

Cancer Provincial Advisory Council 2017/18 Annual Report



Message from Alberta Health Services Board of Directors



Dr. Brenda Hemmelgarn

Healthcare is a people business and Alberta Health Services (AHS) alone cannot build a healthier province. Through the work of our Advisory Councils, all Albertans have an opportunity to have a say in what we do at AHS; and that's vitally important to our organization.

Council members bring the voices of Albertans to AHS whether through the geographically located Health Advisory Councils or the program-focused Provincial Advisory Councils and Wisdom Council. They build relationships with Albertans and keep the lines of communication open. They are our partners, and their feedback has helped us make the right decisions on how we care for Albertans and how we deliver health services. Their efforts continue to make a positive difference in people's lives every day.

As Chair of the Community Engagement Committee of the Board, I've had the pleasure to connect with many Council members and see their work evolve and expand over the past year. There are direct links between their efforts and the advancements we've made as a health system overall, and in communities across the province. Here are just a few examples:

- **Connect Care** - members offered insights about the system, and had opportunities to join three different committees to help shape what the system would look like.
- **Zone healthcare planning** - members participated in building Calgary and Central zone healthcare plans, and sharing specific needs for the communities they represent.
- **PCN governance committees** - members have been invited to join zone committees.
- **Continuing care** - through interviews, council chairs provided comments and suggestions to help build continuing care plans and solutions in the zones.
- **AHS Health Plan and Business Plan** - members offered perspectives and suggestions into the plan; their input shaped the goals, objectives and performance measures, particularly in the areas of long term care and mental health. They also actively shared the plan with communities across Alberta.
- **Special engagement meetings for Albertans** - many of the Councils had the opportunity to host engagement activities from Open Houses to forums to information sessions, both in person or by video conference.

Other milestones include adopting a new look and brand, carefully developed work plans, and attending the Annual Advisory Council Fall Forum to engage about healthcare issues and connect with each other.

On behalf of the AHS Board of Directors, our leadership team, and our workforce, thank you for all you do. We look forward to continuing to work with you on improving healthcare for Albertans.

Sincerely,

Dr. Brenda Hemmelgarn,
Vice Chair, Board of Directors
Chair, Community Engagement Committee of the Board
AHS

Message from the Chair Cancer Provincial Advisory Council



Tony Fields

The composition of the Cancer Provincial Advisory Council is unique among Alberta Health Services' (AHS) advisory councils. Council comprises a mixture of persons touched by cancer and persons selected for special expertise relevant to cancer. The former, hailing from diverse communities across Alberta, have experienced cancer, either personally or through close family members. The latter, some of whom are also cancer survivors, have professional training and experience in cancer services, or represent organizations that focus on cancer.

The principal mechanisms by which Council offers advice and comment to AHS include:

- Providing advice to AHS leaders through discussion at council meetings following presentations on key program issues;
- Individual Council members' participation by appointment or invitation to certain AHS committees or planning meetings (e.g. membership on the Core Committee and some working groups of the Cancer Strategic Clinical Network (SCN));
- Interacting with the Health Advisory Councils, the other two Provincial Advisory Councils and the Wisdom Council through the Council of Chairs and the annual Advisory Council Fall Forum.

This report illustrates the breadth of issues considered by Council during 2017-18, as it interfaced with leadership of CancerControl Alberta, the Cancer SCN and the cancer prevention and screening leadership of Population, Public and Indigenous Health.

Council is determined to strengthen its interactions with the Health Advisory Councils, establishing a pipeline for specific perspectives and concerns of local communities to reach our Council table for consideration; this will be a priority for the 2018-19 year and beyond.

We had five new members appointed in March 2017, and they attended their first meetings in the 2017-18 fiscal year. Also, Ms. Barb O'Neill, Senior Provincial Director, and Dr. Doug Stewart, Senior Medical Director, of the Cancer SCN joined Council as Permanent Resource Persons towards the end of the year.

I would also like to thank our Permanent Resource Persons, Ms. Nancy Guebert, Dr. Matthew Parliament and Dr. Huiming Yang, for their faithful attendance and invaluable contributions to our work. Very special thanks to Ms. Laura Lee Clarke and Ms. Selene Snell for their skillful and diligent administrative support of Council activities. Finally, the management and staff of AHS Community Engagement have helped to ground our work within the wider context of all Health Advisory Councils' activities.

Sincerely,

A. L. A. (Tony) Fields, CM, MD, FRCPC, FACP, DSc (Hon)
Chair, Cancer Provincial Advisory Council

About our Council

2017/2018 Council Members

Current Members

Dr. Tony	Fields (Chair)	Edmonton
Dr. Margaret	Churcher (Vice Chair)	Calgary
Leanne	Anderson	Vulcan
Varinder	Bhullar	Edmonton
Bryson	Brown	Lethbridge
Dr. Heather	Bryant	Calgary
Tim	Buckland	Edmonton
Andrea	DeYoung	Stettler
Chelsea	Draeger	Calgary
Ernie	Grach	Wabasca
Steven	Herbert	Calgary
Kenneth	Landry	Grande Prairie
Dr. Angeline	Letendre	Edmonton
Lorelee	Marin	Lloydminster
Patti	Morris	Calgary
Michele	Zielinski	Edmonton

Past Members

Ray	Clark	Calgary
Dan	Holinda	Calgary
Myka	Osinchuk	Calgary

Permanent Resources

Permanent resource persons are appointed to Council by the Board by virtue of the roles they play within their organization and are members without voting rights. They are subject matter experts and leaders in the area of cancer services who assist, inform, and guide Council to achieve its objectives.

