

**Regional Wellness Council – Sahtu Region
First Planning Meeting – MINUTES**

Sunday, August 28, 2016 | 9:00am – 12:15pm

NTHSSA Region Board Room, 2nd floor, 27 Mackenzie Drive, Norman Wells, NT

#	Item	Notes
1.0	Call to Order by Chair	9:10a.m.
2.0	Reflection/Prayer	
	Led by Chair	
3.0	Attendance	
	<p><u>Attendees:</u> Gina Dolphus - Chair Alphonsine McNeely Irene Kodakin Brenda T'Seleie Sandy Whiteman Patricia Kyle - A/COO – Assistant Deputy Minister, Families and Communities Arthur Bungay - Director, Finance and Administration</p> <p><u>Regrets:</u> Andrea Modeste Theresa Etchinelle Mireille Hamlyn – COO</p>	
4.0.	Approval of Agenda	Action
	<p><i>The Council moves to approve the Agenda as presented.</i> Motion # 01-16 Moved by: Sandy Whiteman Seconded by: Brenda T'Seleie All in Favour. Motion Carried</p>	
5.0	Previous Meeting Minutes – Review and Approval	Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ N/A 	
6.0	Business Arising from the Previous Meeting Minutes	Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ N/A 	

7.0	Chairperson's Report	Action
	<p>Introduction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ After the Regional Wellness Council (RWC) Gathering on August 10-11, 2016, the NTHSSA Leadership Council held a meeting on August 12, 2016. ▪ The Leadership Council also held a conference call on Friday, August 26, 2016 at 11:00a.m. ▪ Chair acknowledged that the timing of meetings can be difficult and thanked everyone for attending the meeting today. ▪ Chair requested members' guidance for the upcoming Leadership Council meeting on September 12, 2016 in Yellowknife. ▪ Chair requested review of Sahtu notes from Regional Wellness Council Orientation on August 10-11, 2016 – see attached. ▪ The agenda for today's meeting is a template provided by Senior Project Manager, Health and Social Services System Transformation; it can be added to and changed as needed. <p>7.1 Sahtu Executive Leadership Development Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Minister Abernethy has received applications for the Sahtu leadership training position for the NTHSSA – Sahtu Region COO Position. ▪ Chair – Sahtu Regional Wellness Council was asked by NTHSSA CEO Sue Cullen to review resumes and participate in the interview process. <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Was a call sent out to all Sahtu community members? Who is on the hiring committee? ▪ Council noted lack of advertising or consultation. ▪ Could youth or people from the community apply? We can learn from the past to help with the future. ▪ Isn't Mireille (Mimi) Hamlyn the COO for the Sahtu region? ▪ A/COO shared that the Executive Leadership Development Program works to develop the skills of an individual who has the potential to be in a senior management position in the HSS system. Support is provided for up to two years and includes health and social programs skill development. One of the Executive Leadership positions is for the Sahtu Region. <p>7.3 Leadership Council Meeting Highlights (August 12, 2016):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No alternate can be designated to attend a Leadership Council Meeting on behalf of the Chair of the Regional Wellness Council – Sahtu Region. ▪ Corporate By-Laws are currently being reviewed. There are aspects of the By-Laws that the 	<p>Action (Chair – Sahtu RWC): Council requests further information regarding Executive Leadership Training position.</p>

