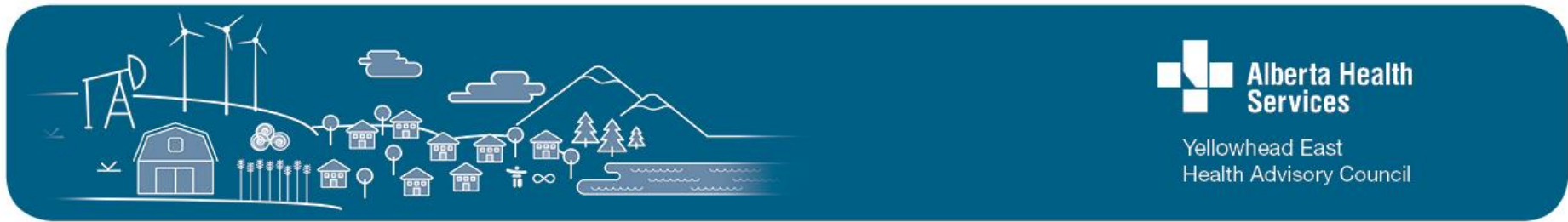


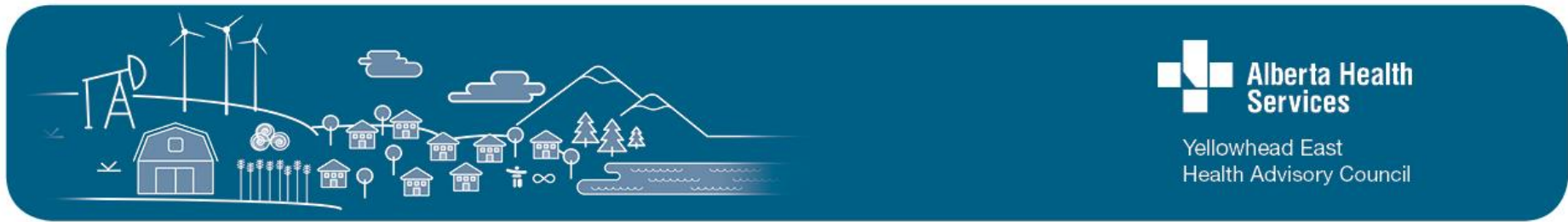
Yellowhead East Health Advisory Council (YEHAC) Meeting Minutes

