



Yellowhead East Health Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

March 17, 2021 /5:00 pm – 8:00 pm/ Zoom

ATTENDEES & INTRODUCTIONS	
Members	Cyndy Heslin (Chair), Sarah Hissett (Vice-Chair), John Erkelens, Lesley Hansen, Agnes Hoveland, Deb McMann, Stephanie Munro, Maya Rathnavalu, Glenys Reeves, Taneen Rudyk, Leah Taylor
AHS	Maya Atallah, Allan Sinclair, Debora Okrainetz
Public	Four
Welcome & Introductions	Cyndy welcomed all in attendance and went through introductions. Cyndy provided a land acknowledgment.
Approval of previous minutes	October 22, 2020 minutes were reviewed and approved by consensus.
STANDING ITEMS	
Action items from the previous meeting	<p>No action items from the October 22, 2020 meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deb will ask the Lloydminster Region Health Foundation to provide more communications about the status of the renal dialysis units' move from the Lloydminster Hospital to the Health Foundation office in Lloydminster. Complete • Glenys and Deb will inquire who has access to mammogram screening services in Lloydminster. Complete • Deb will look into concerns about lab appointments in Wainwright. Complete
Alberta Health Services Zone Update	<p>Allan Sinclair, Senior Operating Officer, Rural Acute Services, Central Zone, shared the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • His retirement announcement. • Alberta Surgical Initiative (ASI) in Central Zone. • Alberta going into a new phase for vaccination. For more information on the vaccine, phases visit the Alberta Health Page or the AHS COVID-19 Vaccine Page. • Challenges to fill vacant FTE central zone for additional support staff are met with challenges. • COVID-19 Family Support and Visitation of Patients measurement and why they are certain measure are in place to protect the safety of seniors. More information can be found on the Visitation in Acute Care page.



