

## Regional Wellness Council Meeting Minutes

**Wednesday, April 19, 2023**

#	Item	Details	Time	Responsibility
1.0	Call to Order	2:01 PM		Chairperson
2.0	Reflection / Prayer	Led by Council Member	2:02 PM	Mary Pat Short
3.0	Attendance	<p><b>In Attendance</b></p> <p>Governance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The Chair, Ms. Phyllis Mawdsley</li> <li>○ Council Member, Ms. Lynda Martin</li> <li>○ Council Member, Mr. Don Webb</li> <li>○ Council Member, Ms. Dianna Korol</li> <li>○ Council Member, Ms. Mary Pat Short</li> <li>○ Council Member, Ms. Lorraine Tordiff</li> <li>○ CEO NTHSSA, Kim Riles</li> <li>○ COO Stanton Territorial Hospital, Jennifer Torode</li> <li>○ Governance Advisor, Susan Laramee</li> </ul> <p>Regrets:</p> <p>Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ COO Fort Smith Region, Sujata Ganguli</li> <li>○ Executive Assistant, Candace Dion</li> </ul>	2:02 PM	Executive Assistant
4.0	Approval of the Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Moved by Mr. Don Webb</li> <li>○ Seconded by Ms. Dianna Korol</li> <li>○ That the agenda be accepted as presented.</li> </ul>	2:04 PM	Council Members
5.0	Guest Kim Riles, NTHSSA CEO and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ CEO Kim Riles introduced herself and Stanton COO Jennifer Torode. The Senior Governance Advisor, Susan Laramee, has also accompanied them.</li> <li>○ Discussion questions brought forward by council members:           <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Non-government NTHSSA Contracted Services in the Fort Smith Community.</b> Can the CEO please update the RWC on the status of these contracts and the future planning for providing these services? What can the NTHSSA do to help fill the gaps in the services for children and families? - The Sutherland house was under contract with Metis Nation for eight months until</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	2:04 PM	<p>Special Guests: Kim Riles, NTHSSA CEO,</p> <p>Troubleshoot chat settings.</p>

	<p>November 2023. The COO will renew the Request for Proposals (RFP) for it. The Polar Crescent Group home contract will be sent out. Because of the low intake for Trailcross, they are looking at a different model – Four Rodes Consulting. They want to provide on-the-land programs with the youth and change the model to short-term land-based treatment. Planning on providing three pilots, one in the Beaufort-Delta region, one in the Yellowknife Region, and one in the Fort Smith Region.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. <b>Dental Services.</b> What tools are available to access quality dental services for residents of Fort Smith and hold providers accountable for their work? What options do residents have when they receive poor quality of service or are without services? - Dental services are being investigated in all Regions of the NWT.</li> <li>3. <b>Fort Smith Health Centre Cafeteria.</b> What types of support can the NTHSSA provide to operationalize the Fort Smith Regional Health Centre cafeteria, and when can the public expect this service to open? - The COO of Fort Smith advised that we need to hire a dietary supervisor and dishwasher before we can open.</li> <li>4. <b>Midwifery in the Fort Smith Region.</b> Can the CEO update the RWC on the status of midwifery services and the resumption of full services in the community? - No new updates; still not able to hire long-term midwives at this point in time to resume birthing services.</li> <li>5. <b>Fort Smith Region Health Centre Signage.</b> Can additional resources be dedicated to updating and increase the signage in the Fort Smith Regional Health Centre? - Signage revamp for the</li> </ol>	
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	<p>whole NTHSSA, expect new signage of June 2023.</p> <p>6. <b>Mental Health Counselling Reform.</b> Can the CEO provide an update on this endeavor? What are the potential next steps the NTHSSA plans to move this initiative forward in the Fort Smith Region? - They are doing individual community reviews to see what the outcome and changes are being offered. The CEO recommends we invite Arlene Jorgensen to a future RWC meeting to give us a presentation on the new Mental Health Reform.</p> <p>7. <b>Medical Travel.</b> What recommendations may you suggest for resolving these issues for patients travelling? What are the potential next steps at the territorial level to help alleviate the concerns with this program? - Always a big issue across the NWT. The CEO recommends bringing their issues to the Indigenous Patient Advocate (SIPA), Glenda Simson. And to keep it on the agenda for the Leadership Council to get an update from the minister. The COO responded - with the support of the Regional Quality Manager, regional managers are meeting regularly to identify areas of process improvement to the specialist appointment booking system and how Fort Smith staff intersect with the territorial travel booking systems.</p> <p>8. <b>Ground Ambulance and Highway Rescue.</b> When will we see any formal work done on this issue, and how can the Regional Wellness Council advocate for this? - The CEO recommends bringing this to the Leadership Council minister.</p> <p>9. <b>Response to Regional Concerns.</b> Does the CEO have any recommendations to close the loop for RWC members to learn the status of the concerns brought forward by the RWC Chair's report at the</p>	
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		<p>Leadership Council Meeting? - Good question; we are trying to work things out. It is recognized as an issue, and we recommend bringing it to the Leadership Council.</p> <p><b>10. What is being done for physician recruitment and retention?</b> The Office of Medical Affairs and Credentialing (OMAC) is working on standardized orientation, onboarding new physicians, and investing in education.</p> <p><b>11. How can the community members in border town access services available to the Fort Smith community?</b> Can we create some partnerships with Alberta Healthcare? - The CEO suggests that the chair follow up on this with the Leadership Council and Minister.</p>		
5.1	Jennifer Torode, CEO of Stanton Territorial Hospital	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Jennifer Torode Presented the services offered at the Stanton Territorial Hospital in Yellowknife.</li> </ul>		Jennifer Torode, COO of Stanton Territorial Hospital.
6.0	Previous Meeting Minutes - Review and Approval	<p>Previous Meeting Minutes – Review and Approval of March 15, 2023,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Moved by Ms. Mary Pat Short</li> <li>• Seconded by Ms. Lorraine Tordiff</li> </ul> <p>The EA will resend the Cancer Care presentation to council members.</p>	4:47 PM	Council Members
7.0	Business Arising from the Previous Meeting Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ A council member noted that one of our physicians loved the welcome package given to her by the EA, provided by the Town of Fort Smith. The package included a reusable shopping bag, a water bottle with the Fort Smith logo, a town map and trail map of Fort Smith, and a key chain with the Fort Smith Logo.</li> <li>○ The council members would like the EA to attach the COO and Chair reports to future minutes.</li> <li>○ A Council member suggests that an administrative staff be dedicated to answering calls and taking messages in the</li> </ul>	4:47 PM	Chair & Council Members

