

**Regional Wellness Council (RWC) – Sahtu Region**

**APPROVED Meeting MINUTES**

August 11, 2020 | 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Norman Wells, NT – Via Teleconference

#	Item	Notes
1.0	Call to Order by Chair.	10:10 am
2.0	<b>Reflection/Prayer</b>	
	Prayer led by Gina Dolphus.	
3.0	<b>Attendance</b>	
	<u>Attendees:</u> Gina Dolphus – RWC Chair Theresa Etchinelle – RWC Member Brenda T'Seleie Pierrot – RWC Member Andrea Modeste – RWC Member Mireille Hamlyn – Chief Operating Officer (COO), NTHSSA – Sahtu Region Bambi Duncan – Executive Assistant to COO (Recorder) Kyla Kakfwi-Scott – Project Lead, Primary Care Health Care Reform (via teleconference)	
	<u>Regrets:</u> Irene Kodakin – RWC Member	
4.0	<b>Approval of Agenda</b>	
	<i>The Council moves to approve the Agenda for August 11, 2020:</i>  <b>Motion #05-20</b> <b>Moved by: Brenda T'Seleie Pierrot</b> <b>Seconded by: Theresa Etchinelle</b> <b>All in Favour. Motion Carried.</b>	
5.0	<b>Presentation(s)</b>	<b>Action</b>
	<b>Physician Services and Primary Health Care Reform Update</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kyla Kakfwi-Scott, Project Lead, Primary Care Health Care Reform, presented an update on the progression of the work being done as part of the Primary Care Health Care Reform in the territories. Two options were presented requiring direction from the Council:  <b>Option 1 - Physician Resourcing Model</b> – Change will be who is providing physician services, number of physician days in the region will increase, all other staffing/services remain unchanged.</li> </ul>	

	<p><b>Option 2 – Integrated Care Team Model</b> – Focus on changing how staff work with each other, and how they work with clients, Cultural safety and relationship-based care in addition to improved access and continuity. This option also requires staff participation in planning and design as well as community participation in priority setting. This pilot period could take in excess of a year.</p> <p>Consensus of the Regional Wellness Council was Option 2 – Integrated Care Team Model, and the community chosen was Fort Good Hope, as it seems to be the community with the greatest need right now and has the highest number of medevacs far above any other community in the region. Currently, Dr. Sarah Cook will be the physician taking on this project and will be meeting with staff and community members in the near future.</p>	
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Previous Meeting Minutes: Review, Approval, Business Arising</b>	<b>Action</b>
	<p><i>The Council moves to approve the Minutes from previous meeting from February 18, 2019:</i></p> <p><b>Motion #06-20</b>  <b>Moved by: Brenda T'Seleie Pierrot</b>  <b>Seconded by: Theresa Etchinelle</b>  <b>All in Favour. Motion Carried.</b></p> <p><i>The Council moves to approve the Record of Meeting of an In Camera Session from February 19, 2020:</i></p> <p><b>Motion #07-20</b>  <b>Moved by: Theresa Etchinelle</b>  <b>Seconded by: Brenda T'Seleie Pierrot</b>  <b>All in Favour. Motion Carried.</b></p> <p><i>The Council moves to approve the Minutes from previous teleconference meeting from April 22, 2020:</i></p> <p><b>Motion #08-20</b>  <b>Moved by: Andrea Modeste</b>  <b>Seconded by: Brenda T'Seleie Pierrot</b>  <b>All in Favour. Motion Carried.</b></p>	
	<b>LUNCH BREAK</b>	<b>BREAK 12:15 – 1:00 p</b>

