



# Island Health explains switch to Aprío from SharePoint



## Island Health

**Profile:** *Island Health provides health care and support services to more than 793,000 people on Vancouver Island, Southern Gulf Islands, the islands in the Salish Sea and the Johnstone Strait, and mainland communities north of Powell River.*

How can health organizations under intensifying regulations to protect data security, also ensure board information is easy to access so directors are prepared for and engaged at meetings?

This case study with Island Health explores the opportunity for board technology to improve how health boards communicate.

## The challenge

Island Health had two issues to address: ensuring data security and providing our board members ease of information access.

Prior to choosing Aprío, Island Health was using Microsoft SharePoint. That worked well for the internal team. It was secure, and had lots of functionality. On the access side though, directors had challenges.

Island Health upholds very strict standards with respect to confidentiality to protect patient records and health information. The way they used SharePoint with external board members led to issues. Directors would forget their passwords or not be able to find something.

At board meetings, when directors needed help to login to SharePoint, it became apparent that some had insufficient time to prepare as a result. Because Island Health's board package is large – that meant additional time in meetings to ensure they were fully apprised.

## The approach

Island Health needed technology that worked for board members not familiar with its SharePoint environment.

*“SharePoint security was good but we needed that same security and more ease for directors. Now we have both.”*

LOUISE CARLOW, ISLAND HEALTH BOARD LIAISON

The evaluation team chose Aprío because of ease of use and the software's security. Given the board shares lots of confidential financial and corporate documents Aprío needed to prove its data protection.





**Key results:**

*Ease of information access*

*Directors more prepared for meetings*

*Data security protected*

**The Impact**

For Island Health the time spent organizing and reviewing documents for a board meeting has remained the same with Aprío as it was with SharePoint. What’s changed is the speed and effectiveness of updates and ease of board member access.

**Simpler board information access & distribution of updates**

With Aprío, when the Island Health board package is ready it takes their board liaison an hour or less to upload board documents and to prepare the meeting agenda.

Even more beneficial is the ease of distributing board information and communicating any changes to directors. If documents change in the run up to the board meeting – the board liaison can make the change and click to notify all directors. Board members get instantly alerted and see the latest version.

**Engaged and prepared directors**

With Aprío, board members find they can more easily access information and move back and forth between board meeting materials and committee documents than was possible on SharePoint.

Many like the ease of using Aprío on any of their own devices.

Some directors especially love it. They immediately took to making and sharing notes using annotations for pre-meeting discussions.

**Ease of adoption**

Island Health committed to implementing Aprío for maximum impact. The organization developed a project plan that reflected its full board process and worked with the Aprío team to take advantage of the efficiency of using the board portal to its fullest.

*“To those health organizations not yet using a board portal, I would encourage them to consider it. Don’t take any risk with the security of your board information. And think of the value of better engaged, better prepared directors at board meetings.”*

**LOUISE CARLOW, ISLAND HEALTH BOARD LIAISON**

The rollout took just a few weeks and Aprío did its quick training of directors in tandem.

Island Health’s most recent board recruit, an accountant accustomed to modern technology, logged into Aprío on her own and found it intuitive to use immediately.



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Aprío makes good governance simple and affordable. The Aprío board portal helps organizations large and small to efficiently run board meetings, keep directors up to date, and keep information secure. Aprío provides premium features without premium pricing, all delivered with unmatched service. Visit [aprioboardportal.com](http://aprioboardportal.com) to learn more.