



Yellowknife Regional Wellness Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday January 15, 2025
4:30 PM – 7:00PM

Location: Łuweg̒atì Building Room 1026

Microsoft Teams: 1 867-675-1042 | Code: 556 666 457#
Video Conference ID: 112 499 025 5

Mission: *Working with people to optimize wellbeing through the provision of collaborative and culturally appropriate health and social service*

Vision: *Healthy People, Healthy Families, Healthy Communities*

Values: *Collaboration Accountability Integrity Respect*

Cultural safety: *An outcome where Indigenous peoples feel safe and respected, free of racism and discrimination, when accessing health and social services.*

Acknowledgment of Land: *We acknowledge that we are in the Chief Drygeese territory.*

From time immemorial, it has been the traditional land of the Yellowknives Dene First Nation, and more recently, the homeland of the North Slave Métis.

We respect the histories, languages, and cultures of First Nations, Metis, Inuit, and all First Peoples of Canada, whose presence continues to enrich our vibrant community.

Members:

<input type="checkbox"/> Nancy Trotter, Chair	<input type="checkbox"/> Gilbert Langsi
<input type="checkbox"/> Gloria Enzoe (Virually)	<input type="checkbox"/> Lindsay Debassige
<input type="checkbox"/> Nancy Cymbalisty	<input type="checkbox"/> Brandie Miersch (Regards)
<input type="checkbox"/> Jennifer Drygeese	

Employees:

<input type="checkbox"/> Meghan Dewhirst	<input type="checkbox"/> Shannon Ploughman
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Guests:

<input type="checkbox"/> Dr. F Aiston
<input type="checkbox"/> Lorie-Anne Danielson

#	Item	Time	Responsibility
1.0	Call to Order	4:30	Chairperson
2.0	Welcome & Introductions, safety overview	4:31	Chairperson
	Guest Speakers:	4:32	Dr. F Aiston

3.0	<p>Transgender Health Care</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation attached • Member asked: Are you the only doctor who everyone gets referred to for transgender health care? <p>Answer: I get lots of referrals. When I receive referrals from other colleagues I have been asking if they can do this with my assistance. This seems to be working as more physicians are seeing transgender clients. It is busy work; the demand is here.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member asked: Sounds like when you first meet a client it takes a long time to connect and get the story. How do you do this in 15 minutes. <p>Answer: My appointment for transgender health care is booked for 30 minutes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member Asked: Who is responsible for updating the guidelines for transgender health care <p>Answer: We were a committee when we put these guidelines in place 5 years ago.</p>		
	<p>Stanton COO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation attached • Member stated: The patient rooms need space for family like parents to be able to stay with their loved ones. <p>Answer: We do. We have chairs that pull out to a bed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member asked: What is the wait time for hip and knee replacement surgery? Is the wait time decreasing ? - See below update after action items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member asked: Can you comment on the wait time for Lab testing. How is the new appointment system working? <p>Answer:There has been a big improvement, the appointment system is working well.</p>	5:15	Lorie-Anne Danielson
4.0	Opening Prayer	5:55	Chairperson
	Acknowledgement of traditional territory	6:00	Nancy Cymbalisty
5.0	Agenda and Minutes	6:05	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review and approval of Previous Meeting Minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • October 16, 2024 Approved Moved-Lindsay Debassige Second-Jennifer Drygeese All in favor- Yes 		Chairperson

