



## Lesser Slave Lake Health Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

September 25, 2023 / 6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. / Northern Lakes College – Slave Lake – Hybrid

ATTENDEES & INTRODUCTIONS	
Members	Terri Rosser (Chair), Edna Boucher, Kevin Buffalo, Susan Giesbrecht, Robin Guild, Jennifer Horsnall, Norman Wang
AHS	Jo Blakley, Deanna Dament, Janet Farney, Lisa Laferriere, Julie Rudkowski and Dalique Van der Nest
Regrets	Calvin Badger, Sara Blake, Fay Cardinal, Richard Mifflin, Lorraine Muskwa, Ann Stewart, Shauna Wallbank
Public	Four, including Joe McWilliams – Lakeside Leader and Chad Bowers, Constituency Manager, Lesser Slave Lake
Welcome & Introductions	Terri welcomed all in attendance, provided a land acknowledgement, went through introductions, and went through housekeeping items and shared information about Health Advisory Councils.
<b>Approval Agenda and previous minutes</b>	Monday, September 25, 2023, agenda and June 12, 2023, minutes were reviewed and approved by consensus.
<b>Presentation:</b>	<p><b>Alberta Adolescent Recovery Centre (AARC)</b> Ciara Brady, Community Outreach Specialist – Alberta Adolescent Recovery Centre (AARC)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alberta Adolescent Recovery Centre provides long term treatment for youth and young adults aged 12-21 who are struggling with alcohol/substance abuse despite negative consequences.</li> <li>• Treatment provides support for the entire family as adolescent addiction has an impact on all family members.</li> <li>• E-mail: <a href="mailto:cbrady@aacr.ab.ca">cbrady@aacr.ab.ca</a>; website: <a href="http://www.aarc.ab.ca">www.aarc.ab.ca</a></li> </ul>
STANDING ITEMS	
<b>Action items from previous meeting</b>	<p>Action items from June 1, 2023, meeting – Completed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jo to get poster from Shane regarding the Indian Residential School Gathering #2 (Grouard) to distribute to members.</li> <li>• Jo to confirm with Shane regarding the availability of the Northern Lakes College meeting room for next meeting on September 25, 2023.</li> </ul>
<b>Alberta Health Services Zone Update</b>	<p><b>North Zone Update – Dalique Van der Nest, Executive Director, Allied Health &amp; Volunteer Resources, North Zone</b> shared the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Seniors Health – Community Support Team</u>: The team is hiring four new Transition Coordinators to assist acute care in: Fort McMurray (1.0), Slave Lake (0.84), Cold Lake (0.84) and Valleyview (0.84).</li> </ul>



- **Wildfire Response:** AHS, including North Zone Addiction and Mental Health, Public Health, and Seniors Health offered support through provision of resources and in-person supports to wildfire evacuees throughout May and June. Success in navigating and building partnerships has supported the ability to ensure the best use of resources for everyone involved in supporting the health needs of evacuees.
- **Addiction & Mental Health:** North Zone Addiction and Mental Health has been actively working to enhance access to numerous workshops and groups intended to support a range of topics including: Wellness Exchange, Relationship Skills Series, Learning to Live with Anxiety Series, Recover Management, Transform Your Stress: The Resilience Advantage™, Caring for Youth Series, [Navigating Addiction & Mental Health Services Info Session](#) and [Understanding Addiction Info Series](#).
- **Pediatric Rehabilitation:** AHS continues to make quality improvements to pediatric rehabilitation services by strengthening access and wayfinding to the nineteen local pediatric rehabilitation teams within geographic corridors of the North Zone, improving on intake, triage, case management, etc. In addition:
  - New provincial “standards of care” (guidelines) for services provided to children with speech sound disorders has been implemented.
  - A new, grant funded “North Zone Pediatric Rehab Support Team” will be in existence for a full year in October and has helped 19 local teams with 50+ complex care plans such as eating, feeding & swallowing, augmentative communication, sensory and behaviour, etc.
  - The first Indigenous Wellness Coordinator has been hired for pediatric teams, which is hoped to help AHS be more culturally sensitive and appropriate in its approaches to care. Public can visit helpful webinars that cover multiple developmental and health topics – [Webinars \(alberta.ca\)](#).
- **Volunteer Resources (VR) Program:** to learn more about volunteer opportunities with AHS, visit the Volunteer Resources [website](#).
- **Public Health - Alberta Breast Cancer Screening Program:** Screen Test is a provincial screening service that works to educate and increase the number of women, aged 50 to 74, who have regular breast cancer screening using mammograms (breast x-ray). Screening is the best way to find breast cancer early, when treatment has the best chance of working. To learn more, visit the Screening for Life [website](#).
- **Enhancing Access to Public Health Services in Rural Communities throughout the North:** To see the official AHS post on Instagram visit the link: [TELUS Health for Good and Radius Community Health & Healing - Medical Van](#).



