
- Financial support,
- Networking with health care leaders / innovators who may be interested in collaborating.

Notes:

Alberta's Pathway Hub: Optimizing for Primary Care

PRIMARY CARE ALBERTA, HEALTH SHARED SERVICES

Innovation Pitch: Alberta's Pathway Hub (the Hub) is the centralized provincial platform for evidence-informed referral, clinical, and patient pathways. The 2024 Decreasing Administrative Burden Report and passive feedback from users signaled a need for change, resulting in usability testing to identify opportunities to improve navigation, streamline access, and reduce administrative burden. Enhancements to the Hub enable more efficient referral management, support consistent care practices, and improve coordination across care settings.

Integration with the Facilitated Access to Specialized Treatment (FAST) program further strengthens access to specialty care. Together, these improvements enhance provider experience and support more timely, high-quality care for patients across Alberta.

Problem Being Addressed: Despite its value, early use of Alberta's Pathway Hub revealed significant usability challenges, including inefficient navigation and limited search functionality, which hinder timely access to critical information and increase administrative burden for primary care providers. Provincial findings, including the 2024 Decreasing Administrative Burden in Primary Care report, identify referral processes and information access as major system inefficiencies. These gaps contribute to delays in specialty care access and inconsistent referral practices. Addressing them represents a key opportunity to improve coordination, reduce workload, and better align primary care with initiatives like FAST and MAPS.

How It Works: Primary Care Alberta addressed usability challenges through a comprehensive redesign of the Hub by partnering with Health Shared Services. Observational studies and usability testing with primary care providers and clinic staff identified inefficiencies in navigation, search, and information structure. These insights informed targeted enhancements that streamline workflows, improve search functionality, and simplify access to referral and clinical pathways. The optimized Hub enables faster decision-making, reduces administrative burden, and supports more efficient, consistent referral management across primary and specialty care.

What Kind of Support Are You Looking For:

- Early adopters to help spread and scale the solution

Notes:

Alethea eConsult Platform

ALETHEA MEDICAL

Innovation Pitch: Alethea is a secure digital health platform that connects primary care providers with specialists through asynchronous eConsults, enabling rapid access to expert advice without requiring patients to wait for traditional referrals. By reducing unnecessary specialist visits, shortening wait times, and supporting more care within the community, Alethea improves access, efficiency, and patient outcomes. The platform also streamlines clinical workflows through integrated communication, documentation, and billing tools, helping health care providers collaborate more effectively while expanding equitable access to specialist expertise across urban, rural, and remote communities.

Problem Being Addressed: Health care systems continue to face long specialist wait times, fragmented communication, and limited access to expert advice, particularly in rural and underserved communities. As a result, many patients experience delays in diagnosis and treatment, while specialists receive referrals that could have been managed in primary care with timely guidance. Alethea addresses this challenge by enabling secure, rapid specialist-to-primary care consultation, often within hours. By improving collaboration, reducing unnecessary referrals, and supporting care closer to home, Alethea helps patients access the right care sooner while improving efficiency across the health system.

How It Works: Alethea provides a secure digital platform that enables primary care providers to obtain specialist advice quickly through asynchronous eConsults. Primary care providers can submit clinical questions, attach relevant investigations or images, and receive expert guidance, often within hours, without requiring a formal referral or patient travel. By facilitating direct provider-to-provider collaboration, Alethea helps patients access the right care sooner, supports more care in the community, and reduces unnecessary specialist visits and waitlists. Integrated workflow tools, documentation, and billing capabilities further streamline care delivery and improve efficiency for health care providers and health systems.

What Kind of Support Are You Looking For:

- Concept Buy-in (i.e., promotional support),
- Financial support

Notes:

D2Type: AI-Powered Diabetes Prevention and Population Health Platform for Primary Care

D2TYPE HEALTH INC.

D2Type Health Inc. is a British Columbia-based digital health company. The innovation has been developed and validated through collaborations with the BC Ministry of Health, Interior Health, and the Jim Pattison Centre for Health Systems Learning & Innovation (JPCHS).

