

**Dehcho Regional Wellness Council Meeting
September 11, 2020
9:00am
Teleconference**

Minutes

Called in:

Ruby Simba, Chairperson
Raymond Michaud
Muaz Hassan
Janna Deneron

Regrets:

Brenda Jumbo
Hilda Sabourin

Staff Participants:

Wilson Dimsdale
Jocelyn Kierstead

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- 1.0 Call to Order - RWC Chairperson**
Meeting called to order at 9:08am
 - 2.0 Reflection / Prayer**
Offered by Janna Deneron
 - 3.0 Attendance (see above)**
 - 4.0 Approval of the Agenda - RWC Chairperson**
Approval of the September 11, 2020 RWC Agenda
Moved by: Raymond Michaud
Seconded by: Muaz Hassan
All in favor: all
 - 5.0 Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**
Approval of June 12, 2020 Minutes as amended
Moved by: Raymond Michaud
Second: Muaz Hassan
All in favor: all

6.0 Business Arising from Previous Minutes

Muaz asked why the Pandemic Plan is not released to the public yet. Wilson Dimsdale answered that the public information is posted on the NTHSSA website. Dr. Bing Guthrie was to answer questions regarding the Pandemic Plan from the Regional Wellness Council (RWC), but will have to reschedule and attend another meeting, he sends his regrets.

The members of the Regional Wellness Council 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. The draft letter is with the communications department; Allen Stanzell has been providing updates.

Raymond Michaud brought concerns with the Regional office being closed. The GNWT has been given direction to have employees work remotely. The NTHSSA Dehcho Regional office is currently working on the environmental checklist and return to work protocols in accordance with directives from the Chief Public Health Officer (CPHO).

Action items to follow up on, Ruby is to draft the letter of support and having someone at the Regional Office answering and directing phone calls and communication to the public. Ruby is also drafting a letter of support from the Dehcho RWC to Dennis Nelner as approved by the RWC at the meeting in May 2020.

7.0 Pandemic Plan – In-camera session

10:05am

Move to in-camera session: Raymond Michaud

Seconded by: Muaz Hassan

10:48am

Move out of in-camera session: Raymond Michaud

Seconded by: Muaz Hassan

Ryan Hewlett spoke to the pandemic plan and summary. The Dehcho Manager Primary Care position is currently being recruited, that position will have an understanding of the Pandemic Plan how it affects the Dehcho.

8.0 Chief Operating Officer report

Wilson began with the previous Manager Primary Care Services no longer serves in the Dehcho, the position is currently in the hiring process.

Amy Stipdonk, Manager Continuing Care Services is on leave, Malerie Norwegian is acting Manager while Amy is away. We are currently seeking coverage for Malerie's home position as Long Term Care Nurse in Charge (NIC) while she is acting Manager.

The Regional Office is currently in the process of gaining approval to return to work after COVID-19. Challenges have risen in the Region and the health care system since COVID-19. NTHSSA has implemented a continuous masking policy; this will be carried out throughout the Territory.

Scheduling of the physicians is currently sufficient, there are two vacancies; there is at least one physician working in Fort Simpson until January 2021.

Child, Youth and Family Services have a high turnover for employees in the NWT. Family Preservation Position has been created to support with social workers and support the families they work with. Child Youth Care Counselor position in Fort Providence will be filled.

Wilson stated that Lauren O'Keefe is acting Manager for Mental Health and Addictions services, Sarah Day will be returning from Maternity leave back to the Manager position at the end of September.

Muaz stated that we do have vacancies, we should be able to better prepare for these when recruiting for positions. We need to be more proactive in recruiting positions in the Dehcho.

9.0 Community Reports

Raymond gave his report for Fort Simpson stating that he will be bringing forward to the Minister the travel claim amounts, and changes with the medical travel policy.

Raymond discussed issues with the self-isolation centres, there have been concerns brought to Raymond's attention regarding the food not being good for diabetics, rooms being too cold, and other issues with the hotels used as isolation centres.

Muaz stated that he sits on the school DEA, they have opened the schools across the NWT and they have a very good return plan with social distancing and masks wearing protocols.

Muaz gave feedback on the Suicide prevention walk that took place September 10, he would like to praise the Mental Health and Addictions team for organizing this.

Janna brought forward some concerns in Fort Liard, the dental team is not visiting the community, community members are told to go see the nurse. There are also issues with calling the health centre, the phone rings and no one picks up. There have been requests from the community to have a poster with the names of the community social service workers.

Ruby started that since the last meeting in June 12, 2020, she has been involved in Leadership Council Meetings. They are meeting with the auditing chief and information sessions for SAM. Ruby has seen first-hand in the community of Kakisa how everything shut down; there was not a lot of outreach from the Government to the community.

10.0 Public Delegates

No public concerns to report.

Next RWC meeting tentatively scheduled for December 2020.

11.0 Closing Reflections/Prayer

Offered by Raymond Michaud

12.0 Adjournment

Motion Muaz Hassan

Second Janna Deneron

In favor all

Motion passed

Meeting adjourned 2:55pm