



Oldman River Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

February 7, 2022 / 12:00 – 3:00 p.m. / Zoom

ATTENDEES & INTRODUCTIONS	
Members	Doug Thornton (Chair), James Bennett (Vice Chair), David Anderson, Colleen Bianchi, Debra Gazeley, Brad Gillespie, Brian Hammond, Victoria Koersen, Stephanie Leavitt, Anne Michealis, Laura Nelson, Carolyn Simonis
AHS	Christine Osunde, Linda Iwasiw, Dr. Aaron Low, Thomas Mountain, Colin Zieber, Gwen Wirth
Regrets	Henry Heinen, Betty Ann Little Wolf
Public	Two (22 total attendees)
Welcome & Introductions	Doug welcomed all in attendance, introduced Council members and Zone leadership, and provided a land acknowledgment. Jim Bennett provided the housekeeping segment.
Approval of previous meeting summary	The May 18, 2021 meeting minutes were reviewed and approved by consensus.
STANDING ITEMS	
Action items from previous meeting	All action items from the May 18, 2021 meeting are complete.
Alberta Health Services Zone Update	<p>Linda Iwasiw, Chief Zone Officer, South Zone, shared the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An update on COVID-19, as well as information on Omicron, its impact, and measures to reduce the spread in the South Zone. Up to date information can be found at: www.ahs.ca/covid. Information on who should be tested can be found at: COVID testing information. Self-care information on COVID-19 can be found at: COVID 19 Self Care Guide. An update was provided on EMS services and wait times. An update was provided on the current backlog of surgeries and surgical wait times. <p>Dr. Aaron Low, South Zone Medical Director, shared the following:</p> <p>An update was provided on physician recruitment in the South Zone, west:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are 71 active positions being recruited for: Three are currently at the letter of offer stage, awaiting return of contracts; Child Psychology is awaiting confirmation of immunization status, three are currently at the reference check



	<p>stage - two for Fort Macleod, and one for Family Medicine in Lethbridge. Interviews are ongoing for all positions. There are two recruited physicians under assessment both within the department of Rural Medicine.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The following five physicians have been recruited, who will start work in 2022: <table border="1" data-bbox="466 532 1858 873"> <thead> <tr> <th>Name of Committed Physician</th> <th>Clinical Activity Site</th> <th>Department</th> <th>Clinical Interest or Specialty</th> <th>Anticipated Independent Practice Start Date</th> <th>Additional Information</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Wickersham-Napier, Stephanie</td> <td>Raymond</td> <td>Rural Medicine</td> <td>GP</td> <td>Feb 1, 2022</td> <td>Replacement</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Payne, Judd</td> <td>CRH</td> <td>Medicine</td> <td>Infectious Diseases</td> <td>July 4, 2022</td> <td>New</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Patrick-Nwankwo, Genevieve</td> <td>CRH</td> <td>Family Medicine</td> <td>GP-Community</td> <td>July 15, 2022</td> <td>Replacement; Assessment start anticipated in March</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Adeyeri, Adetola</td> <td>CRH</td> <td>Family Medicine</td> <td>GP-Community</td> <td>July 15, 2022</td> <td>Replacement; Assessment start anticipated in March</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chikwanha, Adrian</td> <td>CRH</td> <td>Medicine</td> <td>Cardiology</td> <td>Aug 2, 2022</td> <td>Replacement</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Name of Committed Physician	Clinical Activity Site	Department	Clinical Interest or Specialty	Anticipated Independent Practice Start Date	Additional Information	Wickersham-Napier, Stephanie	Raymond	Rural Medicine	GP	Feb 1, 2022	Replacement	Payne, Judd	CRH	Medicine	Infectious Diseases	July 4, 2022	New	Patrick-Nwankwo, Genevieve	CRH	Family Medicine	GP-Community	July 15, 2022	Replacement; Assessment start anticipated in March	Adeyeri, Adetola	CRH	Family Medicine	GP-Community	July 15, 2022	Replacement; Assessment start anticipated in March	Chikwanha, Adrian	CRH	Medicine	Cardiology	Aug 2, 2022	Replacement
Name of Committed Physician	Clinical Activity Site	Department	Clinical Interest or Specialty	Anticipated Independent Practice Start Date	Additional Information																																
Wickersham-Napier, Stephanie	Raymond	Rural Medicine	GP	Feb 1, 2022	Replacement																																
Payne, Judd	CRH	Medicine	Infectious Diseases	July 4, 2022	New																																
Patrick-Nwankwo, Genevieve	CRH	Family Medicine	GP-Community	July 15, 2022	Replacement; Assessment start anticipated in March																																
Adeyeri, Adetola	CRH	Family Medicine	GP-Community	July 15, 2022	Replacement; Assessment start anticipated in March																																
Chikwanha, Adrian	CRH	Medicine	Cardiology	Aug 2, 2022	Replacement																																
<p>Voices of the Community</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A representative from the local school board thanked zone leadership for the update on recruitment. They indicated this valuable information will be shared at the next school board meeting. 																																				
<p>Community Partners</p>	<p>Julie Davis, Rural Health Professions Action Plan (RhPAP) Consultant, shared the following: RhPAP has organized several virtual learning opportunities for rural community members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rhapsody Awards: The Rhapsody Award nominations are now open! These awards provide an opportunity to recognize the individuals, teams, and volunteers who make significant healthcare and civic contributions within rural Alberta communities. Put on Your Perspectacles: The RhPAP ‘Attraction and Retention Conference’ has been scheduled for October 4 – 6, 2022 in Drayton Valley. RhPAP social media and publications: RhPAP continues to post stories from around the province on their social media channels. They welcome rural Alberta to share story ideas. To receive the RhPAP newsletter sign up here. 																																				



