



Alberta Health  
Services  
Greater Edmonton  
Health Advisory Council

## Minutes – Greater Edmonton Health Advisory Council

January 17, 2019/6 to 9 pm/ Mazankowski Heart Institute, University of Alberta - Rm 4A9.016 – 11220 83 Ave, Edmonton AB T6G 2B7

**\*Please note that these minutes will be adopted at the next Council meeting.**

**Council Members:** Sheila Raffray (Vice Chair), Victor Do, Anahi Johnson, Alexander Kuznetsov, Shirley Munro

**Alberta Health Services:** Maya Atallah, Deb Gordon, Dr. Sikora, Dr. Zygun

**Public:** One

**Regrets:** Teresa O’Riordan (Chair), Edith Baraniecki, Sharon Brintnell, Fahim Hassan, Iqra Nazir, Ryan Payne, Lawrence Tymko

<i>Agenda Item</i>	<i>Discussion</i>	<i>Action</i>
<b>Council Quorum</b>	<p>As per the Health Advisory Council Bylaw, Article 9, Section 9.4:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>“A quorum shall consist of 50 percent plus one (1) of the members then in office. A resolution may be passed, or action taken on any matter, only where a duly constituted meeting has been called and a quorum is present at the time the resolution is put forward. In the event that a quorum is not present, the meeting may proceed; however, any action or resolution shall be deferred to the next meeting where a quorum is present”</li> </ul> <p>Council Chair noted that council quorum was not established. Council has agreed to continue with an informal meeting.</p>	
<b>1. Review of Agenda</b>	As the required quorum was not achieved at this meeting, see Bylaw Article 9, Section 9.4, the agenda cannot be approved. A review of the agenda for revisions and edits took place	
<b>2. Review of Minutes</b>	As the required quorum was not achieved at this meeting, see Bylaw Article 9, Section 9.4, the minutes cannot be approved. A review of the minutes for revisions and edits took place.	Minutes to be presented from the November 2018 and the January 2019 meeting approval at

		next council meeting on March 11, 2019, when a quorum is achieved
<b>3. Presentations</b>		
<p><b>3.1. Organ and Tissues</b></p> <p><i>Deanna Paulson – Director, Transplant Services</i></p> <p><i>Cathy Osborne – Senior Operation Officer, UAH, MAHI &amp; KAYE EDM Clinic</i></p> <p><i>Dr. Dennis Djogovic, Interim Medical Director, HOPE Program, Assistant Facility Chief ICU – UAH on Organ and Tissues Donation and Transplantation</i></p>	<p>A presentation was made by Deanna Paulson, Director, Transplant Services; Cathy Osborne, Senior Operation Officer, University of Alberta Hospital, Mazankowki Heart Institute and Kaye Medical Clinic, and Dr. Dennis Djogovic, Interim Medical Director, Human Organ Procurement and Exchange (HOPE) Program, Assistant Facility Chief Intensive Care Unit – University of Alberta Hospital on organ and tissue donation and transplantation. The areas highlighted were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• organ donation sites in Alberta;</li> <li>• origin of organs ;</li> <li>• organ donation process;</li> <li>• statistics, innovations; and,</li> <li>• public participation.</li> </ul> <p><b>Questions from the council were:</b></p> <p><b>Q:</b> Is there a minimum age to be a donor?</p> <p><b>A:</b> Depending on the organ being donated, many variables play a factor — testing on how the organ is functioning, and overall health of the donor is assessed. Neonatal and paediatric donation is possible, and of great importance to donation and transplantation programs.</p> <p><b>Q:</b> Is the signature on the back of my healthcare card sufficient enough to identify me as a donor?</p> <p><b>A:</b> The signature helps with background knowledge of intent and wishes of an individual, but it is not a legal consent form. Having this conversation with your loved ones and family is critical so that the people around you are aware of your decision to donate.</p> <p><b>Q:</b> Are patients of MAID eligible to donate?</p> <p><b>A:</b> The discussion is ongoing.</p> <p><b>Q:</b> Are the costs of anti-rejection drugs covered?</p> <p><b>A:</b> Yes</p> <p><b>Q:</b> Who decides who gets the transplant?</p> <p><b>A:</b> There is a priority list panel who decides.</p>	

