We may have a new name... but we offer the same great services!

Effective April 1st, 2014, PPC Canada has changed its name to OPTUM Health Services.

As a UVic employee, you and your immediate family members, have access to a fantastic benefit program that helps you take a proactive approach to predictable life events or unforeseen crises. There are a variety of core services to take advantage of. To learn more about what is available to you, we invite you to attend any of the following open information sessions hosted by UVIC Human Resources and an account representative from OPTUM Health Services.

Date: May 21st
Time: 12:15pm – 1:00pm Or 4:45pm – 5:30pm
Location: DSB C108

Date: May 22nd
Time: 12:15pm – 1:00pm Or 4:00pm – 5:15pm
Location: MacLaurin D111

Understanding the difference ...

You wouldn’t be the first person to wonder what the difference is between the Extended Health Care coverage provided by Pacific Blue Cross and the Medical Services Plan provided by the BC government.

Government plans provide coverage of core health care services such as physician services and hospital care. The government health plan ensures medical coverage is available to all residents of BC as defined by Health Insurance BC. All BC residents are required to enroll with the Medical Services Plan.

Supplementary benefit providers like PBC provide private insurance for non-core services that are either not covered or only partially covered by the government health plan.

The BC provincial government health plan covers core health services including:

- medically required services provided by a physician
- diagnostic services, (x-rays, laboratory services provided at approved facilities when ordered by a registered physician, or certain other health care practitioners)
- basic hospital ward accommodation. For other services in some cases, however most other health expenses are not covered.

See CARESnet for your plan’s coverage details.

We want you to enjoy your trip...

It would be nice if you could guarantee good health and a safe trip, but in our world today, we know life, and certainly travel, are not predictable. Don’t stop exploring; just protect yourself from the unexpected — our travel plans can help you do that.

To find answers to many frequently asked questions about Pacific Blue Cross Travel Plans and additional information concerning coverage or making a claim, both can be found here.
Featured apps:

- Free: MyFitnessPal the fastest and easiest-to-use calorie counter for iPhone and iPad
- Free: STOP, BREATHE & THINK
  A friendly, simple tool to guide people of all ages & backgrounds through medications for mindfulness & compassion
- Free: 7 Minute Workout.
  Don’t have time to exercise every day? Try the 7 Minute Workout! 12 exercises, 3 required items (yourself, a chair, a wall), and 7 minutes is all you need.

A GP for Me is a joint program of the Government of BC and the Doctors of BC. The program’s aim is to strengthen the health care system by:

- helping people who want a family doctor get one
- supporting the relationship between patients and family doctors.

For more information, please visit: http://www.gpforme.ca/

About your new Pacific Blue Cross ID card
If you have signed in to CARESnet since our new system launch on April 4, 2014, you may have already downloaded your new Pacific Blue Cross ID card, or emailed it to your mobile device. Within a few months, Pacific Blue Cross will send new ID cards to plan members. If you have not signed in to CARESnet, please continue to present your old ID card to your dentist or pharmacist until you receive your new card.

What’s new?

- Names of your dependents no longer show on your card.
- We no longer require you to give dependent numbers when claiming.
- Use Policy Number 40704 when signing onto CARESnet.

Additional information about the new Pacific Cross ID card can be found here.

John Public

Policy Number: 123456
Identification Number: 1234567890
Issue Date: 2014/06/09

Do you have questions about your benefits? We have benefits handbooks/guides/FAQ’s to assist you. For more information contact the Benefits Office, Website.

BC Services Card
ID in B.C. is getting an upgrade. The new BC Services Card will provide secure access to provincial government services. New cards are now being issued with the goal of eventually replacing all existing CareCards.