



Minutes – True North Health Advisory Council

May 31, 2018 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Rainbow Lake Community Health Services

Council members present: Michael Osborn (Chair), Rick Cartier, Joyce Fehr, Mary Janzen, Liane Mercredi, Wally Schroeder, Wendy Ward

AHS : Dr. Albert de Villiers, Shannon Gallant, Susan Given, Cathryn Janzen, Angie Mann, Susan Smith

Public: 14

Regrets: Wilma Cardinal, Dan Fletcher, Eric Jorgensen, Noreen McAteer

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
1. Approval of Agenda	Moved by Wally Schroeder that the May 31st, 2018 agenda be approved. MOTION CARRIED.	
2. Approval of Minutes	Moved by Wally Schroeder the March 21st, 2018 minutes be approved. MOTION CARRIED.	
3. Presentations 3.1. Mental Health and Addictions Update Susan Givens- Executive Director, Addiction and Mental Health & Population and Public Health NZ, Cathryn Janzen- Sr. Advisor Human Resources	Susan Givens provided an update on addiction and mental health services in the area. Following are some highlights: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An interim manager has been put in place for the next six months. There has been extensive recruitment for the management position. • There are three vacancies for Mental Health Therapists. Two interviews are occurring next week. • There are two RN vacancies that are currently being recruited for. • There is coverage for the missing positions, currently a part time Mental Health Therapist is working two extra days a week. Also a clinical educator is travelling from Grande Prairie three days a week. • They have been using the locum program for Registered Nurses. • A pilot telehealth model is being used to see clients. This requires approximately one staff to see a client and one staff is currently working part time to support this. 	



- AHS is working on contracting agencies for immediate service provision from Manning and Peace River.

Q: Where is the six month interim manager based out of?

A: She is based in Grande Prairie and will travel up regularly.

Q: Where will the permanent manager be based?

A: Ideally the manager will be based in the community. The position location is flexible as the position covers the geographical areas 1 and 2. There is a clinical supervisor who is based full time in High Level and the manager will also be travelling regularly.

Q: Will the RNs being recruited have experience in mental health?

A: Yes they will. The aim is to recruit a registered psych nurse, but they may accept others if they have mental health experience.

Q: Have the doctors in the region been updated on the plan for mental health especially the possibility of telehealth being an option?

A: Yes, a detailed update has been provided about services and recruitment strategies.

Q: Council requested a staffing update for the September 2018 meeting.

A: Yes, that can be provided.

Q: There have been two suicides in two First Nations' communities. What has AHS been doing?

A: Resources in Area 1 have increased, but the issue is the five vacant positions. They are working on the Telehealth process and some part time staff is stepping up. There are different services being put in place but it has been difficult to follow as different agencies are involved. Health Canada has sent out a crisis team. AHS has gone out and Alberta Health is involved as well. Susan will follow up with Liane Mercredi on this.

Q: There was a mental health facilitator taken out of Fort Vermillion that was needed. Will this position return?

Susan to send a written update.
Shannon to share with HAC.



	<p>A: That position was a provincial position with a focus on the school divisions. The base for that position was moved to Peace River for recruitment reasons. The supports should still be continuing. More information will be brought to the September meeting.</p> <p>Q: For the pilot telehealth model, residents from Rainbow Lake are travelling to High Level. Can they use telehealth in Rainbow Lake?</p> <p>A: Susan said she will look into this and let Rick Cartier know.</p> <p>Q: Every meeting we do a physician recruitment report. Can we do the same thing for mental health?</p> <p>A: Yes, we can, until the positions are filled.</p>	
<p>3.2. EMS Update Rob Barone, Associate Executive Director EMS North Zone</p>	<p>Rob Barone provided a full update on EMS, some of the highlights included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A history of EMS in Alberta • An overview of EMS in the province and the area • Some success included Medical Control Protocol, Medical Oversight, Stroke Ambulance, Quality Assurance Program, Community Care Paramedic Program Pilot, Learning & Development Program, Centralized Dispatch, Technologies • Some current challenges are around recruitment and retention and system capacity. Some strategies to address this include international recruitment, adding more non-ambulance transfers, new dispatch technology and working to improve ambulance usage coordination. <p>Q: What is the backfill policy? At times the ambulance from Rainbow Lake goes to another community and it isn't back for five hours.</p> <p>A: This is a common question we hear throughout the province. EMS works to strategically place ambulances where they believe an event is going to happen. This is done in looking at historical data. They can weigh out what the probability of another event happening is and then try to strategically use the resources based on this.</p>	<p>Presentation from Rob to be sent out to HAC.</p>



