



## Minutes - Oldman River Health Advisory Council

Tuesday Sept 17, 2019 12 to 3 pm

**Location:** Pincher Creek Health Centre, Multipurpose Room, 1222 Bev McLachlin Drive, Pincher Creek, Alberta

**Council Members Present:** Brad Gillespie (Chair), Chad Beck, Fred Bosma, Clifford Elle, Henry Heinen, Brian Hammond, Doug Thornton & Kim Schaaf (via telehealth)

**AHS:** Katherine Chubbs, Dr. Michael Auld, Thomas Mountain, Andrea Jackson & Christine Osunde

**Public:** Seven

**Regrets:** Gerri Eagle Speaker, Georgette Fox

<i>Agenda Item</i>	<i>Discussion</i>	<i>Action</i>
<b>Welcome and Introductions</b>	Brad Gillespie welcomed attendees to the meeting and acknowledged the meeting being held on Traditional Treaty 7 Lands.	
<b>1. Approval of Agenda</b>	Moved by Henry Heinen that the agenda for September 17, 2019 be approved. <b>MOTION CARRIED.</b>	
<b>2. Approval of Minutes</b>	Brian Hammond proposed grammatical changes to the minutes. Moved by Cliff Elle that the changes be accepted and the minutes for May 14, 2019 be approved. <b>MOTION CARRIED.</b>	
<b>3. Presentations</b>		
<b>3.1. Public Comments</b>	Dick Burnham (outgoing Oldman River Health Advisory Council member from Pincher Creek) shared that on September 30, the 2019 RhPAP Rhapsody Awards take place from 11 -2 pm. This year's Rhapsody Health Heroes award is being awarded to the Pincher Creek Respiratory Therapist Team (Tess Craig and Larissa Lewis). Dick also shared that the clinic which is based at the hospital in Pincher Creek facility is overcrowded. Currently local physicians are serving between 900 - 1300 clients each. There is also a physician leaving at the end of the year.	

	<p>Suzanne Curran, Trustee with the Windy Slopes Foundation shared what the Foundation is currently working on. The foundation is raising funds for equipment and for the facility to enhance services for patients. It has received phenomenal community support from many businesses in the community. Chad Beck asked if there is an organization like the foundation Suzanne works with elsewhere? Suzanne responded there is, in Fort McLeod.</p> <p>Brad Gillespie gave a summary of what the role of the Health Advisory Council is and does for the group to ensure public members understand the HAC's role.</p>	
<p><b>4. Presentation</b></p> <p><b>4.1. AHS Harm Reduction Services,</b> Krista Worobec, Harm Reduction Lead, South Zone</p>	<p><b>Krista Worobec</b>, Harm Reduction Lead, South Zone, delivered a presentation on Harm Reduction Services provided in South Zone.</p> <p>Harm reduction means those policies, programs and practices that aim primarily to reduce the adverse health, social or economic consequences of the use of legal and illegal psychoactive substances without necessarily reducing consumption.</p> <p><b>AHS Harm Reduction for Psychoactive Substance Use Policy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implemented February 8, 2019 across all service delivery areas;</li> <li>• All employees including medical and midwifery staff, students, volunteers and persons acting on AHS behalf are expected to support patients using substances and their families based on a harm reduction approach;</li> <li>• Policy, backgrounder and FAQ is available online at <a href="http://www.ahs.ca/harmreduction">www.ahs.ca/harmreduction</a>.</li> </ul> <p><b>Policies and Principles</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Patients have the right to receive equitable, non-judgmental and evidence-based health care regardless of substance use;</li> <li>• Abstinence is not required to receive health care services;</li> <li>• Provision of low threshold services and support for patients in setting their own unique goals;</li> <li>• Adopt-a-patient and family-centered approach as appropriate;</li> <li>• Respect and human dignity without judgment, stigma and/or discrimination;</li> <li>• Involve individuals with lived experience.</li> </ul>	

