

**Minutes – Palliser Triangle Health Advisory Council**

Monday January 22, 2018; 12:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Medicine Hat Regional Hospital, Level 7 Meeting Room

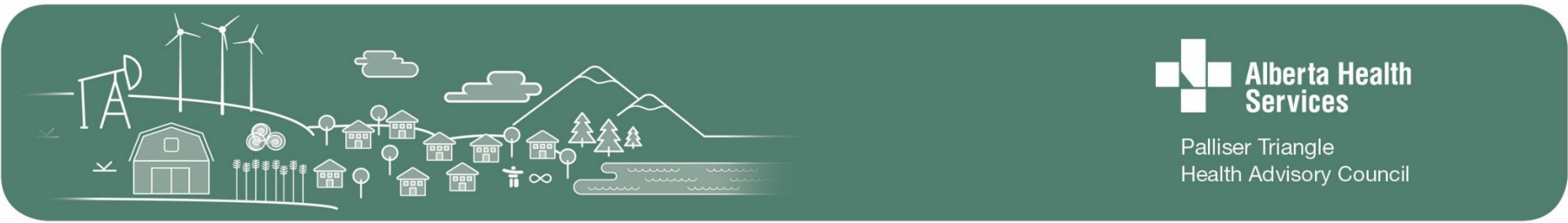
**Council members present:** Dr. Ken Sauer (Chair), Reg Radke (Vice Chair), Dr. Sara Joan Armour, Ajit Atwal, Patricia Dietrich, Diane MacNaughton, Marjorie Moncrief, Barry Morishita, Paul Nederveen, Heather Norris, Blake Pedersen, Patty Rooks

**AHS:** Katherine Chubbs, Linda Iwasiw, Andrea Jackson, Dr. Jack Regehr, Gwen Wirth

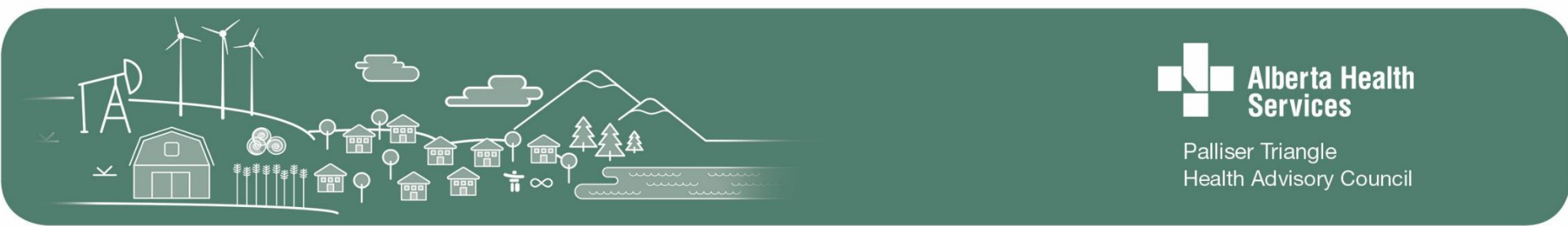
**Public:** 5

**Regrets:** Rudi Brockmann, Grant Walker, Stephanie Shaw

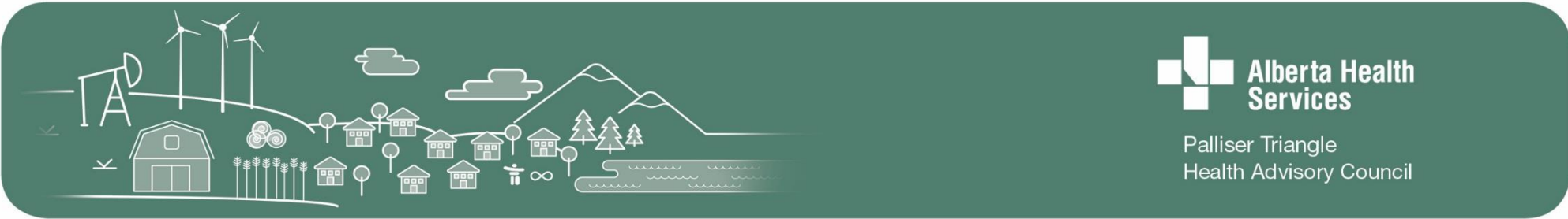
<i>Agenda Item</i>	<i>Discussion</i>	<i>Action</i>
<b>1. Approval of Agenda</b>	Moved by Blake Pedersen that the agenda for Monday January 22, 2018 be approved. <b>MOTION CARRIED.</b>	
<b>2. Approval of Minutes</b>	Moved by Ajit Atwal that the minutes of Monday November 27, 2017 be approved. <b>MOTION CARRIED.</b>	
<b>3. Presentations</b>		
<b>3.1. Public Comments</b>	<p>A member of the public brought forth a concern about the closing of Medicine Hat Regional Hospital’s laundry department. He would have liked more effort made to keep the service in Medicine Hat, instead of moving it to Lethbridge. Linda Iwasiw advised she is not familiar with the specifics of how the service is managed to support south zone east rural sites, since laundry service is not organized or managed by South Zone and is an AHS provincial support service.</p> <p>A member of the public requested AHS’ response to the closure of palliative care beds in the region. She suggests that palliative care is not hospice or home care and that it does require hospital services that are unique to hospital facilities. She is interested to know how monies are being reallocated.</p>	Katherine Chubbs will create a one-pager outlining options for palliative care services in the region.



