

Palliser Triangle Health Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 24, 2023 /12:00 –1:00 p.m. / Zoom

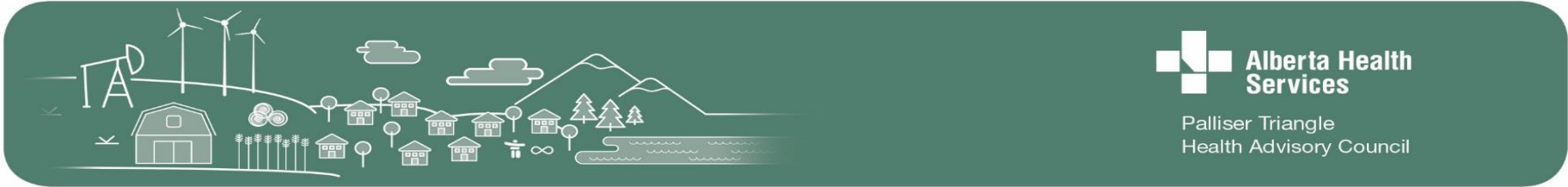
ATTENDEES & INTRODUCTIONS	
Members	Krista Weiss (Chair), Rachel Vossen (Vice Chair), Jill Bernhart, Cathy Fox, Kathleen Hutcheon, Wesley Paterson, Amanda Peterson, Deborah Reid, Janine Tolhurst
AHS	Dr. Aaron Low, Christine Osunde, Linda Potvin, Gwen Wirth
Regrets	Daphne Anstey-Martin, Gwendoline Dirk, Martin Gendron, Michelle Miller
Public	25
Welcome & Introductions	Vice Chair Rachel Vossen welcomed all in attendance, provided a land acknowledgment, and Wesley Paterson addressed housekeeping.
Approval of previous meeting summary	The March 21, 2023 meeting minutes were reviewed and approved by consensus.
STANDING ITEMS	
Action items from previous meeting	<p>All action items from the March 21, 2023 meeting are complete.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christine to share the APL and DynaLIFE presentations with meeting attendees. (COMPLETE) • Christine to share Lauren Slavik’s contact information with registrants. (COMPLETE) • Christine to email Council requesting their preference for meeting in person or via zoom in April. (COMPLETE)
Alberta Health Services Zone Update	<p>Dr. Aaron Low, South Zone Medical Director shared the following update.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Emergency Medical Service (EMS) wait times; Emergency Department (ED) wait times; EMS-to-ED offload with target of 45 minutes from EMS arrival to when ambulance and crew is ready to be dispatched to the next call; Medicine Hat Regional Hospital went live at the end of March with the 45 minute EMS offload - EMS/ED teams doing well and Chinook Regional Hospital is preparing to go live on April 19; 2. Patient flow/movement across the care continuum.

