



Cancer Provincial Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

May 26, 2022 | 1:30 – 5:00pm | Delta Edmonton South

ATTENDEES & INTRODUCTIONS	
Members	Wendy Plandowski (Chair), Andrea DeYoung (Vice-Chair), Leanne Anderson, Mark Armstrong, Soulafa Al-Abbasi, Jill Bernhart, Sheena Clifford, Diane Huband, Marilyn Hundleby, Wanda Redel, Wally Sinclair
AHS	Karen Horon, Brenda Hubley, Dean Ruether, Mark Joffe, Nicole Merrifield, Monica Schwann, Barb O’Neill, Douglas Stewart, Huiming Yang, Shaffina Jiwa
Regrets	Leanne Anderson, Jill Bernhart, Sheena Clifford, Diane Huband
Public	0
Welcome & Introductions	Wendy opened the meeting with Acknowledgement of Traditional Lands. Wendy welcomed all in attendance. Round table introductions were made.
Approval of previous minutes	March 12, 2022 minutes were reviewed and approved by consensus.
STANDING ITEMS	
Action items from previous meeting	<p>Action items from the March 12, 2022 meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribute to members the seven animated videos being used to increase awareness of why breast, cervical, and colorectal cancer screening is important. UPDATE NEEDED • Further discussion on the Commitments/Priorities document and how the initiatives can be actioned. UPDATE NEEDED • Cancer Care Alberta leadership to tour and host a future meeting at the new Calgary Cancer Centre IN PROGRESS • Cancer Strategic Clinical Network (SCN) to follow up with Sheena C. and Marilyn H. from Wellspring as they are interested in being brokers for community engagement – UPDATE NEEDED • PAC Chair and Vice-Chair to confirm if Alberta Cancer Diagnosis (ACD) will be a standing item on Cancer PAC agenda - – UPDATE NEEDED • Members to identify how they might engage locally and support ACD engagement efforts – UPDATE NEEDED



Council Round Table

The following was shared by Council members:

- Sadly, Lori Winship (Drayton Valley) who served as a Public Member on the Cancer PAC passed away on May 11th.
- A member reported receiving feedback from patients in the community that there is a gap in communication between their physician and the oncologist offices, in terms of testing and follow-up. CCA is aware of these challenges and taking action to address the issues through initiatives such as the *Alberta Cancer Diagnosis (ACD) Initiative*. The Cancer Strategic Clinical Network (CSCN) is co-designing a cancer diagnosis program which will facilitate single-point access for all cancer diagnosis pathways, timely access to appropriate diagnostic work-up and referrals and supports for Primary Care and patients
- Alberta Cancer Foundation:
 - The process to access the Patient Financial Assistant Program has greatly improved. Previously it took up to 6 weeks to process; currently the turn-around time is approximately 2 days.
 - The Mobile Breast Screening unit will fall under Soulafa's portfolio. Soulafa will be in touch with the appropriate individuals to communicate when the unit will be coming to their community.
- Wellspring Calgary
 - Doors to the centres opened to the public on May 2nd, after being closed due to the pandemic. Many programs are being offered both virtually and in-person. Clients have expressed great interest in resuming the in-person Alberta Cancer Exercise (ACE) Program.
 - During the pandemic, Wellspring partnered with CCA to co-create the *Indigenous Cancer Sharing Circle*, an on-line program welcoming patients and family members to meet with an Elder and other Indigenous patients, care-givers and family members. There will be four Elders involved with this program.
- Wellspring Edmonton
 - The Centre re-opened in Edmonton on May 2nd.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ As mentioned in March, one of the initiatives underway is the <i>Connecting Circle</i>. This evidence-informed program provides an opportunity to meet and share experiences. ○ As with WellSpringCalgary, there is a blend of on-line and in-person programs being offered in Edmonton.
<p>Quarterly Updates</p> <p>a) Cancer Care Alberta (CCA)</p>	<p>Brenda Hubley, Chief Program Officer, Cancer Care Alberta provided the following updates in addition to the written report which was included with the agenda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Drayton Valley Community Cancer Centre re-opened on Tuesday, May 24th, after being closed for the past several months due to staff and physician shortages. ● Cancer Care Alberta will look to plan a tour and host the October 22, 2022, Cancer PAC meeting at the new Calgary Cancer Centre. ● There have been challenges with recruitment and retention of medical physicists, particularly in Calgary. The shortage has created service disruptions, affecting a few patients who may need to travel to another cancer centre to receive their radiation therapy. Health care, in general, is experiencing human resources challenges. ● As indicated in the Cancer Care Alberta Update, there have been significant increases in patient visits and treatments this past year. It is expected that there will be an increase in cancer diagnoses after “normalized” activity resumes post-pandemic. ● The Future of Cancer Impact (FOCI) report will synthesize current data and evidence around cancer in Alberta which will identify opportunities and gaps to reduce the impact of cancer in Alberta over the next two decades. A draft copy of the report is available and the link is included in the CCA written update. ● AHS has appointed Mauro Chies as the Interim CEO (replacing Dr. Verna Yiu). Karen Horon has been appointed as the Interim VP for Cancer Care Alberta/Clinical Support Services, AHS. ● Launch of Connect Care in Cancer Care Alberta (all 17 sites) will take place on November 6, 2022. There is a tremendous amount of work underway in preparation for the Launch. The records for patients currently on treatment protocols will be converted from ARIA (CCA electronic medical records) into Connect Care. This will take a physician, on average, 20 – 45 minutes per file to translate. There are approximately 12,000 files which need to be converted in Cancer Care Alberta.



Action Item(s) from Standing Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribute to members the seven animated videos being used to increase awareness of why breast, cervical, and colorectal cancer screening is important. • Further discussion on the Commitments/Priorities document and how the initiatives can be actioned. • Cancer Care Alberta leadership to tour and host a future meeting at the new Calgary Cancer Centre.
NEW BUSINESS	
Presentations	<p>Anti-Racism Statement <i>Marni Panas, Program Manager, Diversity and Inclusion, Alberta Health Services</i> The objectives of this presentation were to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe AHS' commitment to provide an environment for its workforce "...which welcomes and celebrates diversity, to create culturally safe places for our people..." To this end the <i>Anti-Racism Advisory Group (ARAG)</i> was formed, with members recruited through the Ethnic Minorities Workforce Resource Group. The group's first key deliverable was the development of the AHS Anti-Racism Position Statement. • Describe the consultation process and the analysis of the data, which resulted in 36 recommendations, categorized under eight themes. • Identify the "Next Steps" which include training and education for staff ; leadership and workforce accountability; and presentations made to the various Foundations, Wisdom Council, and community partners. <p>Alberta Cancer Foundation (ACF) Major Campaigns <i>Christy Holtby, Vice President – Philanthropy, Alberta Cancer Foundation</i> The objectives of this presentation were to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe the Philanthropic Partner relationship with Cancer Care Alberta and the 17 cancer centres. • Introduce the OWN.CANCER campaign. ACF is partnering with the University of Calgary to raise \$250M in support of patient care and research vision for the new Calgary Cancer Centre. • Bring awareness to the WE CROSS CANCER campaign. The goal of the campaign is to raise \$30M by the end of 2022, to accelerate and create more 'made-in-Alberta' solutions for treating cancers by doubling the capacity for clinical trials at the Cross Cancer Institute.



Action Item(s) from Previous Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2023 meeting dates will be distributed and a calendar invite will be sent.
Date of Next Meeting	Date: Saturday, October 22, 2022 Time: 9:30am – 12:30pm Location: TBD

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