



## Oldman River Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 5, 2022 / 12:00 – 2:30 p.m. / Zoom

ATTENDEES & INTRODUCTIONS	
<b>Members</b>	Doug Thornton (Chair), James Bennett (Vice Chair), David Anderson, Colleen Bianchi, Stephanie Leavitt, Anne Michealis, Carolyn Simonis
<b>AHS</b>	Christine Osunde, Linda Iwasiw, Dr. Aaron Low, Thomas Mountain, Colin Zieber, Gwen Wirth
<b>Regrets</b>	Debra Gazeley, Brad Gillespie, Brian Hammond, Henry Heinen, Victoria Koersen, Laura Nelson, Betty Ann Little Wolf
<b>Public</b>	One
<b>Welcome &amp; Introductions</b>	Doug welcomed all in attendance, introduced Council members and Zone leadership, and provided a land acknowledgment. Jim Bennett provided the housekeeping segment.
<b>Approval of previous meeting summary</b>	The February 7, 2022 meeting minutes were reviewed and approved by consensus.
STANDING ITEMS	
<b>Action items from previous meeting</b>	All action items from the February 7, 2022 meeting are complete.
<b>Alberta Health Services Zone Update</b>	<p><b>Linda Iwasiw, Chief Zone Officer, South Zone, shared the following:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An update on COVID-19 response and planning in the South Zone. Up-to-date information can be found at: <a href="http://www.ahs.ca/covid">www.ahs.ca/covid</a>.</li> <li>• PCR testing is available in Alberta. More information on who should be tested can be found at: <a href="#">COVID testing information</a>.</li> <li>• Self-care information on COVID-19 can be found at: <a href="#">COVID 19 Self Care Guide</a>.</li> <li>• Planning is underway for six new intensive care unit beds at Chinook Regional Hospital.</li> <li>• South Zone planning is underway and the Oldman River HAC will be asked to provide input during the year-long consultations. Topics include population needs, services required and innovative ways to deliver those services.</li> </ul> <p><b>Dr. Aaron Low, South Zone Medical Director, shared the following:</b></p> <p>An update was provided on physician recruitment in the South Zone, west:</p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There are 69 active positions being recruited for.</li> </ul>
<b>Community Partners</b>	<p><b>Julie Davis, Rural Health Professions Action Plan (RhPAP) Consultant, shared the following:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">RhPAP</a> welcomed new Chief Executive Officer, Tracy Sopkow, on March 1, 2022.</li> </ul> <p>RhPAP has organized several virtual learning opportunities for rural community members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>April 21, 2022 – AHS Talent Acquisition: Nursing and Allied Health</li> <li>May 19, 2022 – AHS Medical Affairs</li> <li>May 30-June 3, 2022 – Alberta Rural Health Week</li> <li>October 4-6, 2022 – Put on Your Spectacles Attraction and Retention Conference</li> </ul>
<b>Council Round Table</b>	<p><b>The following was shared by Council members:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The community of Coutts is happy to be part of the new doctor pilot program.</li> <li>Colleen shared the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) survey on Together4Health with members of her community, encouraging those in Coutts to have their say.</li> <li>Carolyn is happy to hear that general surgeries are taking place and hopes there will be no more stops in service delivery due to COVID.</li> <li>David continues to support the Council and AHS by printing off shareable information received by AHS and hanging it in the Hill Spring Post Office.</li> <li>Anne attended a rural mental health webinar for farmers and found it very insightful. She also sends shareable information to the local newsletter for inclusion.</li> <li>The Milk River Clinic is closed until the end of April. Community members are concerned how they will fill prescriptions and deal with emergent health-related concerns.</li> <li>Stephanie believes the conversation on advanced care planning is very important and is sharing the information in her community by planning a presentation for a local group she is a member of.</li> <li>Dr. Verna Yiu will be dearly missed by ORHAC and her contribution and service in her role as CEO &amp; President is much appreciated.</li> </ul>
<b>Action Item(s)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Doug to draft a letter thanking Dr. Verna Yiu for her contribution to AHS on behalf of Council.</li> <li>Christine to send out the Together4Health link to the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Survey. (Complete)</li> </ul>
<b>NEW BUSINESS</b>	



<b>Presentation(s)</b>	<b>Provincial Cancer Screening Programs</b> Monica Schwann, Director, Screening Programs and Healthy Living <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information was provided on Cancer Screening Programs including: the Newborn Metabolic Screening Program; Early Hearing Detection &amp; Intervention Program; Alberta Breast Cancer Screening Program; Alberta Cervical Cancer Screening Program; Alberta Colorectal Cancer Screening Program and the new Lung Cancer Screening Pilot Project.</li> <li>Email: <a href="mailto:Monica.Schwann@ahs.ca">Monica.Schwann@ahs.ca</a></li> <li>Website: <a href="http://www.screeningforlife.ca">www.screeningforlife.ca</a></li> </ul>
<b>Action Item(s)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Christine to send out the Provincial Cancer Screening Programs presentation. (Complete)</li> </ul>
<b>Presentation(s)</b>	<b>Senior's Health in the South Zone</b> Karen Fritz, Senior Operating Officer, Seniors Health provided the following information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continuing Care – levels of care, assessment and placement. Resources available at <a href="#">AHS Continuing Care</a>.</li> <li>Moving to a new home in Continuing Care (<a href="http://albertahealthservices.ca">albertahealthservices.ca</a>)</li> <li>Senior's in facility care during COVID             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Resident safety, mental health, staffing: Reviews (Health Quality Council of Alberta) <a href="#">HQCA Covid-19 CC Highlights 020221</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Action Item(s)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Christine to send out the Seniors Health in the South Zone presentation and additional senior's health information provided during the presentation. (Complete)</li> </ul>
<b>Date of Next Meeting</b>	<b>Date:</b> Tuesday, May 17, 2022 <b>Time:</b> 12:00 – 3:00 p.m. <b>Location:</b> TBD Contact <a href="mailto:community.engagement@ahs.ca">community.engagement@ahs.ca</a> for details.

Our meetings are open to the public. Dates and locations are [available here](#).  
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