Innovation Pitch: D2Type is an AI-powered digital health platform that helps prevent, delay, and manage type 2 diabetes through personalized lifestyle medicine. Combining artificial intelligence, behavioural science, and clinical expertise, D2Type provides individualized coaching, nutrition guidance, activity tracking, risk prediction, and continuous monitoring through a patient app and clinician dashboard. The platform enables proactive, data-driven care that improves outcomes while reducing the burden on primary care teams.

Problem Being Addressed: Family physicians face growing demand from patients with diabetes and chronic diseases, while limited time and resources make continuous lifestyle support difficult. Patients often receive infrequent follow-up, resulting in poor engagement, preventable complications, and rising health care costs. Primary care teams need scalable tools that support patients between visits, improve self-management, and provide actionable insights without increasing administrative workload.

How It Works: D2Type delivers personalized AI-powered coaching, goal setting, education, and progress tracking between clinical visits. The platform continuously monitors lifestyle and health indicators, identifies risks early, and provides actionable insights through clinician dashboards. By automating monitoring and supporting behaviour change, D2Type improves patient engagement, enables proactive intervention, and helps primary care teams manage larger populations more efficiently.

What Kind of Support Are You Looking For:

- Concept Buy-in (i.e., promotional support),
- Early adopters to help spread and scale the solution,
- Resource support (technology, human resources),
- Financial support

Notes:

Digital Access in Action: Connecting Partners, Patients and Caregivers

CALGARY FOOTHILLS PRIMARY CARE NETWORK PARTNERED WITH AVA INDUSTRIES

Innovation Pitch: A secure technology platform that allows health care partners to book directly into appointments, reducing the number of steps patients need to access care, and the administrative burden for staff. This allows for smoother transitions of care across system partners (ex. from acute care to primary care).

Problem Being Addressed: In previous state, patients had to take multiple steps to access referral based appointments that included multiple phone calls and faxes. This created burden on the patient, partners and admin staff.

How It Works: Allows for system partners to directly book into referral based appointments from the first contact with patient, with the final goal of eliminating the need for faxed referrals and additional administrative steps.

What Kind of Support Are You Looking For:

- Concept Buy-in (i.e., promotional support)

"I have not failed. I've just found 10,000 ways that won't work."

Thomas Edison

Notes:

Harmoni - Peace of Mind for Families of Aging Parents

HARMONI CARE INC. AND THE HEALTH INNOVATION HUB WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Innovation Pitch: As family physicians, we all worry about our senior patients. Customer research confirms what we see: seniors want to age gracefully at home, while their adult children check in digitally more than five times daily. Harmoni eases that anxiety. Using health data from a Loved One's Apple Watch, it produces a proprietary wellness score and surfaces gentle notifications only when something changes.

On normal days, an adult child can open their phone and see mom or dad is fine — no call needed. The platform connects family, caregivers, GPs, pharmacists, and community nurses, with caregiver visits one tap away.

Problem Being Addressed: Alberta's care homes are oversubscribed, with waitlists growing. Yet seniors overwhelmingly want to age at home. Their adult children — often in the sandwich generation, juggling careers and their own kids — live with a quiet, ever-present dread of the phone call: "your mother fell." Existing options force an impossible trade-off: clinical and stigmatising pendants, intrusive cameras, or the senior's own ability to remember and act when something goes wrong. The downstream cost lands on primary care, where family physicians field worried-family calls without data. Families need a quieter way to know — one that preserves dignity and autonomy

How It Works: Harmoni replaces anxious checking with passive knowing. The wellness score stays silent on normal days — silence is the primary reassurance. When the pattern shifts, gentle tiered notifications guide the family circle from awareness to action, not alarm. Adult children no longer need to call five times a day; one glance at the app replaces it. Seniors keep their independence — no cameras, no constant calls, no caregiver in the home unless invited. When help is needed, the integrated marketplace turns "what do I do?" into a booked visit in one tap. Family physicians get fewer panicked calls, with better-informed conversations.

