



## Lesser Slave Lake Health Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, May 2, 2022 / 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. / Zoom

ATTENDEES & INTRODUCTIONS	
<b>Members</b>	Susan Giesbrecht (Chair), Lindsay Davies (Vice-Chair), Robin Guild, Lorraine Muskwa and Norman Wang
<b>AHS</b>	Aaryn Lynham, Cindy Harmata, Dalique Van der Nest, Shauna Wallbank, Kathleen Arnold, Sheri Neuman, Krystal Smith
<b>Regrets</b>	Edna Boucher, Fay Cardinal and Lindy Fors
<b>Public</b>	6
<b>Media</b>	Joe McWilliams, Slave Lake Leader
<b>Welcome &amp; Introductions</b>	Susan welcomed all in attendance and went through introductions. Susan provided a land acknowledgment. Lindsay shared some information about Health Advisory Councils.
<b>Approval of minutes</b>	February 7, 2022, minutes were reviewed and approved by consensus.
STANDING ITEMS	
<b>Action items from previous meeting</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Aaryn to circulate finalized virtual Labour &amp; Delivery Department tour when complete, with high quality photos. <b>Done</b></li> <li>✓ Aaryn to publicly share meeting dates for 2022 / 2023 once determined. <b>Done</b></li> <li>✓ Dalique to share promotional information about the Opioid Dependency Clinic in High Prairie. <b>Done</b></li> <li>✓ Dalique to determine FTE in High Prairie, Wabasca and Slave Lake dedicated to child mental health. <b>Done</b></li> </ul>
<b>Alberta Health Services Zone Update</b>	<b>Dalique van der Nest, Executive Director, Allied Health, North Zone</b> , provided a written report with information about workforce recruitment, capital projects and major events and initiatives specific to the local area. She also provided highlights from the North Zone Operational Plan and performance measures and initiatives. An update on COVID-19, the novel coronavirus, was provided. Information on its impact and measures to reduce spread are changing daily. Visit <a href="http://www.ahs.ca/covid">www.ahs.ca/covid</a> for the most up to date information.
<b>Community Partners</b>	<b>Anita Fagnan, Rural Community Consultant with Rural Health Professions Action Plan (RhPAP)</b> , provided information on several free virtual learning opportunities available for rural community members. Visit the <a href="#">events page</a> for more detail. Alberta Rural Health Week is May 30 – June 3, 2022. Use the hashtag #RuralHealthMatters to celebrate and visit <a href="http://ruralhealthweek.ab.ca">ruralhealthweek.ab.ca</a> for more information. Access the RhPAP toolkit at <a href="http://rhpap.ca/about/alberta-rural-health-week">rhpap.ca/about/alberta-rural-health-week</a>



	<p>The 2022 Rural Community Health Provider Attraction and Retention (A&amp;R) Conference, “Put on Your Perspectacles” is October 4 – 6 in Drayton Valley. Registration opens June 1, 2022. Visit <a href="http://rhpap.ca">rhpap.ca</a> for more information</p> <p>RhPAP has developed a Rural VIP (Rural Information Panel) as a regular monthly feedback process using online surveys. All Health Advisory Council members, community champions of local health, are encouraged to join. <a href="#">Sign up here</a> using the password “RURALVIP”. Email <a href="mailto:ruralvip@rhpap.ca">ruralvip@rhpap.ca</a> with questions.</p>
<p><b>Physician Recruitment Report</b></p>	<p><b>Shauna Wallbank, Physician Resource Planner</b>, provided the following physician resource update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High Prairie – there are currently six family physicians, including two with additional skills. Two physicians in family medicine are incoming.</li> <li>• Slave Lake – there are currently nine family physicians, including four with additional skills. There are three candidates being interviewed to meet the recruitment target of one additional family medicine physician.</li> <li>• Wabasca – there is currently one family physician. Dr. Tarig Suliman began practicing on March 28 and two additional family medicine physicians will begin shortly, meeting the recruitment target of three family medicine physicians.</li> <li>• In 2022, 13 new family medicine physicians have been recruited, along with one new specialist across the North Zone.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Presentation(s)</b></p>	<p><b>Alberta Healthy Living Program</b> Kathleen Arnold, Sheri Neuman &amp; Krystal Smith; Self-Management &amp; Diverse Populations Coordinators, AHS</p> <p>Highlights of the presentation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learned about the Alberta Healthy Living Program (AHLP) and its free workshops designed to help Albertans better manage chronic conditions. Programming topics include: diabetes, heart and stroke education, weight management, stress management, chronic pain or chronic conditions management, supervised exercise and COPD education. To learn more about the AHLP in the North Zone, visit <a href="http://www.healthylivingprogram.ca">www.healthylivingprogram.ca</a></li> <li>• A new program, the Diabetes Self-Management Health Coach Program, is a free phone support program to help Albertans manage their diabetes and connect with a peer coach. <a href="#">Visit the link to register.</a></li> <li>• <b>NOTE:</b> AHLP can work with local community groups who want personalized programming for a specific session, tailored to meet their group’s education needs.</li> </ul>



	<p><b>Discussion Questions:</b></p> <p><i>Q. How do people with internet or technology barriers learn about, or have access to, this programming?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partnerships with libraries, community or recreation centres, adult learning centres, post-secondary institutions (i.e. CAREER Pathway School outreach campus, Northern Lakes College, Bigstone Community School, Mistassiniy School)</li> <li>• The buddy system, making connections with other community members, could help people feel more comfortable going into public places to be information-seeking, or to participate in activities.</li> </ul> <p><i>Q. How do people become informed and interested in engaging with the new Diabetes Peer Health Coaching program?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finding community role models who could be strong coaches with lived experience, enthusiasm and a willingness to help other people, and using their experience as testimonials to encourage others to get involved.</li> <li>• Advertise on social media with geographic targeting. Can be a good way to get in contact with individuals with diabetes, or to create awareness within communities.</li> </ul> <p><i>Q. How can better partnerships be built with Indigenous groups? What does the AHLP program need to do differently to provide value to these communities?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An ideal approach would be co-development and co-delivery of programming with Indigenous partners to reach a specific group. Advice is to connect with Health Directors from each of the First Nation Health Centres, as each Nation has its own system and will know best how to reach their communities.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Voices of the Community</b></p>	<p>A public member asked about physician and nurse practitioner recruitment for High Prairie. AHS is working with talent acquisition to recruit for those positions in the area, as well as local teams, to support candidates as they integrate into the community to increase retention.</p>
<p><b>Council Round Table and Good News</b></p>	<p>Susan Giesbrecht asked about current COVID-19 numbers for the HAC area. AHS is not currently collecting this data, but there are no active outbreaks in Area 6. There is one unit “on watch” that could potentially become an outbreak; it is being monitored closely.</p> <p>Members representing Wabasca were pleased to hear the Zone Leadership Update for their area as many ongoing issues will be solved soon for the community, based on coming changes.</p>



<b>Actions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dalique to share links about the potential closure of the High Prairie clinic, including contact information.</li></ul>
<b>NEW BUSINESS</b>	
<b>Date of Next Meeting</b>	Date: Monday, September 19, 2022 Time: 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. Location: TBD

Our meetings are open to the public. Dates and locations are [available here](#).  
[Find your Health Advisory Council here](#). Visit [Together4Health](#) (T4H) to engage with AHS online.