



NTHSSA • ASTNO

## Yellowknife Regional Wellness Council Meeting Minutes

**Wednesday, September 21, 2022**

**4:30 PM – 7:00PM**

**Location: Goga Cho 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Boardroom** (4916 47<sup>th</sup> Street)

**Teleconference:** 1 647 556 5305 | Code: 13371256#

**Video:** <https://my.telemerge.ca/meet/13371256>

**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:**

- ✓ Nancy Trotter, Chair
- ✓ Gloria Enzoe
- ✓ Nancy Cymbalisty
- ✓ Elizabeth Liske

- ✓ Gilbert Langsi - virtual
- ✓ Marie Speakman
- R** Brandie Miersch

**Employees:**

- ✓ Lorie-Anne Danielson

- ✓ Cynthia Jewell

**Guests:**

- Allen Stanzell - virtual
- Jennifer Torode - virtual

#	Item	Time	Responsibility
1.0	Call to Order	4:45	Chairperson
2.0	Reflection/Prayer Opening prayer led by Marie Speakman	4:46	Marie Speakman
3.0	Welcome & Introductions Nancy T welcomed everyone to the meeting. Welcome to the new Stanton Territorial Hospital COO, Jennifer Torode. Thank you to Katy Davis for her time as a member on the RWC		
	3.1 Acknowledgement of traditional territory	4:48	Chairperson
	3.2 Safety Overview	4:51	

4.0	Guest Speaker			
	4.1 Regional Wellness Council Handbook update <b>Guest Speaker: Allen Stanzell, Senior Advisor Governance</b> Presentation provided			
	Focus of Discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update to RWC Handbook</li> <li>• Remind to review code of conduct and sign if it has not been done and provide back to the executive assistant.</li> <li>• Undertaking a round of nominations for new RWC members in other regions.</li> <li>• Handbook will be available on the website <a href="https://www.nthssa.ca/en/governance">https://www.nthssa.ca/en/governance</a></li> </ul>			
	Q: what pages in the handbook have been updated? A: In the first 40 pages of the Handbook there are many small grammatical updates. Page 16 is the update on system governance. Please see the NTHSSA website for all governance materials.			
5.0	Agenda and Minutes			
	5.1 Previous Meeting Minutes – Review and Approval <b>Motion: Nancy Cymbalisty</b> <b>Second: Marie Speakman</b> <b>All in Favor: Approved</b>	5:05	Chairperson	
	5.2 Approval of Agenda <b>Motion: Gloria Enzoe</b> <b>Second: Nancy Cymbalisty</b> <b>All in Favor: Approved</b>	5:08		
	5.3 Declaration of Conflict of Interest <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No conflicts were declared</li> </ul>	5:10		
6.0	Business Arising			
	6.1 RWC Activity Plan Based on council members input, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep meetings on the third Wednesday of the month</li> <li>• Food suggestions for the meetings (Cynthia to get cost analysis from restaurants that deliver) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Support local</li> <li>◦ Submit allergies to Cynthia</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Try to have 1 presentation per meeting, but there could be issues that arise which result in more than one presentation at a meeting.</li> <li>• Activity Plan Calendar reviewed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Sept is our planning meeting</li> <li>◦ Members are interested in a tour of the legacy building</li> <li>◦ Interest in more awareness around dementia and senior's health</li> <li>◦ The activity plan is a draft based on suggestions from council members</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	5:25	Chairperson	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Suggestion for Oct Meeting, Legacy building update</li> <li>○ In January the Indigenous Patient Advocates and Physicians for Environment</li> <li>○ February meeting, investigate holding at City Hall Boardroom or Baker's centre for Child and Family Services update</li> <li>○ May meeting, the new Stanton COO, this may change as the COO is interested in attending each RWC meeting</li> <li>○ April meeting, investigate holding in Dettah/Ndilo <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Invite Chief and Director of the wellness department</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ All presenters will be invited as soon as possible</li> </ul>		
7.0	<p><b>Chairperson Report</b> See attached report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Congratulations to Gloria and Brandie whose terms were renewed by the Minister of Health and Social Services.</li> <li>• The Northwest Territories Health and Social Services Authority AGM will be held on Sept 29<sup>th</sup> at the Explorer Hotel. The meeting is open to the public. Everyone is invited to attend.</li> </ul>	5:30	Chairperson
8.0	<p><b>COO Report</b> See attached report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Busy summer for YK Region, Staff BBQ's this past summer &amp; community BBQ's</li> <li>• No show campaign kick-off next month</li> <li>• Closing the covid testing centre in December</li> <li>• July met with the Chief's and SAO in Lutsel K'e and Fort Resolution</li> <li>• Foot care only service is on hold</li> <li>• Vacancies in Mental health</li> <li>• Public Health – syphilis continues to increase</li> <li>• OCPHO is developing Public Health Campaign</li> <li>• Update from Legacy Building Project manager. 76% construction is complete. 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, spiritual room completed, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor 90% completed, 1<sup>st</sup> floor needs, painting, sanding etc.</li> </ul> <p>Q: Has there been any hospitalizations for covid? A: Yes, 2-5 people at any given time in Stanton have COVID – may not be admitted with COVID. Stanton is anticipating an increase, no spikes yet.</p> <p>Q: Does the indigenous population have higher numbers of COVID than non-indigenous people? A: the OCPHO been monitoring the trends. COO will follow up and see if this is available.</p> <p>Q: Are we tracking the number of long COVID cases?</p>	5:50	COO