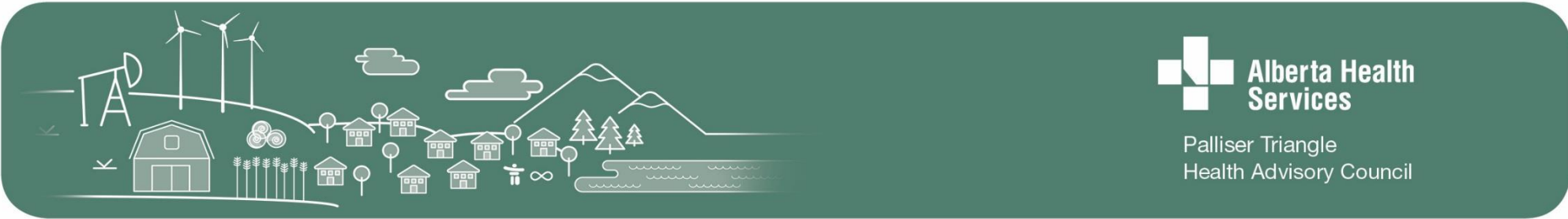
	<p>Katherine Chubbs advised that resources are focused on providing care as close to home as possible, with more supports in place in the community. Additional resources have been inserted in the homecare palliative care program and AHS is providing increased education for all hospital staff to ensure a minimal level of competency. If a patient does require hospital care, it remains an available option.</p> <p>A member of the public described a scenario involving EMS, then asked about EMS service plans for circumstances such as the one described. Dr. Jack Regehr advised that EMS was made a provincial program to allow for more flexibility and cross-coverage.</p> <p>A member of the public asked about AHS policy for the treatment of whistleblowers. Katherine Chubbs responded that AHS wants to know about staff concerns and that we monitor those received so we can make improvements. South Zone is currently going out to sites to speak with staff about patient and staff safety, among other things, with the intention of opening the lines of communication. In addition, AHS has an onboarding and annual training requirement of all staff that includes a whistleblower policy.</p>	<p>Katherine Chubbs will enquire about EMS service plans.</p>
<p><b>4. Old Business</b></p>		
<p><b>4.1. Business Arising from the November 27, 2017 minutes</b></p>	<p>Council discussed the Cannabis for Senior’s presentation offered by Natural Health Services.</p> <p>Moved by Marjorie Moncrieff that members view the slides for information but will not request an in-person presentation. <b>MOTION CARRIED.</b></p>	<p>Andrea Jackson to connect with Grant Walker and Dr. Jack Regehr re: follow up from the November 27, 2017 meeting.</p>
<p><b>5. New Business</b></p>		
<p><b>5.1. Council Roundtable &amp; Community Engagement Updates</b></p>	<p><b>Pat Dietrich</b> shared that the ‘When You Need Help’ one-pager of resources from the Canadian Mental Health Association is still at the printers. She is hopeful it will be ready for March. Pat also shared information about the ‘Six Minute Challenge’ - personal support workers in Ontario.</p> <p>Katherine Chubbs advised the bulk of pain services in sites is provided through primary care. AHS works with partners in primary care to create a chronic pain framework for the zone. Katherine</p>	<p>Pat will provide link to Six Minute Challenge to Andrea to send to members.</p>