	<p>Leadership Council does not agree with. For example - RWC Sahtu Region Chair recommends a Vice-Chair position on the Leadership Council to ensure representation for northern regions (Sahtu and Beaufort Delta).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Regional Wellness Council Chair’s term is for three years. <p>Question: How long is the appointment for a RWC member? This information was not included in the letters of appointment that RWC members received.</p> <p>Answer: Chair – Sahtu RWC will obtain clarity for the Council.</p> <p>7.3 Leadership Council Meeting Highlights (August 12, 2016) Continued:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Chair reviewed the Roles and Responsibilities for Regional Wellness Council members – see attached. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regional Wellness Council operates in an advisory capacity only. - Jim Antoine is the appointed Chair of the NTHSSA Leadership Council. - The Regional Wellness Council advises their Chair. - The Chair takes recommendations to the Leadership Council meetings. ▪ Chair noted concern that the community of Colville Lake is lacking representation. ▪ Even though this community does not currently have representation, the Council is responsible for representing the concerns of Colville Lake. <p>Question: Who represents the Regional Wellness Council in the Sahtu region? For example, who would the Sahtu Secretariat Incorporated (SSI) send invitations to a meeting to? What about other community Leaders? Who do the invitations go to and who responds?</p> <p>Answer: Chair – Sahtu RWC will obtain clarity for the Council.</p> <p>Question: How do we engage with Colville Lake? Do we send a letter to the Leadership? How do we know/learn about the issues? Who do we speak with? Do we have a budget for this?</p> <p>Answer: Chair – RWC will obtain clarity for the Council.</p>	<p>Action (Chair – Sahtu RWC): Recommend a Vice-Chair position on the Leadership Council and that the Vice-Chair be from a Northern region (Sahtu or Beaufort Delta).</p> <p>Action (Chair – Sahtu RWC): Council requests further information regarding the length of term for each RWC member.</p> <p>Action (Chair – Sahtu RWC): Council requests further information regarding who on the RWC communicates with leadership in the Sahtu – who are invitations from community leaders sent to and who responds?</p> <p>Action (Chair – Sahtu RWC): Council requests further information on how best to reach out to leadership in Colville Lake.</p>
8.0	Open Discussion	Action
	<p>8.1 Logistical Support - Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What logistic support is available for RWC members? For example, can Council members use 	

	<p>the phone, fax machine, computer, and internet at local health and wellness centres?</p> <p>8.2 Communication – Discussion and Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Community members are asking questions and Council members are unsure of how to answer. ▪ It would be good to be on the local radio to discuss who is on the Council and about the role of the Council. Our communities need to know about the changes. ▪ For the sake of the Regional Wellness Council members, we need to inform the community what is, and what is not, under our umbrella. ▪ We do not want to set expectations for residents that we cannot deliver. ▪ We are not sure of our role. We are told not to do certain things. We need to understand. ▪ I want to let people know, “I’m sorry, I cannot respond. We are learning.” However we cannot be learning forever. ▪ Regarding our roles and responsibilities, we want clarity regarding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Where we are, - Where we are going, and - How are we going to do it? ▪ Information needs to be provided to people in each community regarding the roles and responsibilities of the RWC, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How do communities reach out to council members? - Who do community members go to with issues and concerns? - Who responds to media inquiries? - Can the Council approach the media (CBC)? <p>Irene Kodakin joined the meeting via teleconference at 9:54a.m.</p>	<p>Action (COO): Council requests clarification on logistical support.</p> <p>Action (Chair – Sahtu RWC): Council requests further information regarding roles and responsibilities of RWC members, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How will RWC roles and responsibilities be communicated to the public? - How does the public communicate with RWC members? - Who responds to media inquiries? - Can the RWC approach the media (local community radio, newspapers, CBC)?
9.0	Projects and Priorities	Action
	<p>Discussion: Introduction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Council reviewed Sahtu specific notes from Regional Wellness Council Orientation on August 10 and 11, 2016 – see attached. <p>Discussion: Mental Health and Addictions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Council needs to be able to guide our Mental Health and Addictions Counsellors. ▪ We do not have enough Mental Health and Addictions Counsellors. Casual staff fill in the gaps. ▪ Concerns that the system is used and abused. People take advantage of staff. How do we ad- 	<p>Action (COO): Council requests information on what positions are in each community.</p>

