

# Lesser Slave Lake Health Advisory Council

2023-24 Annual Report



**Alberta Health  
Services**

Lesser Slave Lake  
Health Advisory Council

## Message from Athana Mentzelopoulos & Dr. Lyle Oberg

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As we reflect on the journey of the Health Advisory Councils over the past 15 years, it is with a profound sense of gratitude and appreciation that we bid farewell. The dedication, passion, and invaluable contributions of each member has left an indelible mark on Alberta's healthcare landscape, touching countless lives across our communities.

Since its beginnings, the Health Advisory Councils have 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 hundreds of volunteers who have served on the HACs 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.

While this marks the end of an era, we hope many of you are looking at new opportunities with Regional Advisory Councils, and have reached out to express your interest. The Health Advisory Councils may cease to exist in their current form but the bonds forged and the lessons learned will endure; the Regional Advisory Councils can benefit from their history and the commitment of those who have served.

On behalf of Alberta Health Services, we want to extend our deepest gratitude to each and everyone of the members who served on Councils over the past 15 years. Your contributions will continue to inspire us.

Athana Mentzelopoulos  
President and CEO, Alberta Health Services

Dr. Lyle Oberg  
Executive Board Chair, Alberta Health Services

### QUOTE FROM ZONE LEADERSHIP

*It has been my pleasure to work with many of our North Zone Councils. Our Council members are dedicated, community builders who are committed to healthcare in the North. I am appreciative of the diversity of opinions and experience that our Council members share leading to rich dialogue and discussion on topics that truly matter to those of us living in the north.*

Stacy Greening  
Chief Zone Officer, North Zone

# WHO WE ARE



Top L-R: Lorraine Muskwa (Interim Chair), Calvin Badger, Kevin Buffalo  
Row 2 L-R: Fay Cardinal, Susan Giesbrecht, Robin Guild, Jennifer Horsnall  
Row 3 L-R: Richard Mifflin, Shane Pospisil, Terria Rosser, Ann Stewart, Norman Wang  
Missing: Edna Boucher

“For every person from Lesser Slave Lake nothing is more important than our health. Self-care must be a priority both physically and mentally. Eight hours of sleep, good food, exercise and supportive family and friends are key. Equally important is quality, accessible health care by professionals. Lesser Slave Lake residents need to continue to have access to health care as a key component to our longevity. I have enjoyed my journey as a member of LSLHAC and will continue to be proactive in promoting a healthy lifestyle for residents of area.

**Susan Giesbrecht**

Former Chair and Council member, Lesser Slave Lake Health Advisory Council

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Since their inception in 2009, Advisory Council members have shared advice and feedback from their communities with AHS. They've held public meetings and engagement activities virtually or in locations throughout their geographic area that further contributed to improving healthcare services in Alberta.

Council continued building relationships through regular strategic planning meetings between the Chair, Vice Chair, AHS North Zone leadership and the Council Coordinator. These crucial touchpoints ensured consistent and open dialogue between AHS and Council, improving feedback to communities.

Council hosted a presentation at the fall public meeting on Community Outreach Specialist – Alberta Adolescent Recovery Centre (AARC). Those in attendance learned that the AARC provides long term treatment for youth and young adults aged 12-21 who are struggling with alcohol/substance misuse.

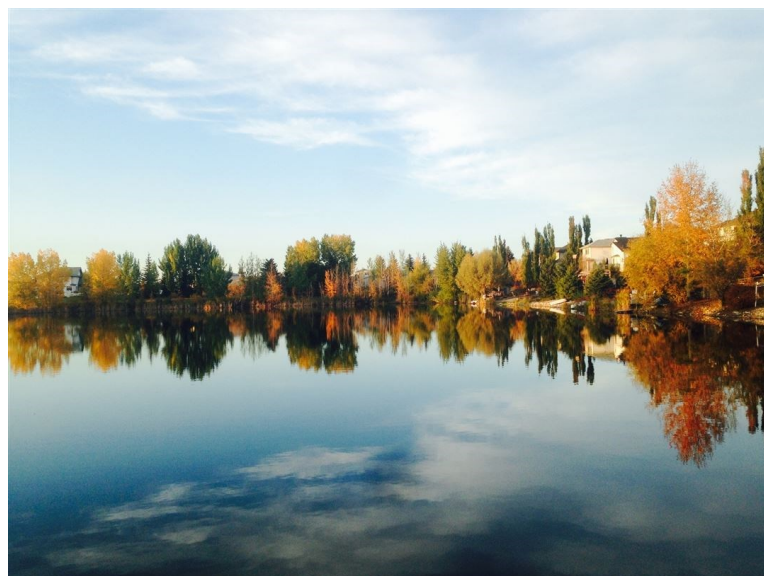
In February 2024, LSLHAC welcomed AHS Indigenous Wellness Core Advisor, Adam North Peigan to talk about the following work of the Indigenous Wellness Core, including:

- Implementation of the Indigenous support line.
- Implementation of an Indigenous Awareness and Sensitivity online course for all AHS staff.
- Policies and procedures on accommodating traditional spiritual ceremonies.

Lorraine Muskwa, LSLHAC Vice Chair and CEO of the Bigstone Health Commission (BHC) provided information on the services and resources it offers to the community.

## BY THE NUMBERS

- 22 public attended meetings and events through the year.
- 4 meetings and events between July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024.



# THANK YOU MEMBERS PAST AND PRESENT

Angel Meinecke	Ken Matthews
Archie Cunningham	Kevin Buffalo
Brian Rosche	Kim Courtoreille
Calvin Badger	Kirsten Dupres
Colleen Greer	Kirsten Sware
Connie McKee	Laura Frost
Dollie Anderson	Leonard Olson
Edith MacKenzie	Lorraine Muskwa
Edna Boucher	Louise Myre
Ernie Grach	Marian Wolitski
Ethel Member	Marilyn Emter
Fay Cardinal	Marilyn Delorme
Fern Welch	Mark Pickering
Frances Member	Nona Elliot
Gary Beeson	Norman Wang
George Key	Rick Dumont
Helen Taylor	Robin Guild
Janet Ross	Sharon Anderson
Janice Willier	Susan Giesbrecht
Jennifer Horsnall	Terri Rosser
Joy James	Tyler Warman*
Karina Member	

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