<b>4. Old Business</b>		
<b>4.1. Review of Action Items from the minutes of November 15, 2018</b>	<p>Maya Atallah provided an update about the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maya Atallah to share board meeting dates with council members. <b>Complete.</b></li> <li>• Maya Atallah sent out a survey for GEHAC to rank their top priorities. <b>Complete.</b></li> </ul>	
<b>5. New Business</b>		
<b>5.1. Committee Updates</b>	<p>Shirley Munro shared that the Rural Community Attraction and Retention Program will be having an event on Jan 25<sup>th</sup> in Wabamun.</p>	
<b>5.2. Voices of the Community</b>	<p>A community member asked for input on natural medicine. AHS responded that they understand that complementary therapies are available and western medicine is not the only solution. It is important is to have a conversation with your family physician to be able to build trust and identify possible barriers. AHS is working together with Indigenous peoples to understand more about traditional medicine and natural products to be able to use that knowledge purposefully.</p>	
<p><b>5.3. Edmonton Zone Executive Leadership Update</b></p> <p><b>Dr. David Zygun – Zone Medical Director</b></p> <p><b>Dr. Chris Sikora – Physician/Lead Medical Officer of Health – Edmonton Zone</b></p>	<p>Dr. David Zygun, Deb Gordon and Dr. Chris Sikora provided updates on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With the Connect care Implementation, the first site will be the Edmonton Walter C McKenzie campus which includes (<i>Aberhart Centre; Clinical Sciences Building; Kaye Edmonton Clinic; Mazankowski Alberta Heart Institute; Stollery Children’s Hospital; TB Central Services; University of Alberta Hospital; Zeidler Centre</i>) on November 2nd 2019. This is a transformational change and change management needs to be done carefully.</li> <li>• There are lots of capital projects happening in the Greater Edmonton Zone. The new South Edmonton hospital is still recruiting for family and patient advisory members. We are finishing off the clinical service plan which is identifying what services would be available at the hospital. The next step is functional planning, which is more detailed. Throughout all the planning AHS is committed to community engagement.</li> <li>• The Alberta Public Labs building is progressing the project will bring together existing laboratories, staff and laboratory medical physicians under one roof. The new lab will also provide capacity for research and training of laboratory professionals across Alberta.</li> <li>• The central Pharmacy drug production and distribution center is progressing, It</li> </ul>	<p>Deb Gordon will provide information on Addiction and Mental Health services in schools.</p>

will be a centralized manufacturing site hoping to reduce medication incidents, produce cost savings and allow Alberta Health Services to meet new industry standards for preparing drugs.

- The Stollery Children's Hospital Foundation invested 26 million dollars into the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Center which will be built east of the Glenrose Rehabilitation Hospital.
- The new Brain Center at the University of Alberta Hospital is in planning stages.
- Work continues to reduce emergency room and surgery wait times.

**Questions from the council/community for AHS leadership:**

**Q:** What work is being done to reduce the wait times?

**A:** AHS is looking at different aspects of the emergency rooms; input and output.

Patients requiring services around addictions and mental health are often seen in the emergency room. The addictions and mental health 24/7 access center is helping in providing a more appropriate place for these patients to be seen. Planning is also being done to offload patients from the ambulances so that we free up our EMS so they can quickly return to service. There is more central triaging plus enhancing care in the community is helping. Patients have the necessary services outside of hospital.

**Q:** Since the legalization of cannabis has there been any significant health outcomes or changes in admissions as a result that are cannabis related?

**A:** Emergency Departments have not seen huge increases. We have dealt with two toxicity related issues, and that is due to people not understanding dosages and managing it carefully.

**Q:** If you have not been vaccinated for influenza is it still wise to do so?

**A:** We are on the downslope of the H1NI however, getting the flu shot is still valuable because the influenza vaccine helps against four different strains.

**Q:** What is preventing AHS from making the flu shot mandatory?

**A:** All immunization shots are voluntary. To change that there would have to be a policy change from the Government of Alberta. AHS tries to make access to the flu shot as easy as possible for individuals.

**Q:** Is there any further news about the use of nurse practitioners?

**A:** Most of our nurse practitioners are working in hospitals because AHS has the funding to support them. In general, AHS is working with all levels of healthcare providers and educational institutions to ensure providers are practicing to their full scope.

**Q:** Are there any AHS funded mental health therapy positions in schools?

**A:** AHS works very closely with schools. Edmonton Zone Addictions and Mental Health also hold sessions in different schools in the evening and these are available to the public.

<b>5.4. Wait times for specialists</b>	AHS is very good at recording and reporting service wait times. Some of the efficiencies are centralized triages. All requests come to one place, and they are categorized by urgency. eClinician provides an electronic medical record and access to services for Edmonton ambulatory outpatient services. The data collected is used to reflect some of the wait times. Connect care will further help to develop this. Where data is lacking is that AHS can only see AHS data. AHS does not have information from the referrals that are coming through from outpatient clinics.	
<b>5.5. Central Drug Production Facility</b>	The news release about the AHS central drug production facility was shared with the council on November 21, 2018. The land has been obtained in northwest Edmonton for the construction of a new central drug production and distribution facility. The facility is part of a \$66-million provincial project to consolidate and centralize medication preparation and distribution for hospitals in Alberta. The project is part of the Government of Alberta's 2017-2021 Capital Plan.	
<b>5.6. Upcoming Meeting Dates/Locations 2019/2020</b>	The council set the following dates and locations for their meetings in the fiscal year calendar of 2019/2020: Tuesday, May 7, 2019 - Fort Saskatchewan, Fort Saskatchewan Community Hospital Tuesday, September 10, 2019 - Spruce Grove, Westview Primary Care Network Tuesday, November 12, 2019 – Edmonton, Glenrose Rehabilitation Hospital Tuesday, January 14, 2020 – Edmonton, Alberta Hospital Edmonton Tuesday, March 10, 2020 – Edmonton, East Edmonton Health Centre	
<b>5.7. Report from the Council of Chairs</b> Teresa O’Riordan, Chair	The report has been shared with the council on January 3, 2019. There were no questions.	
<b>5.8. Advisory Council Coordinator Update</b> Maya Atallah Advisory Council, Coordinator	Maya Atallah shared a report. Following are the highlights from the report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There will be a targeted recruitment campaign for three weeks in January</li> <li>• The annual Advisory Councils’ Satisfaction Survey will be in January</li> <li>• The Top 5 – 10 concerns document is required for submission</li> <li>• Advisory Councils’ member profiles, a request for volunteers</li> <li>• A request for the submission of kudos</li> <li>• 2018 Advisory Councils’ Fall Forum Follow Up and 2019 Forum date</li> </ul>	

	<p><b>Q:</b> LGBTQ2S is a new group, what can you tell us about that?</p> <p><b>A:</b> We are currently recruiting 15 members to make up the new provincial council. The council will be similar to the other Provincial Advisory Councils. All information will be available on the AHS advisory Council website. You will have a chance to meet the new council members at the fall forum. The name is SOGIE (sexual orientation, gender identity, and expression)Provincial Advisory Council (PAC).</p>	
<b>5.9. Council Member Round Table</b>	<p><b>Anahi Johnson</b> shared community concerns she has heard from the community are about PharmaCare and Dental Care, and how adding these types of services would improve wait times and services down the road.</p> <p><b>Shirley Munro</b> shared that the community has partnered with Rural Health Professions Action Plan (RhPAP) to help in the recruitment of physicians in the Wabamun and Evansburg area.</p> <p><b>Victor Do</b> shared that educating the community on when it is appropriate to go to the Emergency Department would be beneficial in decreasing wait times. The lack of access to individuals primary care physicians especially during the holidays is also a contributing factor to the increase in Emergency visits. Consistent messaging and more training is needed for 811. Having the right pathways for health care staff to help in the discharge and transition of care is important. Connect care will be a huge benefit in improving communication within our healthcare system.</p>	
<b>6. Next Meeting</b>	<p>Date: Monday, March 11, 2019</p> <p>Time: 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.</p> <p>Location: Leduc Community Hospital 4210 48 St, Leduc, AB T9E 5Z3</p>	
<b>7. Meeting Evaluation and Adjournment</b>	Moved by Anahi Johnson to adjourn the meeting at 8:47 pm.	

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