



Wood Buffalo Health Advisory Council Work Commitments 2023 - 2026

Topic	Commitment
Seniors Care	<p>Wood Buffalo Health Advisory Council (WBHAC) has identified barriers for senior's receiving the care they need, including limited local services, lack of home supports (e.g., home care; rehabilitation) and travel/ distance. Council commits to increase its awareness of available senior's resources and supports by inviting AHS (and community groups, as applicable) to present at its Council meetings. Council will invite the public and members will share information within their networks.</p>
Health Professional Workforce	<p>WBHAC seeks to understand and build awareness about health profession staffing in the HAC area. It has identified mental health practitioners and family physicians as areas of need. Council commits to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invite AHS physician recruitment planners to its regular public meetings to provide updates on progress made to its workforce. • Share information gleaned from AHS with member networks. • Partner with Rural Health Professions Action Plan (RhPAP) to host an information session on the process of attracting health professionals to rural areas. • Invite local Primary Care Networks (and other community groups) to meetings to increase awareness of broader services available within the community.
Addiction & Mental Health	<p>Council is passionate about the health and well-being of the people in its communities. It seeks to increase its understanding of available services and programming, where there are gaps, and where it can support AHS in improving awareness among the public. Council commits to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Host information session(s) where public is invited to learn about: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ services provided by local AHS and community organizations (panel). ○ strategies while awaiting addiction treatment or detox. ○ what to expect post-treatment/ detox (next steps; follow-up). ○ pediatric mental health services. ○ sharing of firsthand (patient) stories.
Access to Services	<p>Council seeks to gain better understanding of how to access various AHS services. Council commits to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inviting AHS programs to present about: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ cancer treatment services in the HAC area; ○ travel options to attend appointments out of the area;



- understanding differences between services available in rural vs. urban centres.