	<p>dress these issues with our workers? People who really need our help are left out because others abuse the system.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ This work is hard on our staff. They need a break. How do we assist our Mental Health workers? We need to meet with them. A casual counsellor does not work in the communities. People are opening doors yet there is no service there. We need full-time counsellors. People are waiting for care that is not available in their community. How do we help the community? ▪ Clients with mental health issues are being discharged from Stanton Territorial Hospital with no follow-up. <p>Discussion: Education and Training for Health and Social Services Careers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Personal Support Worker training - a one-year course was offered through Aurora College in Inuvik this past year in preparation for the new long-term care facility in Norman Wells. ▪ We have to start looking for people in community to be trained for multiple health and social programs positions. ▪ One or two years of training does not mean you are qualified across all departments. We need to encourage people to get education. ▪ Who has been trained in the Sahtu for the new facility? ▪ Young people are not applying for training beyond high school. Many courses, programs, and scholarships are offered, yet young people are not applying. The community has to work on this. ▪ Concerns that high school graduates are not receiving a quality education. Where do you go to address this? The community. ▪ On-the-job training is needed as there is nothing in the community at present. Youth have to be able to upgrade their skills. We need to speak to the leadership in the communities to address this issue. ▪ Believe in affirmative action, but at the community level, we need to make sure people are qualified for these jobs. <p>Irene Kodakin left the meeting at 10:21 am</p>	<p>Regional Priority: Improving Mental Health and Addictions care in the community and across the system.</p> <p>Action (COO): Council requests information on what training has been offered to support Sahtu residents for jobs at the new Health and Social Services Centre and Long-term Care Facility in Norman Wells.</p> <p>Regional Priority: Supporting youth to have careers in health and social services is a shared responsibility. Council encourages NTHSSA Leadership Council Chair and CEO to discuss the importance of education and training when they visit communities and speak with the leadership; encourage students to apply for scholarships.</p>
	<p>Break at 10:21a.m. – 10:32a.m.</p>	

<p>Discussion: Integration of Traditional Medicine in Health and Social Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ There is no integration of traditional medicine in health and social services care. ▪ There is no more Elders Advisory Council. ▪ What are the next steps in incorporating more traditional medicine into health and social services? More information is needed. <p>Question: What funding has been designated for Regional Wellness Council meetings? What is the budget? What can it be used for? Does any surplus not just go back to the Department of Health and Social Services?</p> <p>Answer: The A/COO shared that the NTHSSA CEO will provide budget updates at the Leadership Council Meetings. The Director, Finance and Administration shared that in the past, if the full budget for the Board is not spent, the funding goes towards programs and services. It is not restricted (returned) unless there is an overall surplus.</p> <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Council members received the agenda the day before the meeting. We require more advanced planning otherwise we are caught off-guard. There is no time to prepare. <p>Chair:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Confirmed that the next meeting will be planned further in advance. <p>Discussion: Medical Travel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Why are escorts not being paid? ▪ Escorts are being blacklisted when patients are missing appointments. There are issues with alcohol use by escorts when they should be providing care. ▪ Some Escorts do not know how to speak the language. ▪ Family members cannot get time off of work to be Escorts. ▪ Escorts get a bad name – it is shared in the community - this is not our business. ▪ In addition, family members are looking after their relatives because there is no room in Long-term Care, and there is no financial aid to help with this. ▪ The community needs to come together. We need to do more (e.g. fundraising). 	<p>Action (Chair – Sahtu RWC): Council requests information regarding how traditional medicine will be integrated in health and social services care.</p> <p>Regional Priority: Integrating traditional medicine in health and social services care.</p> <p>Action (Chair – Sahtu RWC): Council requests information regarding what budget has been allocated for the RWC and clarification as to what it can be used for.</p> <p>Action (Chair – Sahtu RWC): Council requests information regarding the role of Escorts in medical travel, including what they are expected to do and how they are compensated.</p> <p>Regional Priority: Improving Supports provided for medical travel escorts which will mean better care for medical travel patients.</p>
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Discussion: Role of Regional Wellness Council