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RESIDE Program: RhPAP will administer RESIDE (Rural Education Supplement and Integrated Doctor Experience) for the Alberta Government, that will help students pay the costs of medical school. In exchange, students will complete residency training in rural Alberta and agree to practice in a rural Alberta community when their schooling is complete. Applications for this program open in February. Rural communities will attract new doctors alberta.ca
<p>Council Round Table</p>	<p>The following was shared by Council members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doug Thornton would like to see ORHAC meet in person for the upcoming April 5, 2022 meeting. • There are still several concerns around access to mental health in the zone and how this will be addressed, especially for rural residents. • An announcement will be placed in the Village Council Newsletter for Hill Spring, as well as Glenwood, about David Anderson being a new member on ORHAC who is representing the area. • The border at Coutts has been inundated by the trucking convoy and issues arising from emergency medical services that weren't able to get through. • The Calgary Cancer Centre is scheduled to open in 2023, and will be a world class facility with cutting edge technology. • A donation was sent to the AHS Taber Hospital site. The individual making the donation even included the cleaning lady, as everyone plays a role in taking care of the patients. • There was discussion about fiscal responsibility regarding the ambulances, as ambulances are tied up because EMS attendants are delayed waiting to off board patients. • Green Sleeve Information: Advance Care Planning: Keep important information in a Green Sleeve (alberta.ca) • Advanced care planning: Frequently Asked Questions Alberta Health Services • Completing your own directive: Personal Directive (gov.ab.ca) • Rural and senior grant funding for transportation: Grants – Community Foundation (cflsa.ca) • Two doctors have arrived at the Raymond Medical Clinic, easing community need for medical care.
<p>Action Item(s)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christine to follow up with Advisory Council Relations' team lead about meeting in-person for the April 5, 2022 meeting. (Complete) • Doug Thornton to email new members the end-of-life information from presentation by Daren Heyland MD, Professor of Medicine, Queen's University - Plan Well Planning Guide: Why Prepare and Plan for Serious Illness, Serious Illness Decision Making and Creating Your Own Plan. (Complete)



NEW BUSINESS	
Presentation(s)	<p>Rural Mental Health Project</p> <p>Jessica Turowski, Project Manager, Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CMHA is a nationwide organization that promotes mental health and supports people recovering from mental illness. The RMHP is community-based, seeking innovative solutions, while building positive mental health and wellbeing with locally driven priorities, plans and training. The goal of the RMHP is to build capacity and support collaborative mental health action plans that advance rural community mental health and wellbeing. To get involved, see the expression of interest at: www.RuralMentalHealth.ca. All communities with Animators can be found here: Community Stories (ruralmentalhealth.ca) To partner with the RMHP, email Jessica Turkoski at: Jturowski@cmha.ab.ca
Action Item(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Christine to circulate the Rural Mental Health Project presentation to Council. (Complete)
Date of Next Meeting	<p>Date: Tuesday, April 5, 2022</p> <p>Time: 12:00 – 2:30 p.m.</p> <p>Location: TBD Contact community.engagement@ahs.ca for details.</p>

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