	<p>Deb, Area Director, Central Zone, provided operational updates for the towns of Provost, Wainwright, Vegreville, Manville, Lloydminster, Two Hills, and Lamont. Deb shared there will be a change to her portfolio as she covers temporary for a college. Non-health care aides have been hired to support supportive living and long-term care sites in rural Alberta. Their focus is to work on the senior’s mental wellbeing. Deb gave an update to recruitment in Provost, Two Hills, and Wainwright. Infrastructure updates happening in Vegreville and Manville. Deb announced that Alberta Health Services has partnered with the University of Calgary to provide a Baccalaureate in Nursing (B.N.) degree program at the Wainwright Health Centre. Deb mentioned the COVID situation in Central Zone and the impacted areas included specific sites in Vermillion and Lloydminster. She mentioned the importance of continuing to follow the Alberta Health guidelines. Accreditation Canada will be viewing the central zone sites unannounced within a month to ensure we are performing best practices for more information on the accreditation work that has happened with AHS can be found here.</p>
<p>Community Partners</p>	<p>Colleen Lindholm, Rural Community Consultant with Rural Health Professions Action Plan (RhPAP), shared updates with Council. Highlights include – introduced Anita Fagan as the newest member of the RhPAPs team working with Central Zone. RhPAP is celebrating its 30th anniversary. The Let’s Go Rural event, for rural Alberta high school students interested in what a pathway to medical school was shared; more Information on preparing for medical school can be found here. Originally scheduled for October 6 to 8, 2020 in Drayton Valley, the RhPAP Community Conference has been rescheduled to take place in the same location from May 25 to 27, 2021 is now once again postponed till 2022 date TBD.</p>
<p>Council Round Table</p>	<p>The following was shared by Council members in their communities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Town of Wainwright will be naming a green space, Dr. Beverly Brilz Park. Dr. Brilz was honored with the Rural Health Professions Action Plan (RhPAP) Rhapsody Physician Award as Alberta's rural physician of the year back in May 2020 and has been working in the community since 1982. • The Camrose Mental Health Symposium is on Zoom April 14 & 15 from 8:00 am-12:00 pm to build resilience & enhance current mental health services in Camrose & rural Alberta. • Bi-provincial meetings between the two ministries of Saskatchewan Health Authority and Alberta Health Services are resuming meetings, processes, and great discussion happening. • In 2017, the City of Lloydminster's Social Programs and Services Department partnered with the Lloydminster Regional Health Foundation to conduct a social needs assessment designed to engage residents and measure indicators relating to social well-being. That assessment is getting an update to their mental health and additions assessment to identify possible gaps.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flagstaff Family & Community Services Community Adult Learning has a series of webinars happening. Topics include tax season, mental health and wellness, and fitness and nutrition. • Mental Health and Addictions services needed in Central Zone <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ poverty and homelessness tied to addictions ○ the opioid crisis showing an increase in rural ○ after-hours clinics needed, so community members do not resort to going to emergency departments • Health Care Aide Certificate is now being offered in Vegreville through the Red Deer College, for more information visit The Red Deer College Page. • Vaccine rollout in communities is being met with both confusion and excitement. There is still some confusion from the Central Zone communities on where to go to get the vaccine, who is eligible, and what the difference between the different vaccines is? Misinformation on social media is added to the confusion. <p style="margin-left: 40px;"><i>Maya shared that ongoing community conversations are happening in all zone to help provide some clarity to similar questions. More information on upcoming events can be found on the Together4Health Page. There are different AHS sites as well as select pharmacies offering the vaccine to find a booking site visit this bookings page on AHS.</i></p> • Family and Community Support Services of Vegreville and District are running a seniors' Link-In Calls (SLIC) phone-based program that offers adults health and well-being topics and at-home recreational activities. • Many appreciation events happening in Vegreville and Beaver County to thank health care workers and physicians for their services in the community. • The Community Together is a great program in Ryley that connects the community and checks in to ensure the members are well and connected. • Communities are still fearing the retention of their local physicians and how Alberta Health may have an impact on this.
<p>Action Item(s)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maya will share with community engagement that another COVID-19 material is needed, such as a one-pager information page with graphics that community members can share on social media. • Maya will follow up to ensure that HAC members are invited to the community conversation session on COVID. • Deb will be looking into after-hours mental health services and the work that is happening to offer services through PCN.



NEW BUSINESS	
Presentation(s)	<p>Co-designing a Better System to Support Family Caregivers. <i>Dr. Jasneet Parmar, Medical Lead, AHS Edmonton Zone Homecare & Transitions, and Dr. Sharon Anderson, Research Coordinator at University of Alberta</i></p> <p>The presentation explained what is known about Family Caregivers in Alberta, why they are important, the effect of the COVID- 19 pandemic, and how to support them in maintaining their health. A Caregiver Centered Competency-Based Education module was also introduced. For more information and to become competent in this framework, visit www.caregivercare.ca</p>
Elections	<p>Cyndy Heslin put forth an expression of interest for the position of Chair. Maya Atallah asked three times if there were any further nominations from the floor. Moved by John Erkelens that nominations cease. MOTION CARRIED. Cyndy Heslin was declared Chair of the Yellowhead East Health Advisory Council by acclamation.</p> <p>Taneen Rudyk put forth an expression of interest for the position of Vice Chair. Gerry Greschner asked three times if there were any further nominations from the floor. Moved by Glenys Reeves that nominations cease. MOTION CARRIED. Taneen Rudyk was declared Chair of the Yellowhead East Health Advisory Council by acclamation.</p>
Action Item	<p>Maya will share the names of the newly elected Chair and Vice Chair with the AHS Board.</p>
Date of Next Meeting	<p>Date: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 – Engagement Event Time: 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm Location: Online via Zoom. Contact community.engagement@ahs.ca for details</p>

Our meetings are open to the public. Dates and locations are [available here](#).
[Find your Health Advisory Council here](#). Visit [Together 4 Health](#) (T4H) to engage with AHS online.