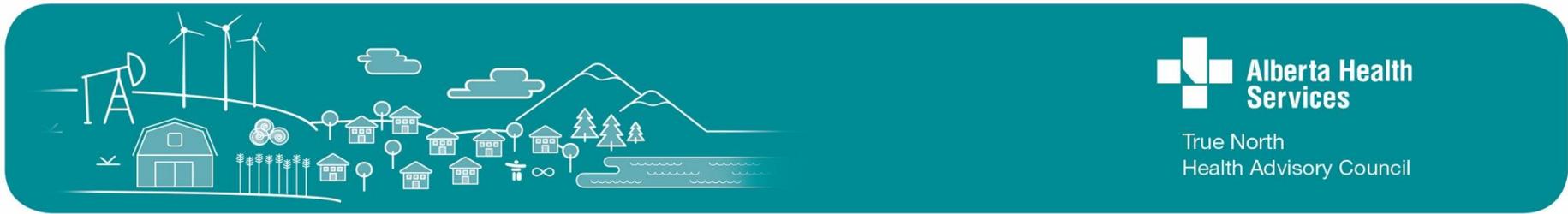


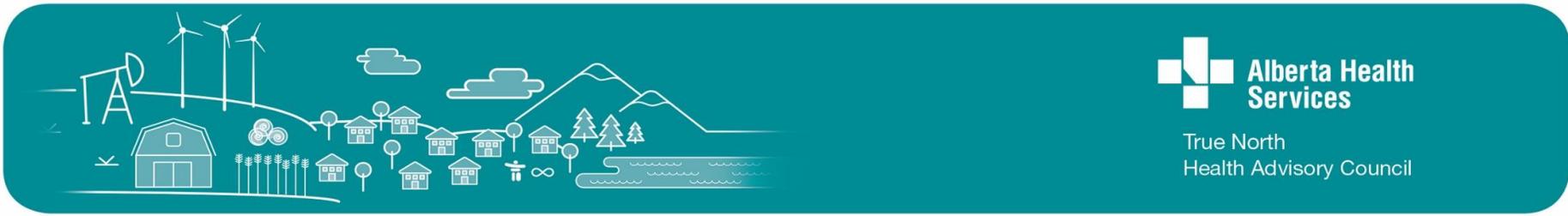
True North Health Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 7, 2022 / 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. / Hybrid (Northwest Health Centre, High Level and Zoom)

ATTENDEES & INTRODUCTIONS	
Members	Nella Fehr (Chair), Rick Cartier (Vice Chair) and Judith Wiebe
AHS	Stacy Greening, Sandra Herritt, Lois Ryan-Ottley, Angie Mann, Dr. Mark Forder, Dr. Jennifer Parker, Monica Schwann, Rosilita Jean-Pierre, Shauna Wallbank, Aaryn Lynham, LauraLee Clarke and Diana Rinne
Regrets	Wilma Cardinal, Liane Mercredi and Jan Welke
Public	2
Welcome & Introductions	Nella welcomed all in attendance, provided a land acknowledgement and went through introductions. Aaryn shared information about Health Advisory Councils.
Approval of minutes	September 22, 2021, minutes were reviewed and approved by consensus.
STANDING ITEMS	
Action items from previous meeting	Maya to share Chair and Vice Chair election results with the AHS Board. Complete.
Council Roundtable and Good News	<p>Council members all commented on their communities slowing down for summer to enjoy the outdoors, and a general sense of returning to normalcy as restrictions have lifted from the COVID-19 pandemic.</p> <p>Rick Cartier, Vice Chair, shared that with flooding in the area subsiding, there are less evacuees accessing health services in the Rainbow Lake community. Rick also requested an EMS operational update for the HAC area at the next meeting in January.</p>
Voices of the Community	A member of the public requested an update about DynaLife lab recruitment at the next meeting.
Alberta Health Services Zone Update	Angie Mann, Director of Clinical Operations, Allied Health, Acute Care and Seniors for Area 1, North Zone , provided a written report with information about workforce recruitment, capital projects and major events and initiatives specific to the local area. She also provided highlights from the North Zone Operational Plan and performance measures and initiatives. An update on COVID-19, the novel coronavirus, was provided. Information on its impact and measures to reduce spread are changing daily. Visit www.ahs.ca/covid for the most up to date information. Visit Getting Healthy After COVID-19 to learn more about long-COVID.