What Kind of Support Are You Looking For:

- Concept Buy-in (i.e., promotional support),
- Early adopters to help spread and scale the solution,
- Resource support (technology, human resources),
- Financial support

Notes:

Heidi x Dr. Bill: An Early-Stage Ambient AI Charting & Automated Multi-Specialty Billing Partnership

HEIDI AND DR.BILL

Innovation Pitch: Heidi Health and Dr.Bill are forming a partnership to connect ambient AI clinical charting directly with medical billing for family physicians in Alberta. During patient consultations, Heidi (which is integrated into Epic) records audio to generate structured clinical notes and auto-suggests regional billing codes based on the text. This dataset automatically populates Dr.Bill's software to handle downstream claim submission, tracking, and dispute management. By linking documentation to the billing workflow, clinical workflows are streamlined to verify pre-populated codes against a real-time transcript before final submission, and provincial Health Ministries can have a reference check to verify billing.

Problem Being Addressed: Family physicians in Alberta face extensive administrative burden tied to clinical documentation and complex fee-for-service billing. Juggling intricate codes alongside patient care causes coding errors, claim rejections, and lost income. At the same time, health ministries like AHCIP are forced to operate with limited context and supporting information tied to billing claims due to the fragmentation of charting and billing inputs. This leads to inefficiencies and disjointed workflows, resulting in tedious, manual back-and-forth adjustments between billers and adjusters due to the lack of an auditable text trail linking notes to claims.

How It Works: This partnership removes silos by building a direct data bridge from point-of-care charting to provincial health insurance plans like AHCIP. Upstream, Heidi's ambient AI automates clinical documentation across 200 specialties, generating first-pass billing codes tied to exact transcript text. Downstream, Dr.Bill uses this data to manage and submit claims. Integrating this process will help ensure physicians get paid accurately with reduced administrative burden. For health ministries, this framework provides additional information to claims submissions allowing more insight and accuracy into the adjudication process. Put simply, integrating these systems will improve the integrity of the billing process from end to end.

What Kind of Support Are You Looking For:

- Concept Buy-in (i.e., promotional support),
- Early adopters to help spread and scale the solution

Notes:

Redesigning Care Through Group Medical Visits: Insights from the Own Your Bones Program

PRIMARY CARE ALBERTA AND DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY MEDICINE, UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

Innovation Pitch: Own Your Bones is a four week interdisciplinary program that redesigns care through Group Medical Visits. By integrating family physicians, specialists, dietitians, and physiotherapists, the program delivers comprehensive fracture risk assessment, hands on meal preparation, supervised exercise, and shared decision making in a format that is efficient for clinicians and supportive for patients. Group Medical Visits create time for meaningful education, lifestyle intervention, peer learning, a sense of community, and individualized planning—benefits difficult to achieve in brief one to one appointments. Participants report improved confidence, better understanding of treatment options, and sustained behaviour change, demonstrating a model applicable to many clinical areas allowing for integrated care delivery.

Problem Being Addressed: Fracture risk assessment and coordinated osteoporosis management remain inconsistent across primary care. Patients report uncertainty about their fracture risk and have difficulty accessing supports for lifestyle interventions and navigating fragmented community services. Long waits for specialty care, often up to a year, delay treatment for high risk individuals. Traditional one to one visits rarely allow time for comprehensive education, behaviour change support, or shared decision making. These gaps reflect a broader system need for scalable models that integrate interdisciplinary expertise, improve patient understanding, and strengthen self management. These are needs that extend well beyond osteoporosis to many chronic conditions.

How It Works: Own Your Bones addresses gaps in fracture and fall risk assessment, patient education, and coordinated chronic disease management by delivering interdisciplinary care through Group Medical Visits. The program integrates family physicians, specialists, dietitians, and physiotherapists to provide comprehensive assessment, hands on meal preparation, supervised exercise, and shared decision making in a single, accessible format. This model creates time and space for meaningful education, lifestyle intervention, and individualized planning with multi-disciplinary support, elements not feasible in brief one to one

visits. By reducing decisional conflict around pharmacotherapy, improving confidence, and strengthening self management, the program offers an efficient, scalable solution that can be adapted to other clinical areas requiring team based, behaviour focused care.

