

June 30, 2010

Pain management clinic continues in Medicine Hat

MEDICINE HAT – Residents of Medicine Hat will continue to be served by the Santé Surgi-Centre pain management clinic after an agreement was reached between Alberta Health Services and the clinic's owner.

The Santé Surgi-Centre, owned and operated by Dr. Gaylord Wardell, has a new, two-year agreement with AHS to continue operating the pain management clinic.

Dr. Vanessa Maclean, Medical Director, South Zone, says she is very pleased an agreement has been reached.

"Dr. Wardell provides an important and valuable service and we are pleased that he will continue to do so for the foreseeable future," says Dr. Maclean. "I realize there was a lot of anxiety for patients in the area. AHS and Dr. Wardell have been working diligently to reach a resolution."

"I want to thank all those involved who collaborated and found a solution that resulted in the continuance of this vital service to Medicine Hat," says Rob Renner, MLA for Medicine Hat.

The South Zone has also launched a steering committee to develop a strategy for pain management throughout the zone, which includes the Medicine Hat and Lethbridge areas. Dr. Wardell has agreed to work with this group.

Alberta Health Services is the provincial health authority responsible for planning and delivering health supports and services for more than 3.7 million adults and children living in Alberta. Its mission is to provide a patient-focused, quality health system that is accessible and sustainable for all Albertans.

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