	<p>A: COO will follow up but not that we are aware of.</p> <p>Q: Do we have covid vaccine for 0-to-5-year-olds? A: Any one over the age of 6 months can receive COVID vaccine. Information is available on the NTHSSA website.</p> <p>Q: What schools have vacancies of Child, Youth and Community Counsellors (CYCC)? A: There were 5 vacancies, but we filled 2 of them. COO will provide RWC with locations of the 3 vacancies. There is coverage plans in place.</p> <p>Q: Yellowknife to be the first to use the point of care tests. Could you expand? A: Syphilis Point of care testing is not approved by health Canada yet, however OCPHO has gotten approval to use and train staff to use in the NWT. It is a finger poke test. Piloting in Yellowknife first. All staff received training in July 2022.</p> <p>Q: How long is the pilot? A: Approximately 1 Month starting at the end of September and then a review</p> <p>Q: Are there any stats in the communities that have syphilis A: Yes, OCPHO has the stats on their website.</p> <p>Q: Will the flu vaccine be available for seniors at the Bakers Centre? A: Janie has offered it to AVENS and they are arranging for the seniors that live there.</p> <p>Q: Is Home Care actively recruiting foot care nurses? A: Yes, and encouraging staff to take the foot care training</p>		
9.0	<p>Roundtable Updates - Community activities, questions, and concerns</p> <p>Q: International Travel and COVID. Returning to Canada from International travel do we use the arrive can app or show proof of vaccination. A: There isn't a requirement for a PCR test returning to Canada, but they are still doing random testing. This will be changing shortly by the Federal government. Will be announced on the news.</p> <p>Q: CHR in N'Dilo and Dettah how is the process going? A: Job description is with Job Evaluation should be posted within the next 2 weeks.</p> <p>Q: Is there anything happening around suicide? Do you use elders to help in communities? A: Yes, we are working on Territorial supports, using the resources we have in the NWT right now. We are working with</p>	6:10	Chairperson

	the communities and identifying what they need, and we are trying to support.  Comment: I would like to thank Lorie-Anne for coming to Lutsel K'e. As a community member having you and the managers visible in the community shows that we are important. Services and issues can be addressed if we have issues or concerns. I do worry about the CHR and the outreach programs with all the staff shortages.		
10.0	RWC Report to Leadership Council - Items to take forward to the Leadership Council - deferred	6:25	Chairperson
	10.1 Review Action Items	6:30	
11.0	New Business		
12.0	Closing Reflections / Prayer	6:36	TBD
13.0	Motion to Adjourn <b>Motion: Elizabeth Liske</b> <b>Second: Marie Speakman</b> <b>All in Favor: Approved</b>	6:39	Chairperson