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Seniors Health – North Zone Continuing Care Access (CCA)</u> received 13,980 referrals from January to July of 2023 compared to 12,418 from January to July of 2022, reflecting a 13 per cent increase in total referral volumes.</li> <li>• <u>Seniors Health – Community Support Team:</u> The Community Support Team (CST) completed 873 client referrals in 2022, with fifty active files carried over to 2023. The CST has completed 468 client referrals between January and July 2023, and is working on ninety active files.</li> <li>• <u>Seniors Health – Palliative Care Team:</u> The Palliative Care Team (PCT) team continues to experience increased numbers of new referrals. The PCT received 143 referrals in June 2023 and 96 referrals in July 2023.</li> <li>• <u>Seniors Health - Complex Care Support Team:</u> The Complex Care Support Team (CCST) continues to experience increased numbers of new referrals. it received fifty-two new referrals in June 2023 and 41 referrals in July 2023.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Physician Recruitment Report</b></p>	<p><b>Shauna Wallbank, Physician Recruitment Update AHS North Zone – Area 6</b>, provided an electronic copy of her report to Council prior to the meeting. Janet Farney, Interim Director- Area 6, Clinical Operations North Zone answered any questions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High Prairie – 7 family physicians in the community.</li> <li>• Slave Lake – 7 family physicians in the community; 1 family medicine physician and 1 family medicine physician with anesthesia are incoming.</li> <li>• Wabasca – 3 family physicians in the community; 1 family medicine physician is incoming.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Community Partners</b></p>	<p><b>Holly Handfield, Manager, Community Development and Engagement &amp; NW Rural Community Consultant, Rural Health Professions Action Plan (RhPAP)</b>, shared updates, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• October 10 – Virtual conversation sessions geared toward high school students will be held. The “How Do I Get There? Nursing Careers” series will walk students through various roles within the nursing profession, post-secondary experience and how to secure employment once they have graduated.</li> <li>• Host the 2024 RhPAP Conference – for more information visit: <a href="#">2024 Conference</a>.</li> <li>• Visit the events page periodically for registration and details on upcoming sessions as they are added: <a href="#">RhPAP Events</a>.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Report from Chair</b></p>	<p><b>Chair Terri Rosser report the following:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Forum 2024 will be May 31 – June 1, 2024.</li> <li>• Terri attended the Council of Chairs meeting in Edmonton on Friday, September 15, 2023, where chairs discussed concerns and issues with other communities including the wildfires, evacuations; what worked well and what didn’t, as well as most communities share the same problems regarding healthcare.</li> </ul>



<p><b>Report from Advisory Council Coordinator Update</b></p>	<p>Jo Blakley shared information on the upcoming October Learning Series:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health Link 811 - Wednesday, October 11 @ 12 – 1 p.m.</li> <li>• AHS Leadership Update - Wednesday, October 18 @ 6-7:30 p.m.</li> <li>• Community Engagement 101 - Wednesday, October 25 @ 6-7:30 p.m.</li> <li>• Building Trust-Session #1-Monday, October 30 @ 12-1:30 p.m. <b>OR</b> Session #2-Monday, November 6 @ 12-1:30 p.m.</li> </ul> <p>Deanna Dament, who will work with Council as a Coordinator in the new year, introduced herself.</p>
<p><b>Council Round Table</b></p>	<p>There were broad comments about province wide staffing shortages and the critical need for mental health and addiction supports in the Council area. Community mental health concerns are related to increased death by suicide, and drug use.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Slave Lake – Susan Giesbrecht</b> commented on the long waiting times to see a doctor in Slave Lake. Johan van der Nest, Manager, Slave Lk Family Care Clinic commented that the learning and implementation of Connect Care has likely slowed things down, temporarily.</li> <li>• <b>Wabasca-Desmarais – Norman Wang</b> reported there has been three recent suicides in Wabasca, and one shooting in September. Norman also spoke of the importance of awareness of addiction prevention.</li> <li>• <b>Driftpile - Kevin Buffalo</b> shared that since the last council meeting he has been doing <a href="#">artwork</a> that is being displayed at Slave Lake Hospital Auxiliary Long Term Care. He also shared there have been positive reactions from the community regarding the LSLHAC.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Action Item(s)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lisa Laferriere requested information on Kevin Buffalo’s artwork at Slave Lake Hospital Auxiliary Long-Term Care.</li> <li>• Kevin Buffalo to get information regarding a site tour for Council at the Driftpile Healing Lodge and confirm with Jo.</li> </ul>
<p><b>NEW BUSINESS</b></p>	
<p><b>Date of Next Meeting</b></p>	<p><b>Date:</b> Monday, January 29, 2024.  <b>Time:</b> 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.  <b>Location:</b> Virtual</p>