

Tina Kenyon's PROMIS – Better Renal Data for Interior Health



It's a good thing Tina Kenyon doesn't need to travel much in her role as the Trail-based data management coordinator for the renal network in Interior Health.

Distances between major centres in the sprawling health authority are staggering. And if she had to meet regularly with all of the PROMIS users she supports across IHA, she'd need as many hours on the road as a long-haul trucker.

In any case, Tina managed to build quite a network of contacts several years ago when she served as a PROMIS champion and trained 150 people across the health authority in how to use the renal database. Those efforts led to a huge increase in PROMIS usage at Interior Health, and established relationships for Tina that are still important for her current work.

For the past year Tina has provided data management support to the health authority's four renal programs. In 2008 the BC Renal Agency offered funding for data management coordinators for all five regional health authorities, in an effort to increase the accuracy and overall value of the PROMIS database. In view of the success that Tina has achieved in her role with IHA, the Renal Agency hopes to see the position filled soon for the other health authorities.

Using web-based communication tools from her office in Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital, Tina is able to provide PROMIS training and support for renal staff located throughout Interior Health. She also makes an annual visit to every dialysis unit in the health authority.

“Even though the technology allows me to connect easily with people, I think it's important to meet face-to-face,” says Tina. “That's what sustains long-term relationships and develops new connections with staff new to the renal network. That's how I champion the PROMIS program – through these relationships,” says Tina.

Although she grew up in Trail, Tina now lives in Rossland with her husband. Together they enjoy an active outdoor life that includes hiking, biking, running and skiing in the local mountains.