Next Meeting – November 16, 2022

	<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>OWNER</b>	<b>ASSIGNED</b>	<b>DUe</b>	<b>Completed</b>
<b>1.</b>	Cost Analystist – Restaurants	Lorie-Anne	Cynthia	Oct 2022	
<b>2.</b>	Tour Legacy STH Building (Jan/Feb)	Lorie-Anne	Cynthia	Nov 2022	
<b>3.</b>	Invite Ndilo/Dettah Chief – April Meeting	Nancy T	Elizabeth	Oct 2022	
<b>4.</b>	Long Covid included in the OCHPO trends	Lorie-Anne	Lorie-Anne	ASAP	

## Regional Wellness Council Chair Report

Region:	<i>Yellowknife Region</i>
Meeting Date:	<i>September 21, 2022</i>
Meeting Location:	<i>Yellowknife</i>

### Recent Activities:

Many of you know, my term on the RWC as well as that of Brandie Miersch and Gloria Enzoe has been renewed for another term. Thank you to Brandie and Gloria for your time and commitment. I look forward to serving with all of you as we represent the people of our region.

During the summer, I participated in two virtual meetings for the Leadership Council. First, I participated in the CEO annual performance evaluation on July 27. We all appreciate the hard work of our CEO Kim Riles. Second, I participated in a finance meeting on August 24 to accept the Auditor General (OAG) Audit Report. During this meeting we also approved the audited financial statements for the 2021-22 fiscal year. These statements will be available at the September AGM.

I was honored to participate in the Staff Appreciation BBQ at the Frame Lake clinic on August 3<sup>rd</sup>. It was a pleasure to meet staff members and express appreciation for their hard work.

### Future Activities:

The next Leadership Council meeting will take place at the Explorer Hotel on Thursday September 29<sup>th</sup>. The meeting will be followed by the NTHSSA AGM. There will be an opportunity to formally thank Jim Antoine for his service and meet the new Leadership council chair, Gerry Cheezie. The AGM is open to the public. You can attend virtually or in person.

Respectfully Submitted  
Nancy Trotter



## Chief Operating Officer – Yellowknife Region Report to the Regional Wellness Council

September 21, 2022

Prepared by: Lorie-Anne Danielson

### **Key Updates:**

The Yellowknife Regional Leadership team has been working diligently over the last few months to appreciate staff. Staff BBQs were held in Yellowknife at Frame Lake Clinic and downtown by the Goga Cho building. A Staff BBQ was held in Fort Resolution and a staff subway lunch was held in Lutsel K'e. All staff were entered in draws for prizes and the regional leadership team was on hand to serve the staff.

To recognize our long service employees, we have arranged to have the 2020-2022 recipients receive their awards in the great room at the legislative assembly on Sept 22, 2022, at 2:00. The Minister of Health will be in attendance and bring well wishes.

Over July and August, I visited Fort Resolution and Lutsel K'e meeting with the Chief's, SAO's and the Hamlet Mayor. The majority of the concerns surround medical travel, and these have been passed on to the program. I also covered as Acting COO for the DehCho Region from August 3 to Sept 6, 2022.

A learning circle was held with the regional Leadership team at Fred Henne in early August to develop the leadership skills of the team and develop operational goals for 2022-2023.

### **Primary Care Update:**

- A communications campaign regarding No Shows to medical appointments called "Make the right call! Cancel if you cannot come!" will be starting next week. In July 2022, we had 500 no shows to appointments in Frame Lake and Primary Care. Rehabilitation services had 146 no shows to appointments in July.
- Primary Care has 3 new Nurse Practitioners started and were able to hire one new MD. This will help to alleviate some of the pressures the team has felt as a result of the staffing shortages.

