

Wednesday, June 16, 2021

Regional Wellness Council Meeting Minutes

#	Item	Details	Time	Responsibility
1.0	Call to Order	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Meeting was called to order at 6:37 		RWC Chairperson
2.0	Reflection / Prayer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The prayer was led by the Chairperson, Ms. Patricia Schaefer 		Chairperson
3.0	Presentation – Protect NWT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Emerging Wisely Presentation was reviewed. ○ Chair inquired regarding timelines for exemptions. ProtectNWT advised that earlier is preferable. ○ Member inquired why they are waiting until day 14 to test in smaller communities. ProtectNWT advised that this decision is based on medical evidence. ○ Member inquired if the border check-point in Fort Smith will be closing. It was stated that this is the case. ○ Concern was raised by the Chair noting that ProtectNWT response to reported incidents was slow. ○ Concerns were raised by Members regarding covid cases in Fort Chipewyan and their impact on Fort Smith. Protect NWT stated that NWT residents will soon be able to travel south of the border. 		Protect NWT
4.0	Attendance	<p>Members In Attendance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ms. Patricia Schaefer – Chairperson ○ Ms. Linda Mabbitt ○ Ms. Gloria Villebrun ○ Ms. Lorraine Tordiff <p>Regrets: Mr. Lloyd Jones</p> <p>Executive</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ms. Sujata Ganguli, Chief Operating Officer ○ Ms. Rohma Nawaz 		Executive Assistant
5.0	Approval of the Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Moved by Ms. Lorraine Tordiff, seconded by Mr. Linda Mabbitt that 		Chairperson

		the agenda for the Fort Smith Regional Wellness Council (RWC) meeting of June 16, 2021 be approved.		
6.0	Previous Meeting Minutes - Review and Approval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Moved by Ms. Gloria Villebrun. Seconded by Ms. Lorraine Tordiff. o All in favor. 		Chairperson
7.0	Business Arising from the Previous Meeting Minutes	None		
8.0	COVID 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o COO advised that immunization clinics are on-going, and they will continue in the evenings due to demand. o The Chair inquired if the NWT has determined incentives to encourage the population to get immunized. o COO advised that the region has ability to invent in their own incentives. She noted that they are working on some. o It was noted that evening clinics are improving turnout. 		
9.0	Chairpersons Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o 		
10.0	RWC Member Observations and Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Member noted that they have taken away testing, and this will affect Fort Smith. o COO advised that there are no longer lab analyzers, but we have a new benchtop hematology analyzer that is now in use. She noted that they have had it for a few months but were waiting for final commissioning. She added that nurses are trained on running samples. The new analyzer does all but three tests that were previously done. Those three tests are not ones that you would be using to make an immediate decision. She added that the point of care devices which we have locally give the capacity to conduct tests that pertain to immediate decision making. o Member inquired why it was necessary to move to the smaller 		

		<p>machines. COO noted that being a small center they were challenges around keeping quality control, instruments and big analyzers in working order and hiring staff with the expertise to run them is and will continue to be very difficult.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Member raised concerns regarding a resident at NLSCH. They felt that elders don't get to see a physician until they are very sick. COO noted that the QMS is waiting for a review of this specific case and it cannot be discussed at this meeting for privacy reasons. ○ The member felt that seeing a physician every Monday is not sufficient, and residents should be brought to the ER. ○ COO advised that nursing staff are always on-site, and if a resident mentions that they are unwell the nursing staff will respond and take them to the ER or clinic. ○ Member inquired if counselling services are extended to residents at NLSCH. She stated that the high percentage of depression in that age and population. ○ COO noted that it would be provided whenever needed. She also advised that the counsellors are not specifically educated to provide elder care. ○ The Chair inquired if they have an activity coordinator. COO advised that they have one full time staff, and one additional staff hired due to COVID. ○ Member noted that the elder populations is growing, and more resources should be allocated to that group as they are often without a voice. ○ COO advised that she is trying to obtain funding for a geriatric social worker. Member noted that something broader than that is 		
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		<p>needed such as geriatric counseling training.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Chair noted the number of vacancies, especially in Acute Care. COO advised that they are constantly interviewing for those positions, but that the lack of housing is a big concern, especially for families. 		
11.0	Decision Items and Recommendations to the NTHSSA Leadership Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Medical Travel 		
11.0	Action Items Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 		
14.0	Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Moved by Ms. Lorraine Tordiff, seconded by Ms. Linda Mabbitt that the meeting be adjourned at 8:10 p.m. ○ Next meeting is TBD. 		