- We need to make ourselves available for Council meetings.
- What meetings should Council members be attending in the community?
- We are important. We need to work better to educate our youth and work with our people.
- Former Sahtu Health and Social Services Board Members were not aware of Minister Abernethy's meeting regarding Health and Social Services with Territorial Leaders in Norman Wells, and were not invited to attend.
- We were left out of decision-making. Where is the Minister going with regards to the role of Regional Wellness Council Members when he has meetings in our communities? We are here to make a difference in our communities and region and need to be included.
- I am in a quandary. What is my role? I haven't made myself public, yet people are approaching me.
- I am not clear on my role and how it relates to a regional and territorial plan.
- I need to know, specifically, the expectations.
- I did not know I represented the Sahtu. I thought it was my community only.
- I need clear expectations. How do we take community concerns? Do we establish inter-agency community groups?
- For example, we have been waiting for a medical travel policy. We have not received information to make recommendations or suggestions.
- Most issues are related to health right now – I do not wish to leave social services programs by the wayside.
- Do we receive copies of the agenda for NTHSSA Leadership Council meetings? This would allow members to provide input.
- It is important for the Council to work with technology. When using email – please use “reply all” when we talk to each other. We need a list of each other's email.

Discussion: New Health and Social Services Centre and Long-term care facility in Norman Wells

- When will it be ready? When do we take ownership? When will it open?
- We need to be brought up-to-date regarding the new facility.
- How do Sahtu residents access the long-term care beds? Are Sahtu residents a priority for those beds?
- A Call for Name Submissions for the new facility was sent out. What happened?
- The A/COO shared that access to the long-term care beds are determined by a Territorial Admissions Committee that reviews all long-term care applications and makes decisions based

Action (Chair – Sahtu RWC) Continued: Council requests further information regarding roles and responsibilities of RWC members, including:

- Role of RWC members at Minister, Health and Social Services meetings in their communities.
- Role of RWC in regional and territorial planning and decision making.
- Role of RWC in listening to and addressing community concerns.
- How do RWC members provide input into Leadership Council meetings?

Action (COO): Council requests further information regarding the new Health and Social Services Centre and Long-term Care Facility in Norman Wells as well as the Long-term Care admissions process.

on the person's needs. If you have a friend or family member who you think needs to be in a long-term care facility, please contact the local Nurse in Charge for more information on how the assessment/application is completed.

- A RWC member shared that the Call for Name Submissions process was open to the public and a request for submissions was made at community healthy living fairs in Tulita, Fort Good Hope, Deline and Colville Lake. Over 80 names were submitted. The Sahtu Health and Social Services Authority (SHSSA) Board encouraged name submissions that were representative of the region. The SHSSA board made the final name selections.

Discussion: Department of Health and Social Services Patient Experience Questionnaire

- The questionnaire about health and social services care is online.
- Paper copies are also available at each Health and Social Services Centre.
- The Department of Health and Social Services completes this survey every few years.
- We hear stories about how patients are not treated well, are misdiagnosed.
- We need to hear directly from the people.
- How can we help those who cannot read and write?
- Dene Nation has completed health surveys. What does that mean for us (Health and Social Services)? The survey was completed in Deline. Not sure if it was done in other Sahtu communities.
- The Chair of the NTHSSA Leadership Council was going to speak with Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus about this.

Discussion: Sahtu Esther's Story

- Is Sahtu's Esther story continuing in the new system? Will it be used in the Sahtu? In the new Territorial Health and Social Services Authority?
- The A/COO provided some background information about how the Esther Story was developed, and how it is used in improving health and social service care and programs.
- We spoke with community members in all five Sahtu communities about their experience with health and social programs. In addition, the Board of Trustees shared their own personal stories of healing. All of these experiences were woven into the Sahtu's Esther Story – a story of how Esther and her family currently experience care and how care and services change and respond to Esther and her family's needs.
- The Board also set nine guiding principles that are the foundation for changing how the Sahtu provides health and social programs care and services.
- The question, 'How does this help Esther and her family?' helps us make decisions about how

Action (COO): Council requests a copy of the final names for the facility and who the information was sent to.

