

## ...proudly announces the Physician, Midwife or Nurse Practitioner of the month for March 2023:

### Dr. Kevin Wiseman, General Surgery



The VJHPS is pleased to announce Dr. Kevin Wiseman as **March's 2023 Medical Staff Member of the Month**. We salute Dr. Wiseman for exemplifying the qualities of an excellent practitioner, and we are pleased to have him as a respected member of our medical staff community since 2006.

#### Nominator's Comments (Dr. Nicholas Half, OBGYN):

##### Background and Training:

- Undergraduate degree: Anatomy, U of S, graduated 1989
- Medical School: UBC, graduated 2000
- General Surgery Residency: UBC, graduated 2006

Dr. Kevin Wiseman was born in Ontario, but considers Saskatoon “home” having been raised there until he came to Vancouver in 1989.

A common theme is that Dr. Wiseman likes to keep himself busy with things he enjoys. He was a mid-distance runner in track and field in university, and an interesting fact is that his 1000 m local record set in 1989 was just finally broken. He was on the Canadian team, and was a bronze medalist at the Pan Am Jr championships.

After university, he headed out west to Vancouver and took a job at BCCH in cytogenetics & embryopathology. It was his close work with pathologists that sparked his interest in medicine. He started medical school with the intent of pursuing pathology, but ultimately living tissue was way more interesting and quickly decided to become a community General Surgeon. Having some family in Vernon, he did a rotation here as a medical student, and showed off his skills as a resident over 2 electives. Alongside his buddy, Dr. Hamish Hwang, he committed to coming to Vernon, even buying a house here in 2005 the year before graduating residency. Now that’s commitment! This holds true to his greatest quality, loyalty. This brings us to his family.

He met Karen shortly after arriving in Vancouver in 1989, and the couple were married within a few years. Now married over 30 years, he has 3 grown children and his daughter is to be married on their farm this summer. One of his many passions includes mastering the art of brewing beer. This will come in quite handy at a wedding! The West Coast Pale Ale is the one to try.

What's up with surgeons and farming? Dr. Wiseman eloquently put it (I paraphrase for publishing), "the crap in the barn takes his mind off the crap at work". He enjoys the different mindset that his farm creates, or perhaps it's his homesteading gene from being raised in Saskatchewan, but it definitely beats sitting in the house after work.

I have the pleasure of working with Kevin in numerous settings. He does frequent endoscopy in the Ambulatory Clinic, attends a couple clinics per week, works in Revelstoke twice per month, and his favourite, operates weekly. With his Revelstoke work he actively mentors the rural surgeons with RSON. In fact, he has held a few roles in executive leadership at VJH. He was the department head for the Department of Surgery for a total of ~ 5 years, VJH Physician Society executive committee with the inauguration of FEMS, and eventually president, and sat in at MQM for at least 7 years.

This brings us round back to his many hobbies. Besides the hobbies that keep him out of the house, he also enjoys photography & sound engineering. He is a fan of Canadian author, Robertson Davies, and has favourite movies such as Lord of the Rings, Highlander (he made it very clear that it's the original one, not the series), Unforgiven, and Alien.

We are lucky to have a good-natured doctor that lives up to his name. His loyalty to his community, family, and VJH is much valued and cannot be overstated. Thank goodness he decided to see the value in "living pathology".

**Congratulations Dr. Wiseman on being our Medical Staff Member of the Month!**