

Seniors and Continuing Care Provincial Advisory Council

2023-24 Annual Report



**Alberta Health
Services**

Senior & Continuing Care
Provincial Advisory Council

Message from Athana Mentzelopoulos & Dr. Lyle Oberg

As we reflect on the journey of the Seniors and Continuing Care Provincial Advisory Council (PAC), we do so with a profound sense of gratitude and appreciation. The dedication, passion, and invaluable contributions of each member has left an indelible mark on Alberta's healthcare landscape, touching countless lives across the province.

Since its beginnings, the PAC has served as a beacon of community engagement and collaboration, bridging the gap between healthcare providers and the diverse needs of Alberta. Your commitment to fostering dialogue, advocating for patient-centred care, and championing initiatives to enhance the quality of care in your respective communities has been truly commendable.

We are deeply indebted to the volunteers who have served on the PAC and who have generously devoted their time and expertise, along with their unwavering support to improving healthcare in our province. Your efforts have helped to shape policies, drive innovations and ensure the voices of Albertans were heard by decision-makers.

On behalf of Alberta Health Services, we want to extend our deepest gratitude to each and everyone of the members who served on the PAC. Your contributions will continue to inspire us.

Athana Mentzelopoulos
President and CEO, Alberta Health Services

Dr. Lyle Oberg
Executive Board Chair, Alberta Health Services

LEADERSHIP QUOTE

The Seniors and Continuing Care Provincial Advisory Council has had a transition this year as remaining original member's terms expired, and new members joined the group. The transition has been seamless, and the new members are picking up where former members left off. The discussions continue to be engaging and informative, and new members are stepping up to replace former members on existing committees. Through the restructuring of AHS, members continue to participate and to express their desire to remain as a voice for the evolution of continuing care in the province.

Dr. Jim (James) Silvius
Provincial Medical Director, Provincial Seniors Health & Continuing Care

WHO ARE WE



Row 1 L-R: Pat Esau (Chair), Diane MacNaughton (Vice Chair), Faith Akhile, Jill Chambers, Irene Donohue
Row 2 L-R: Julie Handrahan, Ken Hansen, Veronika Kiryanova, Susan MacDonald, Dakarai Mhlanga

I became chair of the Seniors and Continuing Care Provincial Advisory Council in September 2023 and am humbled to be able to do this work. We had nine members reach the end of their terms late December 2023. As this mostly new Council moves forward, we are indebted to the inaugural group for the legacy they provided us, and the work they accomplished. We welcomed new members in September 2023, and January 2024. All come with passion for Seniors and Continuing Care within Alberta. As chair, I look forward to creating an environment that carries on with robust discussion and diversity of thought and remains committed to Seniors within the ever-changing Alberta health care system. The new members and I are excited to further the work of the inaugural Council.

Pat (Patricia) Esau
Chair, Seniors and Continuing Care Provincial Advisory Council

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

The Seniors and Continuing Care Provincial Advisory Council (SCCPAC) is comprised of volunteer members who share their lived continuing care system experience with Alberta Health Services (AHS) to help improve the quality, accessibility and availability of continuing care services in Alberta. Members strive to capture lived experience and ensure patients and families are at the centre of all healthcare activities, decisions and teams. Working in partnership with AHS, Council considers existing and emerging topics related to continuing care and provides recommendations to the AHS Board and program and senior leadership for consideration. Our key achievement for the year include:

- Council participated on the Request for Expressions of Interest and Qualifiers for Home Care Services in Alberta, influencing parameters of new contracts for future use with operators who are considered pre-qualified for home care service delivery in the province.
- Members received information and provided feedback on Continuing Care Transformation including key areas, Shift to Care in the Community, Enhance Workforce Capacity, Increase Choice and Innovation, and Improve Quality.
- Council received information about AHS Connect Care and Continuing Care and discussed challenges for primary care providers and others requiring third-party access. Council provided feedback on opportunities Connect Care will create for continuing care clients across the province.
- 2023 saw term expiry of nine founding Council members. A warm farewell and great thanks for dedicated work wished to Diahann Polege-Aulotte, Irene Pirie, Jim Hubbard, Joan Monson, John Erkelens, Julie Kelndorfer, Linda Grant, Ray Clark and Susan Sommerfeldt.



THANK YOU MEMBERS PAST AND PRESENT

Ann Stewart
Dakarai Mhlanga
Della Robertson
Diahann Polege-Aulotte
Diane Therriault
Diane MacNaughton
Ejehi Faith Akhile
Fred Bosma
Gabrielle Kirk
Irene Donohue
Irene Pirie
Jill Chambers
Jim Hubbard
Joan Monson
John Erkelens
Judy Long
Julie Handrahan
Julie Kelndorfer
Ken Hansen
Linda Grant
Lou (Marylou) Henderson
Michelle Miller
Patricia Esau
Ray Clark
Susan MacDonald
Susan Sommerfeldt
Teresa Willigar
Veronika Kiryanova

**Apologies if anyone is missing from this list.*