<b>7.0</b>	<b>Action Items Review</b>	<b>Action</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Combined with COO Report. Please refer to the Action List provided with the Agenda.</li> </ul>	
<b>8.0</b>	<b>Projects and Priorities</b>	<b>Action</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Combined with COO Report. Please refer to the Priorities List provided with the Agenda.</li> </ul>	
<b>9.0</b>	<b>Chairperson's Report/Updates</b>	<b>Action</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Leadership Council Meeting Update.</li> <li>Future meeting dates will be finalized to work within the Leadership Council schedule and budget timelines; however, meeting dates should occur: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Either the week of October 18<sup>th</sup> or November 1<sup>st</sup></li> <li>End of January 2021</li> </ul> </li> <li>There is currently 1 vacancy that has gone out for nominations. In addition, one member's appointment ended on August 3, 2020 and another will expire October 19, 2020 leaving 2 other vacancies.</li> </ul>	
<b>10.0</b>	<b>COO Report (Combined with Action List)</b>	<b>Action</b>
	<p><b>Please refer to the Action List provided with the Agenda.</b></p> <p><b>Item 1</b> – On going. Standing item.  <b>Item 2</b> – On going. Standing item.  <b>Item 3</b> – <b>COMPLETED.</b>  <b>Item 4</b> – The <b>COO</b> sent information to the Chief, but did not get a response. <b>COO</b> noted that quite a bit of time has elapsed, a new government has been seated with new priorities, new community leadership, etc. Consensus was to remove this item for now.  <b>Item 5</b> – The <b>COO</b> has not been able to get any recent updates on this item. Consensus was to remove this item for now.  <b>Item 6</b> – RWC members would like to continue to push this forward. Consensus was for the <b>RWC Chair</b> to take this back to Leadership Council.  <b>Item 7</b> – On going. <b>RWC Member Modeste</b> inquired as to what is being done around diabetes prevention; especially younger adults (under 30), children and youth. There are very few healthier choices in the communities.  <b>Item 8</b> – No update. Consensus was to keep this on the Action List, with updated numbers for 2020.  <b>Item 9</b> – <b>COMPLETED.</b>  <b>Item 10</b> – Ongoing. No update. In lieu of any response from Yellowknife, the Regional Wellness Council would like to move forward with a plaque to honour Ms. Alphonsine McNeely to be presented to the family.</p>	<p><b>Item 6</b> - Consensus was for the <b>RWC Chair</b> to push forward increased access to a Speech Language Pathologist (SLP)/ Rehabilitation Services in the Sahtu Region to Leadership Council again.</p> <p><b>Item 8 – RWC Members</b> would like to see diabetes numbers for 2020.</p>

**Item 11** – COMPLETED.

**Item 12** – No update.

**Please refer to the Regional Priorities List provided with the Agenda.**

The 2017-2020 Department of Health and Social Services Strategic Plan will be coming to an end so the department will be issuing new plans in the near future. The Regional Wellness Council will review again once these plans are received to insure the Sahtu Region has it's priorities aligned with the department and the NTHSSA Operational Plan.

**Item 1** – Consensus was to keep this as this as a regional priority.

**Item 2** – Consensus was to remove this item. While we remain active participants in supporting these programs, it is out of our mandate and most of the programs are actually offered via the Human Resources Department.

**Item 3** – This is now a territorial process driven by the department and on Leadership Council agendas. Even so, **RWC Chair** noted that this still impacts at the community level so believes it should still be a priority for the Sahtu Region. Consensus was to keep this as a regional priority.

**Item 4** – The **COO** noted that a review of Home and Continuing Care was submitted to the department in September of 2019. In response, the department put forth approximately 15 recommendations; however, with Covid, the implementation of these changes has been delayed. Consensus was to keep this as a regional priority.

**Item 5** – Consensus was to keep this as a regional priority.

Based on conversation today regarding Physician Services, the **COO** wanted to know if the Regional Wellness Council was amenable to adding that as a regional priority. Consensus was to add Physician Services as a regional priority.

**Tulita Health and Social Services Centre – New Build**

- At the request of the community, this project was put on hold due to concerns around Covid and workers coming in from out of territory that could potentially be infected. On July 27, 2020, the **COO**, Sahtu MLA and Minister of Health and Social Services visited the community, met with leadership and had an open meeting with members of the public. As a result, the leadership was in favour of the project moving forward; however, because it is now so late in the season, work will commence next spring and be completed in 2022 instead of 2021. Community leadership have stipulated that all workers who come to the community are either from within the territory or have isolated in Yellowknife. The Minister of Infrastructure and MLA had tentative plans to do a

similar visit to the community to continue to assuage concerns. No update has been received regarding this visit.

