



## Minutes – Lesser Slave Lake Health Advisory Council

March 11th, 2019/1:00 -4:00 pm /High Prairie Healthcare Centre

**Council members present:** Ernie Grach, Connie McKee, Debbie Rose, Cody Twinn, Brian Rosche

**Alberta Health Services:** Rob Barone, Cory Brunham, Shannon Gallant, Deb Guerette, Cindy Harmata, Mary Mueller, Dalique van der Nest

**Regrets:** Lindsay Davies, Lindy Fors, Laura Frost, Ken Matthews,

<i>Agenda Item</i>	<i>Discussion</i>	<i>Action</i>
<b>1. Approval of Agenda</b>	Moved by Debbie Rose that the March 11, 2019 agenda be approved. <b>MOTION CARRIED</b>	
<b>2. Approval of Minutes</b>	Moved by Debbie Rose that the January 7, 2019 minutes be approved. <b>MOTION CARRIED</b>	
<b>3. Presentations</b>  <b>3.1. Emergency Medical Services (EMS)-</b> Rob Barone, Associate Executive Director of EMS North Zone and Cory Brunham EMS Manager North West Area 6	Rob Barone and Cory Brunham provided an update on EMS. Highlights included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Slave Lake EMS facility is a priority. There are a few options for an EMS bay in Slave Lake that include building a new facility or adding on to the old Fire Hall in Slave Lake.</li> <li>• The HAC was thanked for helping keep the concerns with the facility in Slave Lake at the forefront.</li> <li>• EMS is happy with the new space in Wabasca.</li> <li>• There has been a Community Paramedic pilot project in communities throughout Alberta. This project allows for EMS to provide some services to seniors in long term care which used to require a transport to the hospital.</li> </ul> Q: Are they looking to expand the Community Paramedic program?	

	<p>A: Yes there was funding provided to begin with a few pilot sites. The results in Grande Prairie are currently being studied to see if it was positive and then it will expand to other communities.</p> <p>Q: Why won't this program be in all communities?</p> <p>A: This has to do with population size and how often we have calls. On average, calls in the North increase about 5-7% a year but with decreases in rural communities things are changing. Transportation is a challenge in the north and EMS has to step in for inter-facility transportation because there is no option to get patients to their appointments.</p> <p>Transportation is always an issue in the North when speaking with the community. Dalique shared that it's not just a health issue but it needs to be a larger collaboration. Some communities have put in busses to fill the gap that Greyhound left. Cindy shared that Clinical Telehealth is growing. This requires specialists to agree to Telehealth and then a patient just needs to go to their nearest Telehealth site.</p>	
<p><b>4. Old Business</b></p> <p><b>4.1. Review of Action Items</b> from minutes of November 19, 2018 meeting Shannon Gallant, Coordinator</p>	<p>The following were action items from previous meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Put forth the name of Ernie Grach for Chair to the CE Committee of the Board. Complete.</li> <li>• Put forth the name of Ken Matthews for Vice Chair to the CE Committee of the Board. Complete.</li> <li>• Invite Deb Guerette and Gregory Cummings to the next meeting. Complete.</li> <li>• Invite EMS to the March meeting. Complete.</li> <li>• Share when council member terms are ending. Complete.</li> <li>• E-mail out updated work plan to members and ask if any changes are needed before March meeting. Complete.</li> <li>• Forward ER concern to Deb Guerette. Deb had a discussion with the nurses and doctors. Awareness has been created with staff around triage and acknowledging patients in the Emergency Room. The team is working on signage, wayfinding and pictures. Complete.</li> <li>• Look into concerns around roles with the Wabasca Healthcare Centre and the Golden Opportunity Medical Clinic. Deb had a conversation about the relationship between the clinic and healthcare centre in Wabasca and shared that patients are experiencing frustration. The</li> </ul>	