	<p>Q: Could non-ambulance transfers be used in this area? A: There isn't a high enough call volume in the area at this time. Q: We need more advanced care paramedics in this area. A: This is a challenge. It is hard to recruit to this area.</p>	
<p>3.3. Cannabis- Dr. Albert de Villiers, Medical Officer of Health</p>	<p>Dr. de Villiers provided a thorough presentation on the cannabis legislation. Following are some of the highlights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nearly half of the people in Alberta have tried cannabis. • This legislation is designed around the public consumption of cannabis and not medical cannabis. • Alberta's Cannabis Framework • Public Health priorities • Health effects • Harm Reduction and what responsible and lower risk means • Support for municipalities <p>Q: How close are they getting to be able to measure impairment from cannabis? A: Currently the tests can detect cannabis in your body from up to a month ago or if someone nearby may have been using it. There is a talk about creating a saliva test that would be able to determine if the person is currently impaired. Q: Are there are some diseases that you can pick up from cannabis use? A: Psychosis and mental health concerns can be impacted by cannabis use and there are some forms of cancer that are more prevalent with cannabis use.</p>	
<p>3.4. AHS Area Update, Angie Mann, Director, Clinical Operations</p>	<p>Angie Mann provided a full update. Following are some of the highlights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area 1 is working with the AHS Locum Team to support RN vacations. Area 1 is also working with the Locum team for continued support for vacant positions • The head nurse position in Fort Vermillion has been filled. The successful candidate's start date is August 2018. 	



- A new allied health manager has been hired and started last week.
- Two RN homecare positions were filled in La Crete and a site manager was hired for La Crete.
- Fort Vermillion has had an acting site manager for a year. The permanent site manager will return in June.
- The new beds have arrived at area facilities. There was an issue with the cribs not fitting in the doors at Fort Vermillion that is currently being addressed.
- The Northwest Health Foundation has been fundraising for palliative care suite upgrade across the area. The Foundations next event is the duck race in Fort Vermillion at the end of the July. The foundation would like to put a donor tree at the Rainbow Lake Health Care Services building.

Q: Can we bring the health care aide program to Rainbow Lake?

A: This was a pilot program and Paddle Prairie is now joining. Area 1 will address the request from Rainbow Lake.

Area 1 has been chosen for a pilot project for a health promotion project. The plan is to make a road map and algorithm of the services that are available in each community. This will help build community members awareness of what programs exist so that they can access the help they need.

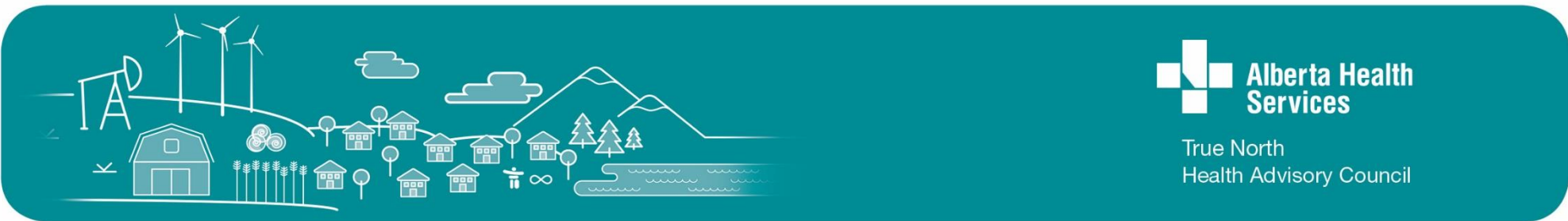
Susan Smith shared that RhPAP is planning a skills day in Peace River and are working with a broad spectrum of providers. Perhaps the program could come to the area again.