<p><b>4.2. Organizational Review,</b> <b>Katherine Chubbs,</b> Chief Zone Officer, South Zone</p>	<p><b>Staff Education</b> Drugsafe.ca, Community based Naloxone program, Opioid Dependency Therapy, Physical Education, Drug Alert South Zone.</p> <p>Doug Thornton said people are concerned about drugs like Fentanyl and Carfentanil. He questions if there's been any thought given to how addictive drugs are distributed? Rather than from the local dealers, would harm reduction be reduced if we could have AHS provide a safe supply?</p> <p>Krista responded there's a lot of advocacy around safe supply. AHS operates the Cardston Opioid Dependency Program and there are many private clinics throughout South Zone offering opioid dependency treatment.</p> <p>Thomas Mountain, Senior Operating Officer Emergency, Critical Care, Women &amp; Children's Health advises there are treatment programs for managed alcohol, methadone and opioid replacement. Prescribed medications have a combination effect of replacing the receptors in the brain that crave the substance while stabilizing the individual to be functional. These are the best practice standards of care for individuals with an opioid addiction. Suboxone is designed to replace the opioid so you don't have the same mind altering effects and it pulls the opioid out of the receptors. The goal standard is with therapy and counselling.</p> <p>Chad asked if day treatment is effective for those being treated who then walk out and overdose. Thomas said it's about keeping people alive and healthy until they're ready to be medically supported through social and medical detoxification. Once detoxed, patients are engaged in treatment, but it depends on the persons supports. It's about finding the menu of services to meet the patient's needs, including lifelong engagement to ensure they don't go back to the lifestyle.</p> <p><b>The Oldman River Health Advisory Council Meeting went 'In Camera' during Katherine Chubbs presentation and discussion of Organizational Design.</b></p>	
<p><b>5. Old Business</b></p>		
<p><b>5.1. Business arising from May 14, 2019</b></p>	<p>Andrea Jackson provided an update of the following action items from the May 14, 2019 meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Auld to enquire about committed physician recruit. Colin will share the provincial policy with Andrea, to share with Council. <b>Complete.</b></li> </ul>	

<p>Advisory Council Coordinator</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Auld will confirm the communication process (re: RhPAP suggestion to improve communication between physician resource planner and attraction and retention committee). <b>Complete.</b></li> <li>• Colin will share the provincial policy with Andrea, to share with Council. <b>Complete.</b></li> <li>• Dr. Auld will provide Andrea information on the medical oncologist. <b>Complete.</b></li> <li>• Andrea will advise Community &amp; External Relations leads of Brad’s reelection and action re: position of Vice Chair. <b>Complete.</b></li> </ul>	
<p><b>6. New Business</b></p>		
<p><b>6.1. South Zone Executive Leadership Update</b></p> <p><b>Katherine Chubbs</b>, Chief Zone Officer, South Zone</p> <p><b>Dr. Michael Auld</b>, Acting South Zone Medical Director</p>	<p>Katherine Chubbs provided an overview of her role and outlined initiatives happening in South Zone:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wait times, cost for care, workforce sick time - South Zone does a good job retaining staff.</li> <li>• Administrative costs are low in relation to the rest of the country (3.3-3.5 per cent). Care remains patient-centered while focusing on quality as AHS takes care that used to be provided in the hospital and moves it into homes. This model allows for more variety in the level of care AHS provides, and it works hard to provide the right type of care.</li> <li>• The provincial government recently announced 4000 new health beds for the province.</li> <li>• Mental Health – South Zone recently applied for a grant, so young adults are supported. 5 positions for the whole zone to look at priorities for enhancing care.</li> <li>• AHS is working hard to advance the Indigenous Health Strategy. Chinook Regional Hospital is building a culturally welcoming environment with art work. Pincher Creek Hospital has an Indigenous Liaison position. The Zone received a \$1.5M grant to create an Indigenous navigation system. The goal is to improve navigation and improve how AHS works with and respects Indigenous people.</li> <li>• AHS is working to strengthen its leadership team using mentorship roles and providing support, to further aide recruitment efforts in the Zone.</li> <li>• South Zone went through an accreditation and was given recommendations that have already been implemented.</li> <li>• Another major piece of work in South Zone, senior’s health meeting the standards.</li> <li>• Two areas of improvement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Patient Advisors</li> <li>2. In Patient Care AHS is rolling out support and mentorship started in January and by March 2019 there was twenty percent in improvement.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Connect Care is a priority for AHS and the workload, is intensive while AHS prepares for its launch. It will implement a standard of practice that all health care practitioners will use, creating a bridge for</li> </ul>	

