

# DRAFT - PENDING COUNCIL APPROVAL



Peace Health Advisory Council  
Thursday, January 12, 2012  
5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Meeting Room, Provincial Building  
Grande Prairie, AB

## MINUTES

**Council Members:** Theresa Sandul (Chair), Michael Ouellette (Vice-Chair), Judy Brown, James MacGregor, Michelle Margarit, Kim Pinnock, Rebecca Stewart, Cheryl Van Erden

Via Teleconference: Donna Buchinski, Darlene Frith, Leona Hanson, Marcie Reuer

**Alberta Health Services:** Brad Cardinal, Keith Donaghy, Deb Guerette, Don Hunt, Joan Libsekal, Clark McAskile  
Via Teleconference: Susan Smith, Dr. Kevin Worry

**Public:** None in attendance

**Regrets:** Evelyn Bzowy, Terry Tissington, Shelley West

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
	Theresa Sandul called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and welcomed everyone.	
1. Approval of Agenda	Moved by Judy Brown, that the agenda for Thursday, January 12, 2012 be approved. MOTION CARRIED.	
2. Approval of Minutes	Moved by James MacGregor, that the minutes of Thursday, November 10, 2011 be approved. MOTION CARRIED.	

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3. Old Business		
<b>3.1. Council Round Table</b>	<p>Darlene Frith stated the major concern in the community of Manning remains lack of permanent physicians. Locums continue to provide coverage to the community, but acquiring permanent physicians remains Manning's priority.</p> <p>Donna Buchinski noted that March 31, 2012 is Doctor Appreciation Day. A gala is being planned in McLennan.</p> <p>Cheryl van Erden requested an update on the Grande Prairie hospital and requested that employee satisfaction with Alberta Health Services be included on the next agenda.</p> <p>Michelle Margarit mentioned she is invited to Grande Prairie's "For the Love of Cities - Community Building" forum and will report on the event in the future.</p> <p>Kim Pinnock asked why non-emergency procedures are being scheduled in the emergency room and not in other areas of hospital.</p> <p>James MacGregor was invited to meet with the CAO of the County of Clearhills regarding their concerns over the lack of ambulance coverage. He reported that there is a group building an assisted living facility in Cleardale, but that they have no official status with Alberta Health Services and are not incorporated. The County of Clearhills has provided \$5 million towards the facility.</p> <p>Judy Brown brought up a concern with assisted daily living facilities in the Spirit River area and the municipality's request for assistance with contacts.</p>	<p>Clark McAskile will add this to the next agenda.</p> <p>Deb Guerette will follow up on this question.</p>

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	<p>They will be organizing a meeting and will invite Alberta Health Services. Theresa Sandul reported on a meeting with the patient and family advisory group. The group is working to make the patient and family experience more seamless. Ms. Sandul also attended the third meeting Alberta Health Services convened on homelessness and addictions in the Grande Prairie area. The purpose is to coordinate homeless services in this area and raise awareness. This is an issue that arose from the council forum in Grande Prairie. There is a group who will begin identifying stakeholders in Peace River as well.</p> <p>Theresa Sandul presented the written report forwarded by Trevor Maslyk on Emergency Medical Services issues in the Peace Health Advisory Council area. The report also included updates on GPS and Mapping, and Emergency Medical Services in the Worsley area.</p> <p>Marcie Reuer raised a concern that the physicians in Grande Cache are only allowing patients to raise one concern per visit and that there is no Workers' Compensation Board physiotherapist in Grande Cache.</p> <p>Jackie Boyd presented an update on the MacLeod River Primary Care Network which covers the Fox Creek area of the Peace Health Advisory Council. The MacLeod River Primary Care Network's primary purpose is to work with organizations for healthier communities. They are interested in community engagement and in the process of renewing their three year business plan. Jackie Boyd's purpose in attending the council meeting has been to request assistance in developing their programs.</p>	<p>Clark McAskile will request a further update for the next Peace HAC meeting.</p>
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<p><b>3.2. Health Advisory Council Chairs Meeting – Tuesday November 24, 2011</b></p>          <p><b>3.3. Physician Recruitment Update, Susan Smith, Planner North Zone</b></p>	<p>She asked for input on the needs of the Fox Creek area and also on models for input on issues. Theresa Sandul stated that the council has tried to make contact with the community of Fox Creek, but had difficulty due to weather and conflicts of schedule. Rebecca Stewart suggested the Fox Creek Family Community Support Services office would be a good community contact.</p> <p>Theresa Sandul reported on the Health Advisory Council Chairs meeting held by teleconference on Tuesday, November 24, 2011 with Alberta Health Services Board members and senior staff. Highlights of the meeting are the change in the number of Health Advisory Councils to three per officer. Most northern Health Advisory Councils expressed concerns with transportation issues due to the cessation of Greyhound service. Theresa commented on the need to finalize the Health Advisory Council Bylaw changes and the need for better access to specialists in the north.</p> <p>Susan Smith and Dr. Libsekal updated the council on physician recruitment activities. Susan Smith gave a report on physician vacancies and progress. Vacancies in the council area are twenty-two general practitioners and five specialists.</p> <p>Darlene Frith requested more detail on efforts to attract physicians to Manning. Susan Smith noted that the short term effort is to stabilize physician services in the community with locums, but to have two full time resident doctors. One medical student is considering Manning because its size and location interest him. He will graduate in the Spring.</p> <p>Physician Recruitment is involved in a number of recruitment fairs planned over the next few months.</p>	
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	<p>Michael Ouellette mentioned that the Grande Prairie Chamber of Commerce holds events for resident medical students. Mr. Ouellette expressed a concern that Grande Prairie may have an unfair advantage in that other communities should also be involved. Susan Smith reported that residency matching is done by computer; the first year is in Grande Prairie family medicine and second year is in the surrounding communities. Dr. Libsekal mentioned it might be useful to ask Brenda Miller to involve other communities.</p> <p>James MacGregor asked who decides what types of physicians are required and in which communities. Susan Smith replied that recruitment is based on the number and skills of the physicians who have left a community. James MacGregor stated this does not address community growth or the decrease in maternity services due to lack of general practitioner and anesthesiologists. Dr. Libsekal said the north zone of Alberta Health Services is working on a Physician Workforce Plan which will look at existing and required services.</p>	<p>Clark McAskile will ask for an update on physician residency placements for the next Peace Health Advisory Council.</p>
<b>4. New Business</b>		
<b>4.1. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair</b>	<p>Theresa Sandul turned the chair to Clark McAskile for the elections.</p> <p>Clark McAskile announced there had been no expression of interest in the position of Chair for the Peace Health Advisory Council. The floor was opened to nominations.</p> <p>Moved by James MacGregor that Theresa Sandul be appointed Chair of the Peace Health Advisory Council. MOTION CARRIED.</p>	