	<p>The new AHS toll-free Indigenous Support Line connects Indigenous callers with Indigenous listeners from noon to 8 p.m., Monday to Friday. Call 1-844-944-4744 with questions or requests for culturally appropriate care.</p>
<p>Physician Recruitment Report</p>	<p>Shauna Wallbank, Physician Resource Planner and Dr. Mark Forder provided the following physician resource update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High Level – currently 8 family physicians, including 6 with additional skills, and 1 pediatrician. Additional positions have been posted: 1 family medicine with anesthesia; 3 family medicine; 1 OBGYN. Two family medicine physicians are incoming (of 3 positions posted). • La Crete – currently 3 family physicians are practicing in the community. • Fort Vermilion – currently 3 family physicians. Two additional positions have been posted. • In 2022, 33 new family medicine physicians have been recruited, along with 8 new specialists across the North Zone.
<p>Community Partners</p>	<p>Jill Tilley, Rural Community Consultant with Rural Health Professions Action Plan (RhPAP), provided information on several free virtual learning opportunities available for rural community members. Visit the events page for more detail. The 2022 Rural Community Health Provider Attraction and Retention (A&R) Conference, “Put on Your Perspectacles” is October 4 – 6 in Drayton Valley. Visit rhpap.ca for more information.</p> <p>The Rural VIP (Rural Information Panel) is a monthly feedback process using online surveys. All community champions of local health are encouraged to join. Sign up here using the password “RURALVIP”. Email ruralvip@rhpap.ca with questions.</p>
<p>Report from the Chair</p>	<p>Nella Fehr reported that Liane Mercredi is attending the upcoming RhPAP conference from Oct 4 – 6. Each of the 12 Health Advisory Councils is sending a delegate to the conference.</p> <p>Recruitment Update: True North HAC is actively recruiting for members from La Crete, Fort Vermilion, Paddle Prairie, Rainbow Lake, High Level and other rural communities in the HAC area across Mackenzie County. Anyone interested can learn more and apply online at ahs.ca/advisorycouncils. Email truenorth@ahs.ca with any questions.</p>
<p>Coordinator Update</p>	<p>Aaryn Lynham, Advisory Council Coordinator, provided an update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council has planned a community engagement event Wednesday, November 9, from 6-8 p.m. on Zoom. “The Power of Community Assets” will feature Dr. Richard Lewanczuk, Senior Medical Director, Health System Integration, AHS. A public invitation will be circulated.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work Commitments will be revised for 2023 – 2025. Council members will each be assigned to a topic, so each topic has a lead and others to support. Next steps will be communicated to Council.
<p>Presentation:</p> <p>Cancer Screening in Alberta</p> <p>Monica Schwann, Director of Screening Programs, AHS</p>	<p>The presentation covered the various cancer screening programs offered by AHS and free resources available about these important services. Visit ScreeningForLife.ca to learn more.</p> <p>Discussion Questions:</p> <p><i>Q. How is cancer screening being increased, and how can Council help spread the word about these services in communities?</i></p> <p>Drs. Parker and Forder shared that in a clinical setting, the people who need information are those who usually have low general health literacy or technological barriers to entry. Printed materials are the best way to circulate public health information to most people.</p> <p>Dr. Parker referenced the successful “Do Bugs Need Drugs?” public health campaign targeting Grades 4 – 6 about hand washing, which led them to educate their families. Perhaps an age-appropriate campaign about “check-ups” -- what they involve, why they’re important and how often (kids / parents / grandparents) – is a way to increase primary care physicians’ developmental and cancer screening.</p>
<p>MEETING ADJOURNMENT</p>	
<p>Actions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Angie to share information with Council about the Fort Vermilion Hospital Tipi Raising ceremony event. • Angie to share information about an upcoming medical career fair. Aaryn to explore Council engagement opportunities. • Aaryn to email Council about next steps to begin revising Council work commitments for 2023 – 2025.
<p>Next Meeting</p>	<p>Date: Wednesday, January 25, 2023 Time: 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Location: Online only through Zoom. Advance registration is required. Register for the Zoom meeting.</p>

Our meetings are open to the public. Dates and locations are [available here](#).
[Find your Health Advisory Council here](#). Visit [Together4Health](#) (T4H) to engage with AHS online.