

**Portland Area Behavioral Health Academic Review Committee (PA BHARC)**  
*Subcommittee of the Portland Area CHAP Certification Board (PACCB)*



**Meeting Summary for Wednesday, December 10, 2025**

**Committee Attendance:**

Ms. YakaiYastai Gorman-Etl (Chair), Ms. Dolores Jimerson (Seat 3), Maegan Bolin (Seat 1)

**Guest Attendance:**

**TCHP Program Staff:** Ms. Katie Hunsberger, Ms. Kate Denny (Secretary)

**Indian Health Service (IHS) Staff:** Ms. Bobbi Jo Peltier

**TCHPP Contractor:** Ms. Torie Heart

**Fort Peck Tribe:** Ms. Tanya Firemoon

**Action Taken:** This was an informal workgroup gathered to edit the PA BHARC bylaws. This was not an official committee meeting, but a workgroup session.

**Meeting Purpose:** Review and edit Portland Area Behavioral Health Academic Review Committee (PA-BHARC) bylaws.

**Key Takeaways:**

- Chair Gorman emphasized the need to indigenize the bylaws to reflect the direction of the BHA program and the PA-BHARC; to be rooted in indigenous values of balance and wellness.
- Chair Gorman discussed the importance of community-mindedness and involving all voices in the bylaw audit process.

**Workgroup Items:**

- Bylaw review by Chair Gorman:
  - Suggested edits were made to the following bylaws sections:
    - Mission, Organizational Year, Purpose, Membership, Decision Making and Quorum, Officers, and Meetings, to better reflect the current needs of the PA-BHARC, BHA Program and PACCB.
      - Suggested edits to Officer seat definitions included:
        - Adding a seat for National CHAP Representative
        - Adding a seat for an elder “culture keeper”
        - Adding a seat for a behavioral health professional with a work history including the BHA program, or the PA-BHARC
        - Adding a seat for an out-of-area behavioral health or BHA representative
  - The proposed bylaw edits will be added to the agenda for the next PA-BHARC.

**Next Steps:**

- Review proposed bylaw edits at next PA BHARC, Wednesday, December 17, 2025.

**Action Items:**

- Next PA-BHARC: December 17, 2025, at 1:00 (MST) / 12:00 pm (PST).