



## Connection and communication motivate this aspiring doctor



*Chad Beck, Kauai Coffee Plantation,  
Hawaii, USA*

Learning about the human body and all its intricacies is a passion of Chad Beck, a relatively new member of the Oldman River Health Advisory Council (ORHAC). As a student of biological sciences at the University of Lethbridge (U of L), his education and personal experience supporting a family member through a long-term terminal illness are some of what motivated Chad to join the ORHAC.

“I heard about the Council from a friend and was intrigued by its aim of connecting with communities. I’m interested in learning what my broader community thinks about the health system and engaging in meaningful dialogue with AHS about it,” says Chad.

Chad says the Health Advisory Councils play an important role in developing and advancing healthcare, especially in discovering gaps and issues in the healthcare system. One of the areas that has caught Chad’s attention is the increasing discussion about mental health and drug consumption.

“I want to raise awareness about the lack of prevention for young people and I think it’s important we build new programs and provide facilities to help address these issues,” he says.

When it comes to healthcare, Chad has a sense of hope as a result of his membership on Council.

“When I hear the status on issues that were raised at previous Council meetings and efforts made to address them, I feel like we’re being heard,” says Chad. “I feel a genuine sense of contribution and satisfaction.”

Outside of the HAC, Chad stays busy working toward obtaining a Bachelor of Science degree, with the goal to one day becoming a doctor. He also volunteers with the Boys and Girls Club and the Pre-Med Club at the U of L. Chad enjoys travelling and has visited eight countries thus far. In his spare time he unwinds by riding or fixing motorbikes.

We’re recruiting new members. For more information on the Oldman River Health Advisory Council, and to apply, visit [ahs.ca/advisorycouncils](https://ahs.ca/advisorycouncils), or email [oldmanriver@ahs.ca](mailto:oldmanriver@ahs.ca).