Action (COO): The Department of Health and Social Services Patient Experience questionnaire should be posted on the Norman Wells Community Channel, as well as shared on local community radio.

Action (Chair – Sahtu RWC): Council requests an update on how the health surveys completed by the Dene Nation as well as the patient experience surveys completed by the Department of Health and Social Services will be used.

Action (Chair – Sahtu RWC): Council requests information on how Sahtu's Esther will be used in the Sahtu and in other parts of the new Territorial Health and Social Services Authority.

Action (COO): Circulate the priorities outlined in meeting for review by all Council members, pri-

we use resources, work with others, and improve our services. For example, Fort Good Hope made changes to clinic appointments so that there was more flexibility for community members (i.e. well child clinic is not limited to one specific day).

Discussion: Upcoming events and meetings in the Sahtu region

- There are no known regional meetings from September to December 2016.
- It is important to note that there is an upcoming sentencing hearing in Fort Good Hope. A support system needs to be in place.
- Private Counsellors have been providing care in the community.
- NTHSSA-Sahtu Region has also been providing support.
- Sahtu staff from other communities are also valuable resources to consider.
- Fort Good Hope SAO is the primary contact.

Discussion: Dates for Regional Wellness Council Orientation

- End of September or October is preferred with the exception of September 28, 2016.
- Each Council member to examine calendar regarding dates that do not work and send those to the Chair, Sahtu RWC and the Executive Assistant.

or to next NTHSSA Leadership Council meeting on September 12, 2016.

Action (COO): Follow up with Fort Good Hope SAO regarding support plan during and after the sentencing hearing.

Action (Chair – Sahtu RWC): Provide update regarding upcoming regional meetings from September to December 2016, and request an update regarding the NTHSSA’s Leadership Council Chair and CEO’s plans for traveling to communities.

Action (Sahtu RWC - All): Provide dates in September and October that do not work for orientation before the September 12, 2016 Leadership Council Meeting.

Action (Chair – Sahtu RWC): Share preferred orientation dates for Sahtu RWC members at the September 12, 2016 Leadership Council Meeting.

10.0	Learning, Development and Innovation	Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Carried forward to next meeting. <p>Question: Does this pertain to Regional Wellness Council or NTHSSA Leaders Council development?</p>	Action (Chair – Sahtu RWC): To obtain additional information regarding this agenda item at the September Leadership Council Meeting.
11.0	Decision Items and Recommendations to the NTHSSA Leadership Council	Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Discussed in item #9. This agenda item is repetitive. 	
12.0	Action Items Review	Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ N/A 	
13.0	Closing Reflections/Prayer	Action
	<p>General Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Council would like to have monthly meetings – to start ▪ More information upfront about programs, services, and system priorities equals more valuable input the Council can provide. ▪ We need clear understanding – let us see what happens at the September 12, 2016 NTHSSA Leadership Council meeting. ▪ One meeting per month – an opportunity to clarify our roles and responsibilities and also tie into the Leadership Council meetings. ▪ Need clarity regarding frequency of meetings, Annual General Meeting requirements and Regional Wellness Council meetings. ▪ Need clarity about the Executive Leadership Development program. Are the resumes from previous Sahtu competitions? Have people been given the chance to apply? ▪ Need more information on per diems, advances for meals, and how honoraria will be paid. Does honoraria include prep time? What are the rates? Please send a copy of policy. ▪ The Executive Assistant position needs to go to competition. Especially with the new facility, this position needs to be based in Norman Wells. 	Action (COO): Council would like clarity around what the honoraria is for RWC members, how it will be paid, and if it includes preparation and travel time. A copy of the policy to be shared.
14.0	Adjournment	Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Closing prayer led by Alphonsine McNeely. ▪ The Council moves to adjourn meeting. 	

Adjourned: 12:15 p.m.

Next Meeting: To be announced.