	<p>communicating within AHS. South Zone will implement Connect Care all at once, mid-way through the roll out of the program. It will begin in March 2020, and will roll out within six months.</p> <p>Cliff Elle shared information about Connect Care saying it will eliminate all paper. <a href="#">MyAlberta digital ID</a> will allow Albertans to see their blood work results. Connect Care is a patient-focused program that will improve communication among health care professionals.</p> <p>Suzanne Curran said the Windy Slopes Foundation is hosting and paying for a Resiliency Training Session in October for 100 participants. Teachers, EMT, fire fighters, and nurses are invited and will learn about PTSD and how to support each other.</p> <p>Pincher Creek Mayor, Don Anderberg, provided an overview of the services in Pincher Creek. There are over 100 plus service organizations and volunteer groups supporting a population of 3700 residents. Pincher Creek is a service centre with approximately 360 licensed businesses and the hospital is the town's largest employer.</p> <p>Challenges in the community include transportation of patients between Pincher Creek and Lethbridge; the desire to have medical imaging offered in town as opposed to traveling to Lethbridge; the belief that the hospital has the capacity and capability to support more services.</p> <p>Dr. Michael Auld shared that Dr. Jack Regehr has resigned from his position.</p>	<p>Katherine asked Suzanne to send additional information about the resiliency training session.</p> <p>Christine to follow up with Mayor Don Anderberg re a possible presentation to the HAC on transportation.</p>
<p><b>6.2. Report from Council Chair,</b> Brad Gillespie</p>	<p>Brad Gillespie provided an update on the AHS review currently underway by Ernst and Young. Katherine Chubbs encourages HAC members to fill out the Ernst and Young survey because it's their chance to be heard.</p> <p>Katherine asked if the HAC has noticed any change to services since the Zone has made modifications. Brad responded he has seen an improvement in services for the better. Doug Thornton added he has heard only positive feedback.</p>	<p>Katherine will provide further information on the work of Ernst &amp; Young.</p>
<p><b>6.3. Advisory Council Coordinator</b></p>	<p>The following highlights were provided by Andrea Jackson, Advisory Council Coordinator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome to new members and introduction of Christine Osunde;</li> <li>• <b>Recruitment</b> for new members will continue until vacancies are filled;</li> <li>• <b>HAC Review</b> – Hope to have recommendations implemented by early 2020</li> </ul>	<p>A working session will be arranged on October 2 to finalize</p>

<p><b>Update</b> Andrea Jackson</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Social Media, South Zone Community Zone Feedback, Together4Health</b></li> </ul>	<p>Top Concerns document.</p>
<p><b>6.4. Council Roundtable &amp; Good News Stories</b></p>	<p>Chad Beck inquired about the status of Chinook Regional Hospital’s new wing? Katherine responded the Zone has used funding it received to build two units, with extra space for growth and that it is no longer an active construction project.</p> <p>Brian Hammond is interested in learning more about the Indigenous Navigation Project and the meaning of providing more diverse options for health care. Katherine suggests a presentation be made on the project. She adds work is underway in addictions and mental health and the HAC will be engaged to assist in creating the next operational plan in 2020. Another avenue of information is Seniors Quality Work which will be available shortly.</p> <p>Brian asked for clarification on what a childcare bed is. Katherine explained it’s a children’s mental health bed. Brian also suggested it would be nice to have ELT attend a HAC meeting to share the work it is doing and engage members.</p> <p>Henry Heinen shared a personal story about becoming a grandfather.</p>	<p>Christine to follow up on presentations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Indigenous Navigation project.</li> <li>2. Addictions and Mental Health will engage the HAC in the development of the plan.</li> <li>3. Seniors Quality Work</li> </ol>
<p><b>4. Next Meeting</b></p>	<p>Date: Tuesday, November 19, 2019 Time: 12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Location: Chinook Regional Hospital, Room 2C117</p>	
<p><b>5. Meeting Evaluation and Adjournment</b></p>	<p>Moved by Brian Hammond that the meeting be adjourned at 3:10 p.m.</p>	

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