### **Significant Policy Changes**

- Final Health and social Services Ethical Framework
- COVID-19 NTHSSA Policies and procedures
- COVID-19 OCPHO Policies and Procedures
- Health and Social Services Pandemic Plan
- Step Care Training for mental health staff pending

### **NTHSSA Operational Plan Updates**

- The reporting structure for Child and Family Services is still under review. The Sahtu Region Changes will happen in late fall 2020.
- Territorial Colorectal Screening Program – Due to Covid, this program was put on hold but they are looking at new dates. There will be community consultation/presentation prior to implementation here in the Sahtu Region. This program is intended to increase screening and be self-sustainable. This program will include Breast Cancer screening in the future.
- The Sahtu Dental Hygienist program was put on hold due to Covid. NTHSSA is working with the DHSS and NIHB for a solution for services.

### **Home Care Review**

- After a review of the Home Care program, 15 recommendations were presented. The department excepted most, noting that for some, they would need additional resources. At present, they are working on an action plan that would operationalize these recommendations.

### **Medical Travel update: Escorts**

- No update was available.

### **Staffing Update**

**RWC members** continue to request the reinstatement of Drug and Alcohol workers; or since this position no longer exists, to expedite the hiring of the Healthy Family Social Service Workers. An Environmental scan was completed and has been sent to the CEO for consideration.

We have hired a new Regional Manager of Mental Health and Addictions. The successful candidate was Zuzana Crook, who was the CYCC in Norman Wells.

**RWC Member** would like to see Drug and Alcohol Workers reinstated or the hiring of the Healthy Family positions expedited and requested that the **RWC Chair** forward to Leadership Council.

Both the Administrative Assistant and Regional Manager of Child and Family Services will be retiring in September. The Administrative Assistant position has been posted. Additional clerks are being hired in Tulita and Fort Good Hope.

The Community Health Representative position in Deline is also being finalized. We should also have a new counselor starting in Fort Good Hope at the end of the month.

Both the **RWC Chair** and **Member Etchinelle** expressed great concern that there have been people who have been in Social Services rolls for many years, live in communities and speak the local language, etc., but have not been given opportunities at the manager/supervisor level. The **COO** noted that there are many factors to consider, particularly with social service issues around the law and court documentation, privacy, Matrix and territorial I legislation. The **COO** also noted that they are currently reviewing the current child and family services structure there could be additional opportunities.

#### **Memorial Wall Long Term Care Update**

Several examples were presented. The Executive Assistant will continue with this project and present progress at the next meeting.

#### **Covid Update**

In response to comments by **Member Etchinelle** and **Member T'Seleie Pierrot** expressing concern around staff members or the public coming to the communities, the **COO** reviewed the extensive process and risk assessments required for any essential staff or anyone else travelling to any communities in the territory, if they are coming from outside the territory. If people have concerns or feels there is someone in their community that shouldn't be or just have questions, they can contact ProtectNWT or 811.

#### **Emergency Contact for After Hours**

**RWC members** requested confirmation of the process for after-hours, emergencies. The **COO** noted that for any emergency or after-hours needs, community members should contact their applicable Nurse on call. All the appropriate numbers are posted on all health centre doors, community bulletin boards, the NTHSSA website as well as on Facebook.

The consensus was in support of the **RWC Chair** to forward Priority 1 / Affirmative Action concerns to Leadership Council.

<b>11.0</b>	<b>RWC Member Observations and Comments</b>	<b>Action</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No additional comments were provided.</li> </ul>	
<b>12.0</b>	<b>Other Business</b>	<b>Action</b>
	<b>Member Update</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Currently there is one opening as well as 2 membership expirations coming up. Sandy Whiteman's term is set to expire August 3, 2020 and Theresa Etchinelle's term expires October 19, 2020.</li> </ul>	
<b>13.0</b>	<b>Closing Reflections / Prayer</b>	<b>Action</b>
	Closing prayer was led by Gina Dolphus.	
	<b>Adjournment</b>	<b>Action</b>
	Meeting Adjourned at 4:15 pm	