<p><b>4.2. North Zone Update, Dr. Joan Libsekal, Vice President, Queen Elizabeth II Hospital, Grande Prairie</b></p> <p><b>4.2 a Trauma Service Presentation, Don Hunt, Patient Care Director, Queen Elizabeth II Hospital</b></p>	<p>Clark McAskile announced that there have been no expressions of interest for the position of Vice Chair for the Peace Health Advisory Council. The floor was opened to nominations.</p> <p>Moved by Donna Buchinski that Michael Ouellette be appointed Vice-Chair of the Peace Health Advisory Council. MOTION CARRIED.</p> <p>Clark McAskile turned the chair over to Theresa Sandul.</p> <p>Dr. Joan Libsekal, Vice President, Queen Elizabeth II Hospital, Grande Prairie reported on the stroke initiative, door to needle times, length of stay in acute care and readmission rates. The hospital emergency room renovations continue with a projected March, 2012 completion. Alberta Health Services will focus on emergency room process efficiencies; triage, wait time to see a physician and patient turn around.</p> <p>Dr. Libsekal reported on events and activities since the last Council meeting. She mentioned staff recruitment is an ongoing challenge. Grande Prairie Regional College has its largest Registered Nursing class with forty-five graduates this year. Alberta Health Services held an open house with area managers and twenty-five students attended.</p> <p>Don Hunt, Patient Care Director at the Queen Elizabeth II Hospital, Grande Prairie joined the meeting to present a report and on Trauma Service. Grande Prairie saw eighty-nine major trauma patients in 2010, forty were treated at the Queen Elizabeth II Hospital, forty-nine were transferred on to other centres. The main reason for transferring patients is their requirements due to burns, neurology and cardiology.</p>	
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<p><b>4.3. 2012-13 Peace Health Advisory Council Annual Work Plan</b></p>	<p>The Queen Elizabeth II Hospital sees more major trauma patients than Red Deer and Medicine Hat. Fifty-eight percent of these are due to transportation.</p> <p>Theresa Sandul expressed appreciation on behalf of the Peace Health Advisory Council for the clarification on how trauma was dealt with locally and why patients are sent out.</p> <p>Theresa Sandul reported that the North Zone has requested assistance with a few projects including: input into the Primary Care Network process, immunization rate improvement, Queen Elizabeth II Hospital consultation process and repurposing, transportation needs, education on senior's care options, support for obesity plan, support for Tomorrow Project, reporting back to communities, refreshing of the Zone Improvement Plan, and establishing priorities from forums.</p> <p>The council discussed a number of priorities, including: increased awareness of the Health Advisory council with local government (including aboriginal communities), identifying priority issues from forums, reporting to the public on Health Advisory Council successes, and taking advantage of Alberta Health Services' invitation to become involved in initiatives.</p> <p>The council reviewed the Annual Work Plan and addressed the issues to be added and removed.</p>	
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<p><b>4.4. Engage Resource Guide</b></p> <p><b>4.5. Health Advisory Council Update, Clark McAskile, Advisory Council Officer</b></p>	<p>Michael Ouellette reported that the council has been left out of discussions on the new Grande Prairie hospital. Dr. Libsekal responded that Alberta Health Services is committed to involving the council, but wants to settle population projections and a few other internal issues. Dr. Worry added that the council would not have benefited from the conversations to date as they have concerned funding and other discussions with Alberta Infrastructure. Dr. Worry ensured the council that this project will involve the Peace Health Advisory Council.</p> <p>Clark McAskile presented the Engage Resource Guide for the council's information and review.</p> <p>Clark McAskile introduced himself and outlined his experience and familiarity with the council area. Keith Donaghy outlined changes within the Community Relations department. Brad Cardinal reported on his new position with provincial initiatives.</p> <p>The council asked about the status of promotional items.</p>	<p>Clark will follow up with Dr. Libsekal regarding next steps to involve Peace Health Advisory Council in the consultation process.</p> <p>Clark McAskile will follow up on promotional items.</p>
<p><b>5. Date of Next Meeting</b></p>	<p>Date: Wednesday, March 21, 2012.  Time: 5:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.  Location: Manning Health Centre, Provincial Room  Manning, AB.</p>	
<p><b>6. Meeting Evaluation and Adjournment</b></p>	<p>Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.</p>	

\*Please note that these minutes are in DRAFT form and are subject to change and approval at the Wednesday March 21, 2012 council meeting.