February 8, 2024 /5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. / Zoom

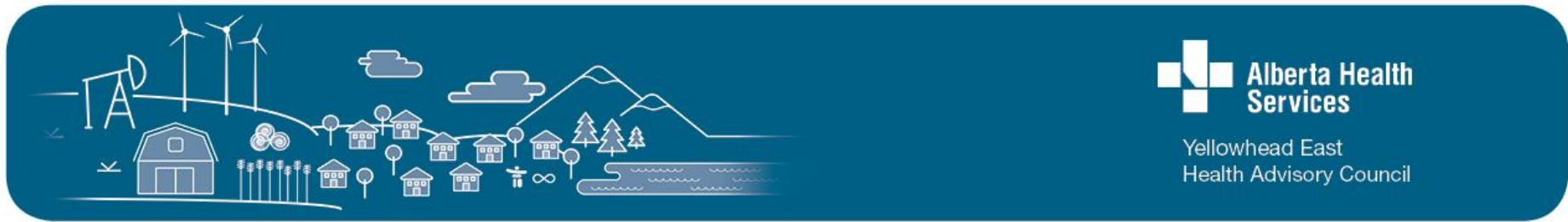
ATTENDEES & INTRODUCTIONS	
Members	Allen Dietz (Chair), Brett Huculak (Vice Chair), Judy Acres, Bradely Adams, John Erkelens, Don Gulayec and Norm Martineau
Regrets	Lori Barber, Cyndy Heslin, Agnes Hoveland, Tianna Klein, Shana McIntyre, Stephanie Munro and Maya Rathnavalu
Alberta Health Services (AHS)	Maya Atallah, Leanne Grant, Janice Stewart (Chief Zone Officer, Central Zone), Valerie Thompson
Welcome, Land Acknowledgement & Introductions	Allen welcomed all in attendance, facilitated introductions and provided a land acknowledgment.
Approval of Previous minutes	September 28, 2023, minutes require the year to be corrected and a spelling error in Judy’s last name and are then approved by consensus.
STANDING ITEMS	
Action items from the previous meeting	<p>All actions items from September 28, 2023, meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deanna to email hip and knee surgery information to Council when it is available from Janice. (COMPLETE) Deanna to follow up with Yvonne if the Tree of Life slide can be shared with the public and if 811 advertises to all FCSS’s. (COMPLETE)
Central Zone Executive Leadership Update	<p>Janice Stewart, Chief Zone Officer - Central Zone, provided the following update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Client Directed Invoicing is coming to three pilot sites in the zone (Camrose, Drumheller and Red Deer) starting January 2024. This is a new home support service delivery model that supports client choice, an alternative to AHS Contracted Service Providers, AHS Health Care Aides or Self-Managed Care. Clients select an eligible Care Provider Agency to provide services up to a maximum number of preapproved hours per month, as authorized by AHS. Capital projects in the area: Rocky Mountain House Hospital - development of a new operating room and Medical Device Reprocessing (MDR) processing area; Wetaskiwin Hospital and Care Centre major redesign of the Emergency Department; Wainwright and Vermilion Health Centres are also in early discussions about having renovations done. Wainwright is welcoming five Internationally Educated Nurses (IEN). The service disruption in Two Hills resulted from a shortage of lab staff. They came to a successful resolution by hiring someone into the vacant position.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborative transition teams are actively contributing to the formalization of the shift from continuing care under AHS to the newly structured Alberta Health system. Notably, addiction and mental health services (now called mental health and addiction) are in the process of being transitioned to Alberta Health. To learn more about ongoing focus groups in the area or gather information about upcoming structural changes, please visit the Refocusing health care in Alberta website.
<p>Council Round Table</p>	<p>The following was shared by Council members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Two Hills Lodge Foundation is helping to address a concern in the area regarding housing. The foundation is making strides in providing housing, meals and housekeeping services for an affordable cost to the community. • Staffing vacancies in Two Hills are slowly being filled but there are still some shortages in critical areas such as dietitians, physicians in acute care, and environmental services. • On Monday, February 5, two Council members participated in the Refocusing Health Care engagement sessions organized by Alberta Health in Camrose. Their overall experience was positive. During the first half, Alberta Health presented their timeline and reasons behind the proposed changes. The second half involved interactive discussions where community members were encouraged to share their feedback and ask questions. Notably, details about the structure and functions of the new councils were not discussed. • Hearing from nurses that they strongly desire to express their concerns, primarily centered around the need for time off. The lack of sufficient time off is causing stress, leading to a growing inclination to transition to part-time work. • On February 6, 2024, the Holden Lodge had an open house. The open house was organized to brainstorm ideas and explore potential solutions as there is a concern in the Beaver County area about maintaining the lodge's operations due to vacancies. • Viking has welcomed six medical interns since July. The challenge is securing housing for them. A newly established recruitment and retention committee is now in place to address this issue and to ensure the interns are retained. • The Hardisty Health Centre has been delivering excellent care and it is encouraging to witness the reopening of emergency services at that location. • A representative from the Yellowhead East HAC will participate in the Lloydminster and District Health Advisory Council meetings, aiming to effectively gather health-related insights for the betterment of Lloydminster. • Lloydminster Kidney Care Alberta will be included in the upcoming launch of Connect Care 8, scheduled for implementation on May 8. A persistent issue remains in accessing medical records in Lloydminster which is attributed to the dual provincial ministries of health and varying privacy policies in effect. This situation continues to be a source of frustration.
<p>Voices of the Community</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greg Thronson, Mayor of Vermilion, shared the positive things happening in Vermilion regarding healthcare, including the recruitment of new physicians. He also thanked AHS and the Yellowhead East Health Advisory Council for all the work they do.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A community member from Lloydminster expressed concern about the Sober Living and Outpatient Program at the Residents in Recovery closing, due to the lack of funding.
Report from the Chair	<p>Allen Deitz provided the following update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He appreciates meeting Janice monthly. • On March 8 he will attend the refocusing engagement sessions organized by Alberta Health in Lloydminster. • He has been attending various meetings to help spread awareness about the Yellowhead East HAC. • He has heard the timeline for physicians to get approval to begin working is up to three months. • There is a need for change to the ambulance matrix - community members are frustrated as vehicles are not being used. • The future of HACs is uncertain therefore vacancies are not currently being filled.
Report Rural Health Professions Action Plan (RhPAP)	<p>Anya Langkow, Rural Community Consultant with RhPAP, provided an update that was emailed to council and community members which included the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge Now Series, RhPAP Student Supports - February 15, 2024, at 11 a.m. • The RhPAP Rhapsody awards nominations are now open. • The Let's Go Rural! High School Events and Post-Secondary Experience Expression of Interest (EOI) is now open. • RhPAP is excited to announce the Town of Wainwright will host the biannual Rural Community Health Provider Attraction and Retention (A&R) Conference October 8-10, 2024.
Advisory Council Coordinator	Annual reports and work plans are posted online for those interested. The annual satisfaction survey is closed and results will be shared shortly with the council.
NEW BUSINESS	
Presentation(s)	<p>Mental Health and Addictions Services in the Area - Maribela Arruda-Block, Director, Community Addictions & Mental Health</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Services in the Yellowhead East Area were shared. They include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Community Clinics - mental health therapy and addiction counselling ○ Coordinated psychiatric care ○ Inpatient programs ○ Specialized services ○ Crisis Response Services which includes the Crisis Response Teams, the Child and Adolescent Stabilization Team and the Rural Police and Crisis Response Team



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Opioid Dependency Program ○ Shunda Creek Recovery Centre ○ Centre of Excellence
Action Items	Maribela has given permission to Maya to share the PowerPoint with those in attendance.
Date of Next Meeting	Date: Thursday, April 11, 2024 – Community Engagement Event Time: 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Location: Zoom