

**Regional Wellness Council Meeting  
September 18, 2017  
Inuvik Regional Hospital Boardroom / Via Telehealth / Via Teleconference**

<b>In Attendance</b>	Ms. Ethel Jean Gruben, Chair Ms. Annie Isabel Goose (on Telehealth) Ms. Denise McDonald Ms. Ellen Smith (on Teleconference) Ms. Eileen M. Koe (on Telehealth)
<b>Regrets</b>	Ms. Donna Keogak
<b>Staff</b>	Ms. Arlene Jorgensen, Chief Operating Officer

**Public** - One member in attendance.

**1. Call To Order**

The meeting was called to order at 2:08 p.m. The Chair welcomed attendees and introductions were made.

**2. Reflection / Prayer**

Ms. Smith led the group in an opening prayer.

**3. Approval of Agenda**

Moved by Annie Goose, seconded by Ellen Smith to approve the Beaufort-Delta Regional Wellness Council Agenda - September 18, 2017  
*Carried*

**4. Previous Meeting Minutes**

*i) Review and Approval*

Moved by Ellen Smith, seconded by Annie Goose to approve the Beaufort-Delta Regional Wellness Council June 23, 2017 meeting minutes.  
*Carried*

*ii) Business Arising from Minutes*

No business arising from minutes

*iii) Action Items from June 23, 2017 Meeting Minutes*

**The BDR-RWC will provide the Beaufort Delta Detox Society with a letter of support.**  
The Executive Office emailed a letter of support from the BDR-RWC to the Society on July 4, 2017.

**The Chair will recommend Ms. McDonald's application to remain on the BDR-RWC.**

Ms. McDonald received her reappointment from Hon. Glen Abernethy on September 01, 2017.

Ms. Gruben thanked Ms. McDonald for her patience on her reappointment.

## 5. Chairperson Report

From the NTHSSA Leadership Council Meeting - July 13

- a) Need some clarification from the RWC Board
- b) Priorities last year pretty much the same, will stay on the table until they are met
- c) Medical Travel is always on the agenda
- d) There is dollars available to local groups in the Beaufort Delta. Local healing, counselling and life skills in the circle of wellness
- e) The RWC does not have a terms of reference they follow the NTHSSA ToR.
- f) Concerns about suicide in the Beaufort Delta Region
- g) Dealing with healing camps, the GTC has one and IRC has one.
- h) Healing or detox sent south for treatment, push for more dollars through our wellness council, need a healing treatment centre in our region.
- i) Housing prevention plan, working with EC&E and Justice. Regarding a family being evicted, then the children end up in foster care.
- j) Action Plan interventions are working
- k) Length of time at Pound Makers is 1 to 2 months, need more aftercare, more counselling, wellness is a lifelong journey
- l) Ms. Gruben stated that when she had a tour of Poundmakers there was no Inuvialuit or Gwich'in content

Action: Ms. Gruben to approach IRC and GTC for traditional material to send to Poundmakers.

## 6. RWC Member Observations and Comments

### Ms. Eileen M. Koe

- In a situation where people are still hurting, violence and suicide still around us. Under residential school cultural support we are the ones in the community, do what we can to help.
- Waiting list is very long for people who want to go for alcohol/drug treatment.
- Not only alcohol, but addictions are really brining our people down.
- Attended a GTC council meeting to state that we should be thinking about the people in our community level, more people getting dementia.
- More male home support workers are needed in the community
- Expressed concern regarding health care when we travel outside the Northwest Territories, how do we work on that situation?

### Ms. Annie Isabel Goose

- Expressed concern regarding medical appointments in the community. Contacted Manager, Quality Improvement regarding the communities concerns, and she received good feedback and will share with the community.
- Community of Ulukhaktok had a lot of community events.
- Congratulated Ms. McDonald to her reappointment.



**Ms. Ellen Smith**

- Expressed concern regarding addicts, have to find a new way of approaching them, think about what we are going; there is a lot of ways to help and assist people in decision making.
- Attend a GTC meeting a lot of community leaders were in attendance, not the grassroots' ones to guide us.
- Thanked Ms. Gruben on all her hard work, also everyone at the table.
- Congratulated Ms. McDonald to her reappointment.