3.5. Voices of the Community

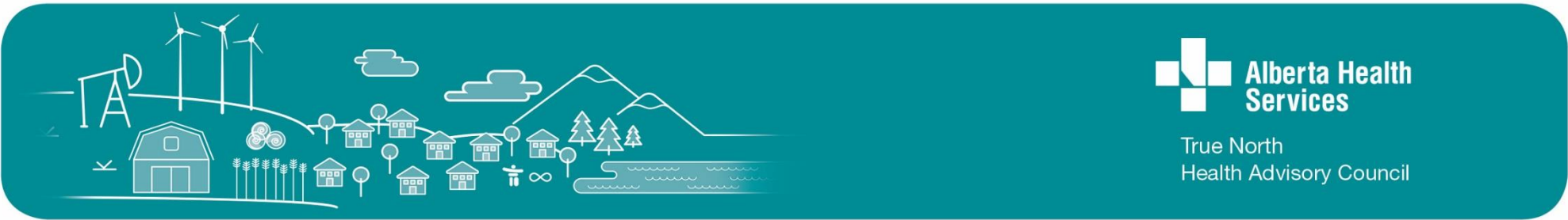
The manager of Husky Oil in Rainbow Lake provided an update. Husky has been in Rainbow Lake since 1965. The company completed an evaluation on flights in and out and decided that it was not currently a business model they could sustain. Husky has had some issues with recruitment. Business is increasing. In 2017, there were three drills completed. They are planning on eight drills this year. Husky celebrated mental health week and did activities with their staff



<p>4. Old Business</p> <p>4.1. Business Arising from Previous Meetings, Shannon Gallant, Advisory Council Coordinator, AHS</p>	<p>Following are outstanding action items from the previous meeting(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A What We Heard document to be created to answer specific questions. Incomplete. • Set up telehealth at La Crete to join in to the next True North HAC meeting at Rainbow Lake. Complete. • An invite for the meeting in Rainbow Lake needs to go out. Invite Dene Tha' First Nation, Rainbow Lake town council and EMS next meeting in Rainbow Lake. Completed. • Request PCN report for Rainbow Lake meeting 	<p>A What We Heard document to be created to answer specific questions.</p> <p>Invite PCN to September meeting.</p>
<p>5. New Business</p>		
<p>5.1. Physician Recruitment Report – Susan Smith, Physician Resource Planner, AHS North Zone</p>	<p>Susan Smith provided a full update on physician recruitment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new physician is coming to High Level. They need to complete a three month assessment in another community first. The hope is that the physician starts before Christmas. The staff in High Level did a great job hosting the couple. • Fort Vermillion is working with two possible new doctors. • La Crete is working on getting doctors to come through the locum program. • Since January there have been eight new physicians and two specialists in the area. <p>Q: Is the new recruit in High Level a specialist? A: She is a family physician.</p> <p>Q: What are the chances for Fort Vermillion? A: AHS is currently working with them and trying to get locums to cover one of the doctors who are sick.</p>	



<p>Advisory Council Officer Update Shannon Gallant, Advisory Council Officer</p>	<p>Shannon Gallant provided a report. Following are the highlights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advisory Council Satisfaction Survey- Next Steps • Workplan Approval 2018-2019 • Annual Reports • Advisory Councils’ Fall Forum Planning Update • Questions for the Fall Forum • Promotion of Tools sample <p>Moved by Rick Cartier to approve the work plan. MOTION APPROVED. Moved by Mary Janzen to approve the annual report. MOTION APPROVED.</p>	
<p>5.2. Council Roundtable & Good News Stories</p>	<p>Joyce Fehr shared concerns for a privacy issue at the La Crete Community Health Centre and the need for mics when registering. Joyce will follow up with Angie Mann.</p> <p>Rick Cartier shared that the Northern Incentives in the area are lower than Fort McMurray. This could be a barrier for recruiting staff.</p> <p>Mary Janzen shared the need for a hospital closer La Crete as the community must travel to High Level or Fort Vermillion for many services.</p> <p>Q: Where was management support when there was risk of flooding at the Fort Vermillion hospital? A: A letter was sent out by Greg Cummings. The letter is to be shared with council.</p> <p>Q: Is there training for birth and delivery in rural areas for staff? A: Yes they are all trained.</p> <p>Q: Do we have a timeline for when the doors at the La Crete Ambulatory Care will be modified for wheel chair access? A: We will look into this.</p>	<p>Send out letter from Greg Cummings to HAC members about Fort Vermillion flooding</p> <p>Contact Mike Linn about timeline for doors at La Crete Ambulatory Care Centre</p>
<p>6. Next Meeting</p>	<p>Wednesday September 26th at the Paddle Prairie Communiplex, 5:30 – 8:30 p.m.</p>	



7. Meeting Evaluation and Adjournment	Moved by Wally Schroeder to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m.	
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