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • November 20, 2024 <p>Approved Moved- Lindsay Debassige Second-Nancy Cymbalisty All in favor- Yes</p> <p>Approval of Agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approved <p>Moved- Lindsay Debassige Second- Jennifer Drygeese All in favor- Yes</p> <p>5.3 Declaration of Conflict of Interest</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No conflict 		
6.0	<p>Business Arising from the minutes</p> <p>Follow up</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary Care Reform Patient Representatives. Thank you to Lindsay and Nancy C for attending these meetings. <p>Chair reported, November 27, she attended a meeting with Jennifer Torode, COO and Nina Larsson, DHSS Director, Community, Culture and Innovation. The discussion focussed on the need for indigenous representation on the YK Region Primary Care Reform committee.</p> <p>Next step Community Culture and Innovation will gather information on the best practice to receive nominations for indigenous representation on this committee.</p> <p>Member asked about the orientation for the public representatives on the committee. Also expressed difficulty understanding all the acronyms that are used during the meeting.</p> <p>Answer: The Dept of Health and Social Services, Community, Culture and Innovation will be providing the orientation.</p> <p>Plan; Chair will send a message requesting that the committee members not use acronyms, or to explain the acronym at least the first time it is used at the meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activity Plan update – there are some minor adjustments to the calendar. • Location of meetings Will continue to meet at the Łiweg̑atì building Room1026 • Action Items Concerns from Lutselk'e. The chair forwarded 	6:15	Chairperson

	<p>all the Lutselk'e concerns at the Leadership Council meeting in December.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on Cancer Care from November Presenter, Dawn Deblick – Sent by email - The 2024 Cancer Care Satisfaction Survey will be mailed to eligible people in the next month or so. We really want to hear from cancer patients about their experiences in 2024. This is an opportunity for cancer patients to provide us insight on how to improve the program to support their needs. The letter that will be attached to the survey will have contact information on who to contact if they need assistance completing the survey. 		
7.0	<p>Chairperson Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report attached. • Addition to the report; <p>Yesterday all the RWC chairs met with the Public Administrator, Mr. Dan Florizone. We were advised, that the RWC chairs will continue to meet quarterly. The next meeting is prosed for early March. There is a commitment to listen to the voice of the RWC chairs. It was emphasized that the voice of the RWC chairs can continue to influence the system. The Minister and Mr. Florizone emphasized that the NTHSSA needs to balance the budget and, that we need to work together.</p>	6:25	Chairperson
8.0	<p>Yellowknife Region COO Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report attached 	6:30	YK Region COO
9.0	<p>Roundtable Updates - Community activities, questions, and concerns</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member stated, that she received questions about the new Health and Social Services System Sustainability Unit. <p>Chair: There was a presentation at the December Leadership Council meeting from Terrence Courtoreille, Associate Deputy Minister, Executive and Indigenous Affairs. The unit is in the process staffing/recruitment. The goal is to fully staff position by early in 2025.</p> <p>Plan; Chair will forward the presentation to council members.</p> <p>Member: I didn't know much about the System Sustainability unit. I found a very informative video link on line. It is an hour long.</p> <p>Plan; Member will forward the link to all council members.</p>		Chairperson

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can we recommend that the guidelines for transgender health care should be updated. 		
10.0	New Business • No new business		
11.0	Closing Reflections / Prayer	6:57	Lindsay Debassige
12.0	Motion to Adjourn Motion- Nancy Cymbalisty • Second- Gilbert Langs • <i>i</i> All in favor-Yes	7:00	Chairperson

Next Meeting February 19, 2025

	ACTION ITEMS	OWNER	ASSIGNED	DUEDUE	Completed
1.	Follow up to Trans guidelines	Meghan	Meghan	Next meeting	
2.					
3.					

Update on Stanton COO Question

What is the wait time for hip & knee replacement surgery? A patient can expect to wait approximately 2 years (or 96 weeks or 672 days) for an elective joint surgery in the NT.

- The STH 2024-25 waitlist report table says Ortho is 196 for December 2024.
- The usual time frame from initial consultation (assessment) to being booked for a joint surgery is 24 - 48 weeks or 5.5 to 11 months.
- 4 joint surgeries are performed every week. This number can be impacted by the availability of surgeons and inpatient beds.
- To reduce wait times joint replacement surgeries are now happening over the Christmas break, during the March break & during the summer. The surgical unit was not open during these times in the past.