		clinic so that calls and voicemails are answered promptly. The COO responded that doing so would still result in many calls going to voicemail as the clinic receives more than 50 daily calls. Concerns/issues with specific employees should be sent to the COO and the Regional Manager of Primary Care, Lindsay Mackenzie.		
8.0	<b>New Business</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Susan Laramee will work with the EA to get meeting notifications and minutes posted publicly. Minutes are to be sent to communications and Susan. They must also be translated into French.</li> </ul>	5:11 PM	Chair & Council Members
9.0	The COO Report	The COO presented her report to the council - see attached.	5:18 PM	The COO
10.0	Chairpersons Report	The Chair presented her report to the council - see attached.	5:32 PM	The Chair
11.0	Action Items Review	<p>The council reviewed a sample work plan to replace the current action item review spreadsheet.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ RWC members can be powerful advocates to help staff make things happen. The COO will contact the council when she needs them to advocate for the Health Centre.</li> <li>○ There is a track record of concerns brought forward by the council and the Fort Smith community.</li> <li>○ Council members Mary Pat Short and Don Webb motioned to accept the Smartsheet transfer to the new drafted copy.</li> </ul>	5:33 PM	Chair/Council Members, and the COO
12.0	RWC Member Observation and Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ A council member commented that having the CEO and Stanton COO here was very informative.</li> <li>○ Issues regarding medical escorts for community members. Option to draft a list of people interested in escorting community members who don't have anyone to escort them on their medical travels.</li> <li>○ Issues regarding the renovation of the secure room located in the ACC. This impacts the safety of the community. The COO and other relevant Health Centre staff are communicating with infrastructure regarding this work, which will begin in the fall.</li> </ul>	6:00 PM	Chair/Council Members

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The nomination period for RWC members will be launched in the next week or two. This is a Ministerial process.</li> <li>○ The Council has adopted to the land base acknowledgment that they are on First Nations Land. Similar to what the Town of Fort Smith uses at the beginning of their meetings.</li> </ul>		
13.0	Decision Items and Recommendations to the NTHSSA Leadership Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The next Leadership Council meeting will be in June.</li> <li>○ Issues and concerns with community members who reside in border towns. Due to some Alberta restrictions, they don't get the same level of healthcare as the rest of Fort Smith.</li> <li>○ Ground ambulance mandate recommendations.</li> <li>○ Medical Travel Policy review</li> <li>○ Our SIPA, Glenda Simon, will be an advocate for Fort Smith First Nations.</li> <li>○ The next Regional Wellness Council meeting is scheduled for May 17. Option to have Jerry Cheezie attend. Susan will follow up.</li> </ul>	6:21 PM	Chair/Council Members
14.0	Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Moved by Ms. Dianna Korol</li> <li>○ Seconded by Ms. Lorraine Tordiff</li> <li>○ Meeting Adjournment at 6:45 PM</li> </ul>	6:24 PM	Council Members