



Transcript: "At the Core" video blog series with Dr. Verna Yiu

Dr. Yiu announces acceptance of the role of permanent President and CEO of AHS

May 31, 2016

Hello and thanks for joining me.

Today, I've accepted the role of permanent President and CEO of Alberta Health Services. I've been privileged to guide AHS on an interim basis since January, and it remains my honour to continue this work. But today's announcement is not about me, it's about you, and the support and encouragement you've given me over the past several months. It's about the Executive Leadership Team, and the Senior Leadership Team, whose passion, experience and knowledge have enabled the organization to keep moving forward on several important pieces of work. And, it's about us and the progress we've made together.

Now I must admit that I accepted the interim position with some worry and apprehension. I knew that it would be hard and that there would be a lot of pressure, and tough decisions would have to be made. But I reminded myself the role was interim, and decided to just do my best, and lead as I always have. But over the last five months I've been overwhelmed by what you've told me during my visits, and by what you've written in your emails to me and in your comments on my blog. When I'm not sure of myself your trust has given me the encouragement and confidence to keep going. When times get rough, your support and the support of the Ministry, the Board and AHS leadership has inspired me. And, together we've completed some important foundational work in the past five months, including the development of a new AHS Vision. In addition, we continue to respond with courage and compassion to one of the biggest disasters in Alberta's history.

In appreciation for your trust and support I vow to build on the momentum we've generated during this time of stability in our organization. In the weeks ahead we'll launch our refreshed Values, our remaining two Foundational Strategies, and of course our 2016-17 Health and Business Plan, which will guide our efforts and help us track our progress. Our next steps will involve pulling together our Vision, Mission and Values, our four Foundational Strategies, our Balance Scorecard and its four areas of focus, and our Health and Business Plan. This won't be easy but I'm optimistic because we have good governance, strong leadership and a workforce that shows time and time again that it's ready and capable of rising to any challenge.

Thank you for your support and for your hard work, dedication, and compassion you show each and every day. We still have a lot of work ahead of us, so let's do this together.