

**Dehcho Regional Wellness Council Meeting
June 12, 2020
9:00am
Teleconference**

Minutes

Called in:

Ruby Simba, Chairperson
Raymond Michaud
Trisha Landry
Muaz Hussien Hassan
Brenda Jumbo
Hilda Sabourin

Regrets:

Janna Deneron

Staff Participants:

Wilson Dimsdale
Jocelyn Kierstead

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- 1.0 Call to Order - RWC Chairperson**
Meeting called to order at 9:35am
 - 2.0 Reflection / Prayer**
Offered by Ruby Simba
 - 3.0 Attendance (see above)**
 - 4.0 Approval of the Agenda - RWC Chairperson**
Approval of the June 12, 2020 RWC Agenda
Moved by: Raymond Michaud
Seconded by: Muaz Hassan
All in favor: all
Motion passed

5.0 Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Approval of May 1, 2020 Minutes as amended

Moved by: Raymond Michaud

Second: Muaz Hassan

All in Favor; all

Motion: passed

6.0 Business Arising from Previous Minutes

Muaz requested an update on the letter of support to Dennis Nelner for his project presented to the Dehcho Regional Wellness Council (RWC) at the last meeting, May 1, 2020. Jocelyn Kierstead and Allen Stanzell are working on drafting this, Dennis has presented a draft letter to Muaz. Muaz will forward the draft letter to Jocelyn.

Mike Drake brought COVID-19 concerns with isolation and social distancing to the interagency meeting; these concerns should be brought forward to Protect NWT.

Dr. Bing Guthrie did not get a response from Protect NWT regarding the concerns about those coming into the NWT and being tested for COVID-19.

Wilson stated that the COVID-19 Emergency Response Plan is still in the final stages of being approved and is not ready for distribution; this was discussed at the Leadership Council Meeting.

Muaz clarified that the RWC did not request the Pandemic Plan only, but the general Emergency Response Plan to floods and fires. Wilson replied that this document is under review by the Management Team, but this can be distributed once any confidential information is redacted. Muaz responded that this generic document should not have confidential information; this should have general information for the Health Response to emergencies such as floods and fire.

Raymond brought up issues with transportation and wearing masks, the pilot and co-pilot for a medical trip on a flight were not wearing mask. There is not consistency with enforcing mask wearing and social distancing. There were concerns from patients having escorts for medical travel, the hospital in Yellowknife was not letting escorts into the hospital leaving some patients without an interpreter.

Wilson stated he will look into getting the information and guidelines for medical travel and escorts.

Call for break at 10:25am

7.0 Presentation – Chief Operating Officer

Presentation was made by Wilson Dimsdale

As of May 15, 2020 the CPHO has approved phase 1 releasing the restrictions of the NWT during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Wilson stated that the Long Term Care has not

relieved any of the restrictions yet as the clients are vulnerable and high risk. The policies and practices are still being adhered to. Workers are masked continuously during shifts, additional cleaning protocols are in place.

Locum employees are also in compliance with the protocols for self-isolation, self-monitoring with Protect NWT. Locum employees are only to go to the workplace, with a mask, and are to stay at their accommodation while working in the communities.

Wilson continued that there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 currently in the NWT. The 5 confirmed cases are recovered. There is anticipation of a second wave, at which time more information on restrictions and guidelines will be available.

Wilson gave clarification on the self-isolation is mandatory for non-essential travel outside the NWT upon return, this has not been lifted at this time. Businesses such as tourism, fitness centres, and restaurants are anticipated to open with the roll out of Phase 2.

Ruby gave a follow up of on the self-isolation after returning to the NWT, MACA gave a response to Ruby that those residence of small communities that are required to self-isolate upon returning will not have to pay for their own hotel, MACA will cover the hotel cost for 14 days at one of the self-isolation centres.

8.0 Community Reports

Ruby gave her report for Kakisa, the community is very quiet during the pandemic. Ruby stated that it is difficult to work remotely and to contact those working for the GNWT as everyone is working remotely and there are delays in responses. The parks are opening up, Ruby had a concern about travelers coming into the community. There is also an issue with intoxication of the residents of Kakisa, this may be a result of stress of the pandemic.

Ruby gave an update on the meetings she attended by teleconference.

May 21- Finance Planning

May 26 – Quality Committee meeting

May 28 – Leadership Council meeting

Trisha has nothing to report at this time.

Hilda gave her apologies for missing the last two meetings, Hilda has been out on the land since the outbreak of COVID-19. There has been an increase of illness in the community of Fort Providence, C-Diff has been an issue for some residents. There are gardening programs opening for the residents of Fort Providence.

Muaz gave his report for Fort Simpson, there is a concern regarding long term care residents having no interpreters, what are the numbers of employees that speak the local language.

Raymond brought forward a concern with no one answering phones at the offices, there should be at least one person there to answer the phone or keep the office open.

Wilson responded that there is direction to all GNWT employees to work remotely, this includes those that are not deemed essential to work in the office. There should be notices posted with contact numbers for Child Youth and Family Services and Mental Health and Addictions.

Wilson will request the attendance of the Manager Continuing Care services for the next meeting.

Brenda Jumbo gave her report for Samba K'e. There are programs for on the land camps available, they include fishing and learning about the land. Brenda has been busy ordering groceries since community members have not been travelling as much. There is a request from the Chief for the Chief Medical Officer to make a presentation to the community.

9.0 Public Concerns

No public concerns to report.

Next RWC meeting tentatively scheduled for September 4, 2020.

10.0 Closing Reflections/Prayer

Offered by Hilda Sabourin

11.0 Adjournment

Motion Raymond Michaud

Second Brenda Jumbo

In favor all

Motion passed

Meeting adjourned 11:35am