**Ms. Denise McDonald**

- Concerned about the youth and resources. See an increase level of mental health and wellness issues.
- Family violence is a concern in homes, the young affected by trauma ramifications in what they are learning.
- Expressed concern regarding the increase cases of dementia or Alzheimer's in the communities.

Action: The presentation Ms. Jorgensen presented from the first RWC meeting giving an overview of our whole region, stats and charts, would like her to represent at the next RWC meeting.

Action: Ms. Jorgensen is working on reports for each community, little summary of services.

Action: Invite a representative from the health and administration department to the next meeting to discuss health services outside of the Northwest Territories. For instance if you are traveling on holidays, or visiting family and friends down south, and you end up in the hospital who would you contact?

## 7. Projects and Priorities

Discussion was held on meeting package enclosures:

- i) NTHSSA BDR RWC - Territorial Issues & Priorities
  - Need for life skills and personal development programs
  - Youth and Young Adults don't know where to go for help
  - Suicide
  - Drugs of abuse Concerns
  - RCMP Visibility
  - Need for Interdepartmental Cooperation and Collaboration
  - Importance of recognizing the quality of Health and Social Service Care, and the HSS Service Providers
  - Need to ensure cultural safety care
  - RWC focus on good health rather than illness
- ii) NTHSSA BDR RWC - Regional Issues & Priorities
  - *Youth and Young Adults don't know where to go for help*  
Regional Manager and MHA has moved into a Territorial Manager role.

- *Suicide*  
In progress, delayed due to Regional Manager leaving
- *Need for Interdepartmental Cooperation*  
Ms. Jorgensen to meet with ECE Superintendent and Housing Corporation Director - Regarding difficult client situations, was able to avert unnecessary eviction.
- *Importance of recognizing the quality of Health and Social Service Care, and the HSS Service Providers*  
RWC take the lead in promoting positive and responsive elements of the HSSA system and recognizing staff for jobs well done.
- *Need to ensure cultural safety care*
  - Reinstate regular general orientation which includes overview of the region
  - Presentation to Managers and Supervisors on Cultural Safety
  - Client Centred care identified as one of 3 priorities for NTHSS-BDR in 2017/18
  - COO, DQI&HS, and DHSS Language manager traveled to Ulukhaktok to meet with Leadership, regarding improving language services in the Health Centre. Based on feedback NTHSSA will be developing a plan for improving language services as well as establishing .5 clerk interpreters who are fluent in the local language
  - Additional 1.5 clerks will be established in Tuktoyaktuk and Fort McPherson

A question was raised regarding the hiring process for the clerk interpreters. Ms. Jorgensen stated that a screening committee was established, they will do the language testing and hiring for those positions, posting the ad and will start doing interviews.

3:55 p.m. Denise McDonald left the meeting

**8. Learning, Development and Innovation**  
No items were raised.

**9. Decision Items and Recommendations to the NTHSSA Leadership Council**  
Leadership council meeting was held in July. Other things going on at the Inuvik Regional Hospital is that the Community Counselling Program will be located in the hospital, so will the Social Programs Department, safer and can collaborate with on the acute care ward.

The NTHSSA is on the final stages in the organizational structure, all job descriptions are in and we are waiting for them to be evaluated.

EMR is complete all communities have gone live except for Tuktoyaktuk; they will be going live in October.

**10. Date of Next RWC Meeting**

Members of the board stated that December is very busy in the communities; a suggestion was made to have the next face to face meeting the first or second week of January. Lorna Gruben-Matthew will send suggested dates.



**11. Closing Reflections / Prayer**

Ms. Annie Isabel Goose closed off the meeting with a prayer.

**12. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 4:14 p.m.

Recorded by: Lorna Gruben-Matthew

Minutes approved by the NTHSSA – Beaufort Delta Region Regional Wellness Council

On the 5<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2018

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ethel-Jean Gruben, Council Chair