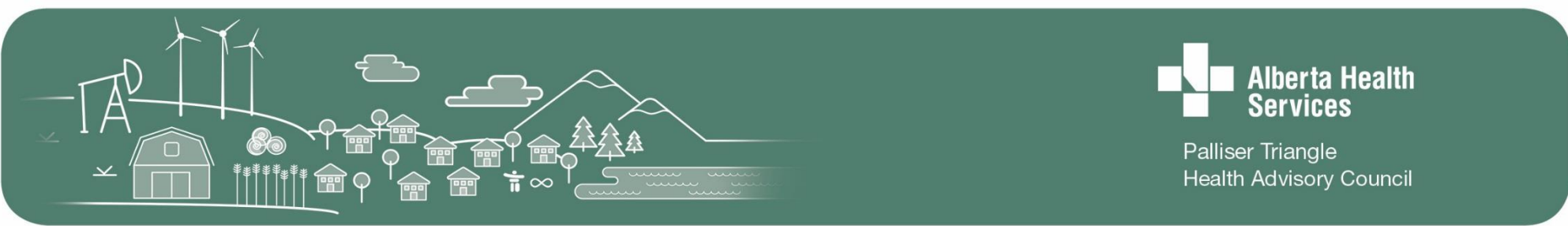
<p><b>5.1.1 Good news stories</b></p>	<p>added that she can get hours of care information for council, but is unable to decipher hours of registered nurses vs. hours of personal care assistants.</p> <p><b>Sara Joan Armour</b> shared information about mandatory vaccinations in California and suggests it would be a good idea for Alberta to consider the same. Sara also made a suggestion that condoms be places in school washrooms and other public places as a form of disease prevention. Sarah’s final comment was that the Global Health Security will be putting on a workshop on better treatment options for Fentanyl.</p> <p><b>Patty Rooks</b> commented the space in the emergency room at Medicine Hat Reginal Hospital is not ideal for both a parent and child to fit in together. Linda Iwasiw responded with the redevelopment project at the site, space will be improved. In the interim AHS is looking at patient flow and acute care beds. Patty also queried how AHS will address air ambulance and what will happen when renovations take place?</p> <p><b>Diane MacNaughton</b> has high praise for service in the new endoscopy wing at Medicine Hat Regional Hospital. The space is big with room to be with loved ones prior to their procedure. Diane attended a women’s group at the Schizophrenia Society where personal stories are shared. Diane reminded members of the importance of physicians and all staff to be adequately trained in mental health so as to focus on treatment of issues at hand vs. commentary that is at times received as judgmental.</p> <p><b>Ajit Atwal</b> continues involvement with St. Joseph’s Carmel Hospice. He is pleased there is a strong connection between the organization, physicians, and others involved in home and palliative care. There remains a strong working relationship with AHS.</p> <p><b>Marjorie Moncrieff</b> advised Bow Island is losing its night clerk in the emergency department, leaving the department with one staff. Katherine Chubbs responded the decision was made because the vast majority of the time a registered nurse completes incoming registrations. As well, during a four-hour shift five minutes of that time is spent doing this work, so, AHS is addressing non-nursing duties and tasks that can be completed with technology. In addition, a nurse is always on shift after nine o’clock and on weekends.</p>	<p>Katherine Chubbs will provide Andrea with hours of care information to share with council.</p> <p>Council to invite EMS to future meeting to present/provide updates on service delivery.</p>
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	<p><b>Reg Radke</b> shared that things are running smoothly at the lab collection site in Brooks and people are using the online appointment process successfully. Reg continues to share information in his community about the Mental Health and Community Collaborative. The next meeting is scheduled for January 24 where they will discuss navigation and therapy in schools. Finally, there is a research project taking place between Medicine Hat College and Global Village Centre on Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). Once the first phase of data gathering is complete, the groups will look at potential needs and services.</p> <p><b>Barry Morishita</b> advised the Brooks Health Foundation dialysis project is over halfway to its fundraising goal with over \$800K raised. Barry also provided an update on the personalized medicine project in Brooks. Regarding the Bassano Project, there is no money for the capital part of the health centre but there are other options for delivering care. The group plans to develop an operational plan then build a framework to move forward.</p> <p><b>Heather Norris</b> shared a local psychiatrist is searching for a child behavior therapist to work with children in the area. Katherine Chubbs stated mental health and addiction remains a priority for South Zone and it's committed to completing a needs assessment, with a particular focus on children and youth. Resources cannot be requested until the assessment is complete.</p> <p><b>Blake Pederson</b> shared the THRIVE (Medicine Hat &amp; Region – Strategy to End Poverty &amp; Increase Wellbeing) organization's plan to develop a program application (app) for use on smartphones and computers. The service will allow any service provider to put their service on the app so clients can be connected with them in a timely manner. Medicine Hat is expected to roll the new app out soon.</p>	
<p><b>5.2. South Zone Executive Leadership Update</b> Katherine Chubbs, Chief</p>	<p>Katherine Chubbs provided a South Zone leadership update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AHS is conducting an organization design pilot project in South Zone to ensure it is designed in a way that best supports the needs of staff, so they can deliver quality healthcare. The project is driven by the desire to ensure the most efficient and effective organization design practices that apply to our current situation. Work started today and a report is expected in a few months, after which implementation will begin;</li> </ul>	