What Kind of Support Are You Looking For:

- Concept Buy-in (i.e., promotional support),
- Early adopters to help spread and scale the solution

Notes:

Scaling Choosing Wisely Through Quality Improvement in Primary Care

CALGARY FOOTHILLS PRIMARY CARE NETWORK

Innovation Pitch: We created and scaled a practical, Choosing Wisely aligned quality improvement (QI) model to move recommendations from awareness to action in primary care. Co-designed with patients and delivered through Practice Facilitators and multidisciplinary teams, the initiative targeted three high-impact areas: reducing routine blood work, using fracture risk assessment before bone density testing, and deprescribing PPIs. Ready-to-use toolkits combine evidence and step-by-step QI guidance to enable rapid real-world implementation. Spread across Patient Medical Homes and amplified through peer-to-peer learning with a QI World Café event, this approach is driving measurable reductions in low-value care and enabling sustainable practice change.

Problem Being Addressed: Translating Choosing Wisely recommendations into everyday primary care practice remains challenging. Awareness and adoption are variable, and clinicians often lack the time, tools, and workflow-integrated supports needed to apply guidance consistently. As a result, low-value testing and treatment persist, impacting patient experience and system sustainability. There is a clear opportunity to bridge this gap by pairing awareness-building with practical, team-based implementation supports that enable clinicians to deliver high-value care in real-world settings.

How It Works: This innovation operationalizes Choosing Wisely recommendations through structured QI toolkits, Practice Facilitator support, and team-based care. Practice Facilitators support clinics to apply QI methods, use EMR data for measurement, and adapt workflows to sustain change. Toolkits provide standardized yet flexible guidance for projects, while multidisciplinary teams, such as pharmacists, support interventions like deprescribing. Peer-to-peer learning opportunities such as QI World Cafés further enable spread across practices. This combination of tools, facilitation, and collaborative learning helps embed evidence-based changes into routine care processes.

What Kind of Support Are You Looking For:

- Concept Buy-in (i.e., promotional support),
- Early adopters to help spread and scale the solution

Notes:

Virtual Hallway

VIRTUAL HALLWAY CONSULTS INC.

Innovation Pitch: Virtual Hallway is a Canadian digital health platform purpose-built for family physicians. It gives Alberta family physicians instant access to three sources of clinical expertise: peer-to-peer specialist phone consultations, Canada's largest CFPC-accredited online medical education library, and Asklepius, a Canadian-context clinical AI — all from a single platform, at the point of care. Virtual Hallway is live across five provinces with over 40 specialties available. It is ISO 27001-certified, AHCIP-integrated, and recognized as 2026 Digital Health Canada Clinical and Care Delivery Transformation Award winner.

Problem Being Addressed: Alberta family physicians are the backbone of primary care — and they are working under enormous pressure. They face clinical uncertainty in 57% of patient encounters (JAMA systematic review), yet the traditional pathways to resolve that uncertainty are slow and fragmented. Specialist wait times average 36 weeks (Fraser Institute, 2025). The result: patients wait, physicians work in isolation, and unnecessary referrals and ED visits accumulate. This is not a physician shortage problem. It is a knowledge-access problem — and it is solvable.

How It Works: Virtual Hallway addresses the knowledge-access gap through three integrated pathways. First, PHI-compliant peer-to-peer specialist phone consultations — billable by Alberta physicians through AHCIP codes (03.01LG/LH/LI for referring physicians; 03.01LJ/LK/LL for consultants; 03.01O/R for e-consults) — allow real-time specialist input without a formal referral. Second, the CFPC-accredited CME library provides on-demand education across primary care topics. Third, Asklepius — trained on Canadian guidelines and provincial formularies, including Alberta's — delivers instant AI-generated clinical answers and escalates to a specialist consult when AI alone is insufficient. Together, these tools meet physicians where they are: in the room with a complex patient.

"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much."
Helen Keller

What Kind of Support Are You Looking For:

- Concept Buy-in (i.e., promotional support),
- Early Adopters to help spread and scale the solution — specifically, Alberta family physicians and primary care networks willing to champion Virtual Hallway within their communities and provide feedback on alignment with Alberta-specific clinical needs.
- Word-of-mouth referrals within the Alberta physician community are the most powerful driver of adoption.

Notes: