



Building a better health system with the voice of our community

Where we are

The Lakeland Communities Health Advisory Council serves communities that range from the City of Cold Lake in the east, to a number of rural communities including Athabasca, Bonnyville, Elk Point, Lac La Biche, Redwater, Smoky Lake and St. Paul. Our geographic area covers a range of landscapes, industries, and demographics, including long-established communities (see map page 2).



Accomplishments

- Physician recruitment: understanding recruitment needs and challenges is of particular interest in some of the more rural communities in the zone.
- Connecting with Indigenous communities: council has learned the importance of better understanding Indigenous health needs by connecting with local Indigenous communities to build relationships and improve communication, and taking cultural sensitivity training.
- Addiction and mental health: presentations to council on services and treatment options available in the North Zone, so gaps can be identified and we can lend support where possible.

Our role and objectives

Everything we do is about improving the health and wellness of Albertans, no matter what part of the province they live in. We:

- Are a group of volunteers focused on listening to your thoughts and ideas on health services to help AHS enhance care locally and province wide.
- Develop partnerships between the province's diverse communities and AHS.
- Provide feedback about what is working well within the health care system and suggest areas for improvement.
- Promote opportunities for members of our local communities to get engaged.

Join us - your voice matters

There are a number of opportunities to participate; visit ahs.ca and search Health Advisory Councils for more info:

- Attend an [upcoming council meeting](#) to hear feedback, offer comments, and ask questions.
- [Make a presentation](#) at our council meeting on a health area of interest or concern to you.
- Bring your community's voice forward to provide input on local and regional health.
- Volunteer your time as a council member. Recruitment drives happen annually. Members are appointed for a three-year term.
- Share your feedback with council: LakelandCommunities@ahs.ca



Contact us

lakelandcommunities@ahs.ca

Chair: [Pat Palechuk](#)

Vice Chair: [Robert Deresh](#)

[Full member list](#)

Toll free: 1-877-275-8830

More information

ahs.ca/advisorycouncils

[Twitter](https://twitter.com/ahs_councils) (twitter.com/ahs_councils)

[Facebook](https://facebook.com/advisorycouncils) (facebook.com/advisorycouncils)

[Indigenous communities map](https://indigenous.alberta.ca/interactivemap.cfm) (indigenous.alberta.ca/interactivemap.cfm)