<p>Zone Officer, South Zone;</p> <p>Dr. Jack Regehr South Zone Medical Director;</p> <p>Linda Iwasiw, Senior Operating Officer, Acute Care East (South Zone)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Connect Care is progressing quickly with hundreds of staff providing input to move the initiative forward;</li> <li>• Fentanyl use and overdose remains a big concern with focus continuing on prevention;</li> <li>• Palliative care beds – as of today there are six beds vacant out of 20 at St. Joseph’s Home in Medicine Hat, 10 of these are palliative. AHS is working with Covenant Health to ensure beds are used effectively and that patients are appropriately placed. Masterpiece Long Term Care (LTC) centre closed its palliative care unit in December since not all beds were being used. Occupancy is much higher now at St. Joseph’s, where all palliative care is now provided.</li> </ul> <p>Dr. Jack Regehr provided a physician resource planning update. There is currently a Telehealth link between the emergency room at the Medicine Hat Regional Hospital and the downtown clinic. AHS is considering using telehealth for use in connecting with specialists outside of the zone, such as child and mental health. Linda Iwasiw added there are many services we’re trying to connect virtually. For example, outreach specialty follow up in internal medicine, respiratory, stroke care, cancer care, are done virtually. In the new wing there is infrastructure capacity to use Telehealth more, to provide or expand support.</p> <p>This area currently has three child and adolescent psychiatrists, but needs another one to meet the need. There is a shortage across Alberta. In Medicine Hat there are two new geriatric psychiatrists. Finally, AHS is looking for a rheumatologist.</p> <p>Linda Iwasiw shared a good news story out of Bassano where an elder was in declining health at the health centre. Staff worked with his family and Band to arrange a smudge ceremony for him, which was very well received by those supporting him. The site will receive a recognition award for their efforts. In addition, South Zone continues to provide Indigenous Health and cultural competency training to staff and leaders and is very proud of this work.</p>	
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	Linda added all clinical services in the new wing have been moved to the new space. They are working with staff and those who provide service at refining work flow, wayfinding, etc. Feedback is positive and it is expected emergency will be done within the next three years.	
<b>5.3. Report from the Chair</b> Dr. Ken Sauer	Ken shared updates from the recent Council of Chairs meeting in Edmonton.  Palliser Triangle plans to host a public meeting in Medicine Hat to gather feedback on its perspective of health services in the region. Ken suggested similar meetings may take places in other locations.  Master Piece LTC did not invite HAC or AHS to attend. The HAC would like a visit/tour of Masterpiece long term care in Medicine Hat.	Andrea Jackson to arrange tour of Masterpiece LTC facility for members.
<b>5.4. Advisory Council Coordinator Report</b> Andrea Jackson	Moved by Patty Rooks to approve 2018/19 meeting dates, times, locations. <b>MOTION CARRIED.</b>	
<b>5.5. 2017/2018 Council Work Plan Updates</b>	Ken expressed interest in advertisements with information to the public about bringing old/unused medications to pharmacies for disposal. Patty Rooks suggested members could provide this messaging.  Katherine Chubbs added AHS is coming to the end of year one of its operational cycle. She would like to provide a progress update in March and will request council’s feedback on indicators for year two.	Andrea will enquire about advertisements.  Andrea to resend email to council re: collateral materials for identity.
<b>6. Next Meeting</b>	Date: Monday, March 26, 2018, Time: 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Location: Brooks, AB	
<b>7. Meeting Evaluation and Adjournment</b>	Moved by Patti Rooks to adjourn the meeting at 3:05 p.m.	

\*Please note that these minutes are in DRAFT form and are subject to change and approval at the Monday, March 26, 2018 council meeting.