Nancy	Guebert	Chief Program Officer, CancerControl Alberta
Dr. Matthew	Parliament	Interim Senior Medical Director, CancerControl Alberta
Dr. Huiming	Yang	Provincial Medical Officer of Health and Medical Director of Screening, Population, Public Health and Indigenous Health
Barb	O'Neill	Senior Provincial Director, Cancer SCN
Dr. Doug	Stewart	Senior Medical Director, Cancer SCN



Front row left to right: Chelsea Draeger, Dr. Margaret Churcher, Dr. Tony Fields, Nancy Guebert, Leanne Anderson

Back row left to right: Ray Clark; Bryson Brown, Michele Zielinski, Tim Buckland, Varinder Bhullar, Steven Herbert, Ernie Grach, Lorelee Marin, Dr. Huiming Yang

Missing: Dr. Heather Bryant, Andrea DeYoung, Kenneth Landry, Dr. Angeline Letendre, Patti Morris, Barbara O'Neill, Myka Osinchuk, Dr. Matthew Parliament, and Dr. Douglas Stewart

Priorities for our Council

- Support the implementation of Changing our Future: Alberta's Cancer Plan to 2030, through advice to AHS CancerControl Alberta to enhance cancer services for all Albertans.
- Represent the patient voice with community perspective and thoughtful engagement and conversations that create shared understanding.
- Engage more effectively with Health Advisory Councils (HACs), Seniors and Continuing Care Provincial Advisory Council, Wisdom Council and the public.
- Continuous improvement of our performance.

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Community members attended our meetings, who also participate on Lesser Slave Lake and Prairie Mountain HACs. This helped us build linkages with them to provide local community perspectives on cancer services.



We provided input on CancerControl Alberta's Out of Province and Out of Country Standard Operating Practices and Operations Plan.

To continually improve Council performance, a full day new member orientation session was organized and facilitated for new members in June 2017. The orientation included presentations from the Cancer SCN, Screening Program and CancerControl Alberta, as well as a tour of the Cross Cancer Institute MR Linac area.



Highlights from the year

- Presentations provided by AHS and CancerControl Alberta leadership that enhanced our understanding of cancer services or provided us with an opportunity to give input and feedback included:
 - New Calgary Cancer Centre: Dr. Sunil Verma, Medical Director, Tom Baker Cancer Centre & New Calgary Cancer Centre, AHS
 - Medical Assistance in Dying (MAID): Dr. Jim Silvius, Provincial Medical Director Seniors Health and Senior Medical Director Seniors Health SCN, and Dr. Jackson Wu, Radiation Oncologist and Physician Lead of Pilot MAID project at Tom Baker Cancer Centre, AHS
 - Cancer Drug Funding Sustainability: Carol Chambers, Provincial Director Pharmacy Cancer Services, AHS
 - Listening to Our Patients - Using Patient Reported Outcomes to Improve Outcomes and Experience: Dr. Linda Watson, Lead, Person-Centred Care Integration CancerControl Alberta, AHS
 - Research Practice Partnerships in CancerControl Alberta: Dr. Paula Robson, Scientific Director, Cancer Research CancerControl Alberta and the Cancer SCN, AHS
 - Accelerating the Diagnosis of Cancer in Alberta: Dr. Douglas Stewart, Senior Medical Director, Cancer SCN, AHS
 - World Indigenous Cancer Conference 2019: Dr. Angeline Letendre, Lead Scientist, Alberta Cancer Prevention Legacy Fund (ACPLF), Population, Public and Indigenous Health, AHS
 - Guidelines for Prescribing Medical Cannabinoids: Ms. Danielle Perry, Physician Learning Program & Evidence Based Medicine (PEER Team), Faculty of Family Medicine, University of Alberta
 - Tour of Wellspring Edmonton: Michele Zielinski, Executive Director Wellspring Edmonton
- We provided feedback on the CancerControl Alberta 2017-2020 Operational Plan.
- We acknowledged support of the World Indigenous Cancer Conference 2019 and Calgary as the potential host city.
- One of our members was integrally connected to the work which garnered the City of Lloydminster the Barb Tarbox Award for the implementation of a tobacco licensing bylaw that is invested in tobacco prevention and education initiatives in the community.
- Two of our members facilitated an open dialogue session at the AHS Quality Health Summit on October 30 called *Healthcare Through the Patient & Family Lens, Patient and Public Engagement in Healthcare – How do we Make it Truly Meaningful?*
- We implemented an evaluation tool for our meetings to aid in evaluating performance, and to enhance the value of the members' voices and commitment to the council and future council meetings.

A look ahead

- Review and provide advice on AHS and CancerControl Alberta's priorities and progress.
- Review progress on Changing our Future: Alberta's Cancer Plan to 2030.
- Encourage joint appointments of individuals to our Council and a HAC.
- Build linkages with the Wisdom Council to ensure we consider Indigenous perspectives.
- Explore opportunities to effectively engage directly with the public.
- Foster opportunities for public members of our Council to participate in planning committees and activities of CancerControl Alberta, Population, Public and Indigenous Health, the Cancer SCN, and ACPLF.

About the Cancer Provincial Advisory Council

Quick facts

- 17 volunteers with lived experience with cancer
- Council meets four times a year rotating between Calgary and Edmonton
- To ensure representation of both urban and rural perspectives, members are recruited loosely based on AHS Zones
 - Two public members from North, Edmonton, Central, and Calgary Zones
 - One public member from the South Zone

Get involved

- Visit ahs.ca and search Advisory Councils
- Email pac.cancer@ahs.ca
- Check out our Twitter and Facebook accounts, by searching AHS Advisory Councils