	<p>new community medical director in Wabasca will be looking at all of this. Patients are encouraged to share any concerns directly with staff. Complete.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Find out date for opening of High Prairie Obstetrics. Obstetrics in High Prairie had a soft launch in January and had their New Year’s baby on January 7th. The Surgical program is up and ready for bookings. Complete.</li> <li>• Request update on status of Dialysis unit for High Prairie. The government has announced funding for the renovations and supplies needed. The space is available at the High Prairie Healthcare Centre and the Alberta Renal program will provide the training. This will be a three year process with planning, design phase, renovations, recruitment and training. This is a provincial program so that the work is standardized across Alberta. Complete.</li> <li>• Bring forward concern with the number of CT scans being completed in a day in High Prairie. This was brought forward and resulted in an increase of allocation for scans in High Prairie. As of January 15<sup>th</sup> there have been no requisitions sent to other sites. Complete.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>5. New Business</b></p>		
<p><b>5.1. North Zone Update – Deb Guerette</b>  Director, Clinical Operations,  Area 6, North Zone</p>	<p>Deb Guerette presented on a number of key initiatives underway in the Zone including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhancing Care in the Community Funding has provided an increase in staffing to enhance and reach additional clients in their homes. A new respite program for adults is currently in development. Through the funding we have also been able to enhance our Child &amp; Youth Tele-Psychiatry supports in the North Zone and develop a new North Zone Virtual Children’s Mental Health Program.</li> <li>• Planning for the Dialysis unit in High Prairie has begun.</li> <li>• Recruitment:  A physiotherapist has been recruited for High Prairie and will begin at the end of March. The Slave Lake Family Care Clinic continues to use the Alberta Medical Association Locum Services to support the physician compliment in Emergency.  Recruitment is ongoing for a full time Nurse Practitioner to support the Tri-Settlement areas.</li> </ul> <p>Q: Why are we recruiting international doctors instead of supporting our local doctors with that funding?  A: AHS is able to recruit from international or local. In Northern Alberta there are specific challenges in recruitment and there are not enough applicants from people who live in Canada to not look international.</p>	<p>Invite someone from HR to discuss how recruitment occurs.</p>

<p><b>5.2. Physician Resources Update –</b> Shauna Wallbank, Physician Resource Planner</p>	<p>Shauna Wallbank provided the following highlights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are two family medicine hopefuls in High Prairie.</li> <li>• Wabasca currently has five physicians and there is recruitment ongoing for one more family medicine physician.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>5.3. Council Round Table and Good News Stories</b></p>	<p>Following, please find comments from the Council members and public:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Connie McKee shared concerns about lack of access to home care equipment in the area. If community members require home care equipment they need to travel to Edmonton or Grande Prairie to access it.</li> <li>• Dalique van der Nest shared that home care equipment, formerly known as Alberta Aides to Daily Living (AADL) is being looked at provincially. The challenge is that the equipment and the care of the equipment has to comply with regulation. It's a challenge in rural areas to maintain hubs with equipment. Provincially there are negotiations around how we can get patients the equipment they need so that they can stay home. This needs to be a sustainable program for smaller, rural communities.</li> <li>• Debbie Rose shared concern of the invite list for the Community Conversation in High Prairie. The Council would like to look at this stakeholder list to update it.</li> <li>• Brian Rosche shared that he saw a video clip on the national news of the BC emergency room where children are provided the use of virtual reality glasses. This helped with kids who were receiving treatment in the emergency department. This could be something we look into for this area.</li> <li>• Ernie Grach shared that they had a going away event for a doctor in Wabasca and that they still have five doctors in Wabasca. The health care aide program that will train high school students to work at the Seniors Centre in Wabasca has begun.</li> <li>• Holly Handfield shared that there is preliminary work going on with Grant MacEwan for a Registered Nurse program in Wabasca.</li> </ul>	<p>Bring stakeholder list to next meeting for members to work on.</p> <p>Dalique to present at the next HAC meeting.</p>

<p><b>5.4. Advisory Council Officer Update –</b> Shannon Gallant, Advisory Council Coordinator</p>	<p>Shannon provided a full report. Topics from the report are listed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tell your story in a storytelling video</li> <li>• Recruitment campaign update</li> <li>• Annual satisfaction survey</li> <li>• Top 5 – 10 concerns</li> <li>• Important action items for 2019 meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ March 2019 meeting: 2019/2020 Work Plans. Moved by Debbie Rose that the 2019/2020 workplan be approved. <b>MOTION CARRIED.</b></li> <li>○ May 2019 meeting: 2018/2019 Annual Reports</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Advisory Councils’ member profiles</li> <li>• Kudos</li> <li>• 2019 Advisory Councils’ Fall Forum <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ October 25 &amp; 26th in Edmonton</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<p><b>6. Next Meeting</b></p>	<p>Date: May 6, 2019 Time: 5:00 – 8:00 p.m. Location: Wabasca / Desmarais Healthcare Centre</p>	
<p><b>7. Meeting Evaluation and Adjournment</b></p>	<p>Moved by Connie McKee to adjourn the meeting at 3:50 p.m.</p>	