Sept 21, 2022

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### **Community Health Centers**

- Fort Resolution has been with 2 nurses only throughout the summer with some days having 3 nurses.
- The Mental Health team in Fort Resolution has been working with the Chief to support the spiritual retreat and the impact the use of ground penetrating technologies at the old resident school site has had on community members.
- Lutsel K'e has been at full staff – 2 nurses throughout the summer.
- The Mental Health team increased their services over the last two weeks to support the community after the issue with ENR. The Counselor will be staying in the community for 3 weeks rather than alternating one week in, one week out.
- The Community Health Representative position in N'Dilo and Dettah is being implemented.

### **Home Care Services**

- Foot care only services were held over the summer due to a lack of qualified staff to perform foot care. Notices went out to the community and all clients were contacted.
- The team has been significantly impacted by staff shortages, as well as an increase in palliative patients requiring 24-hour care. The team has been working hard to ensure core services are provided in a timely fashion.

### **Community Mental Health Services**

- The team continues to see vacancies in the Child, Youth and Community Counseling program, however, are working hard to recruit. Unfortunately, the CYCC in Fort Resolution is leaving at the end of September.

### **Public Health**

- Syphilis continues to be on an increase. Staff attended Folk on the Rocks over summer as “angels” and distributed condoms and prevention information. Condoms and information were also distributed throughout the bars in Yellowknife. The OCPHO is developing a public health campaign as well.
- The Yellowknife team will be the first to use the Point of Care test starting towards the end of September.

### **Legacy Stanton Renewal Project**

- The Financial Management Board submission for staff funding has been completed and submitted to the Department for their review and input.
- Staff tours will be taking place in October
- A mock exam room is being established so staff can see what the set up will look like
- Plan for moving rehabilitation services and Primary care into the space first at the beginning to mid-February.
- A phased in approach will be used when filling the long term care beds.

### **COVID Testing & Immunization Update**

- The COVID Testing Centre on Archibald Street is open Monday-Friday from 0830-1600, closed for

lunch between 1145-1300 and on statutory holidays. Upon arrival clients are asked questions to determine the most appropriate method of testing and provided with molecular testing or a rapid antigen home test kit. Online booking is still encouraged, but walk-ins may be accepted based on capacity.

- **2022 Update on Covid Boosters and Seasonal Flu Immunizations:**  
October 2023 is our NWT kickoff for Covid boosters (monovalent and bivalent vaccines available) and seasonal flu immunizations!
- Covid Boosters:
  - Covid boosters will be provided throughout the territories for any individuals that are 3 months post Covid infection, 6 months past last Covid dose, and are 5 years of age and older. This follows NACI, CPHO and Territorial Medical Director recommendations for the fall booster campaign.
  - Bivalent Covid vaccine (containing two strains of the Covid virus) will be available starting on October 1 and we will roll this out initially to priority populations that are at highest risk for burden of disease. This will include individuals that are 65 years of age and older, long term care residents, as well as the 12 and over severely immunocompromised populations.
  - We are currently going to receive a larger allocation of bivalent vaccine than initially anticipated, so are expecting to have it available to the rest of the general population relatively soon.
  - MODERNA and Pfizer monovalent (ancestral strain) vaccine will be available for anybody that would like a booster dose, as long as they meet the criteria of 3 months post Covid infection, 6 months past last Covid dose and are 5 years of age and older. These original monovalent vaccines remain very effective against the Covid virus and helps an individual to produce excellent antibody loads to fight a Covid viral infection.
- Flu Vaccine:
  - This year's seasonal flu vaccine is a quadrivalent vaccine containing 4 varied strains of influenza and is available to anyone 6 months of age and older.
  - This will be available starting on October 1 throughout the territories.
  - Each community will be providing flu vaccines clinics and will be scheduling clinics to align with community needs.
  - In Yellowknife our Covid Immunization Response Team (CIRT) will run an ongoing clinic for the month of October, but the flu vaccine will remain available throughout the year.
- Link to the COVID immunization locations and schedule:  
<https://www.nthssa.ca/en/services/coronavirus-disease-covid-19-updates/covid-vaccine>