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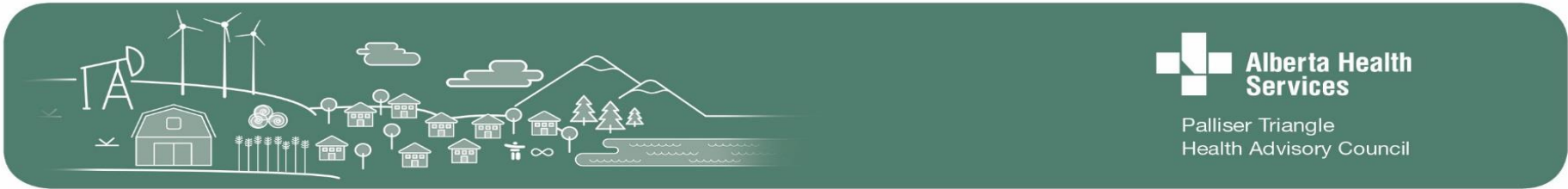
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	<p>3. Surgical wait times – goal is focused on increasing the number of patients receiving elective scheduled surgery while decreasing the number of patients on wait list.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Service disruptions in Oyen; emergency department reopened and five of ten AC beds reopened - nursing recruitment continues. • Connect Care implementation in South Zone - all sites are scheduled to go live in Launch 7 - November 2023. • South Zone Health Care Planning - Phase I completed various engagement sessions. Phase II is underway with theming of priority topics from engagement sessions - updates can be found on Together4Health.ca • Opioid Aganist Therapy Gap Coverage Program Alberta.ca <p>Dr. Low provided a written report that was included in the meeting package. An update was provided on physician recruitment in the South Zone, East:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are 40 total positions being recruited for and 23 active postings in the areas of: addiction and mental health, diagnostic imaging, emergency medicine, rural and family medicine, obstetrics and gynecology, pediatrics and surgery.
Action Item(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zone leadership to provide information on Opioid Agonist Therapy Gap Coverage Program Alberta.ca • Zone leadership to provide stats on the Pertussis Outbreak in South Zone.
Community Partners	<p>Rural Health Professions Action Plan (RhPAP) provided a written report that was included in the meeting package.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RhPAP has virtual learning opportunities available for rural community members. • Alberta Rural Health Week is taking place May 29 – June 2, 2023.
Council Round Table & Good News Stories	<p>Council members shared the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rachel Vossen, Medicine Hat – reminder to thank the hardworking lab service professionals for their valuable healthcare contribution. • Amanda Peterson, Brooks – at PTHAC’s last meeting DynaLife presenters were made aware that after it took over, mobile services for seniors in the Brooks area had been cancelled causing hardship for many seniors who require frequent blood work. Good news update: Dynalife is currently looking at bringing back mobile services for seniors.





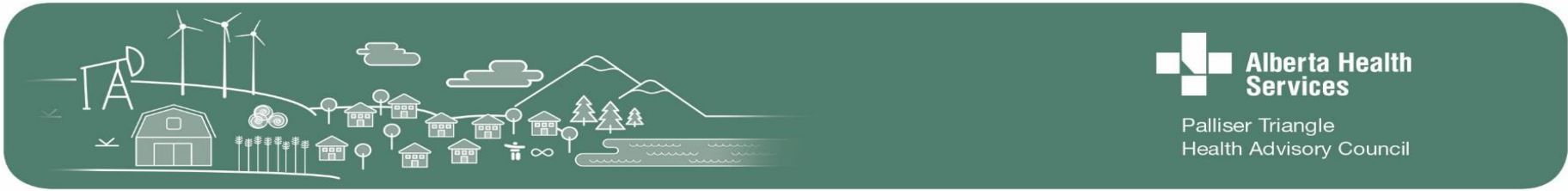
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amanda added that Brooks is hosting an RhPAP high school skills day. • Deborah Reid, Duchess – is working on a local resource document on seniors services available in the HAC area. Deborah also hearing from community members that some seniors are having difficulty accessing the DynaLife lab booking system. • Jill Bernhart, Foremost – Jill confirms the backlog at the Medicine Hat lab service location increased the number of people from Medicine Hat travelling to Bow Island for lab appointments. The Bow Island location is not requesting appointments, where previously drop-in was acceptable. Bow Island has two physicians now and only one of those comes to Foremost to see patients. • Wesley Paterson, Medicine Hat – there are challenges in the community as many people are without a family doctor. He added, kudos to family doctors in Medicine Hat taking care of the community. • Cathy Fox, Brooks –good news from people in her networks that their knee surgeries went well and they were well cared for while in hospital. Six weeks ago bookings on DynaLife had a three-week wait in Brooks, today it’s down to one week which is a step in the right direction. • Janine Tolhurst, Desert Blume – Janine is promoting lab services careers with students she gets to speak too. She’s also hearing rumblings that Medicine Hat is going to lose another family doctor in a few weeks. • Kathy Hutcheon – the Oyen Big Country Hospital emergency room is back up and running. There are two new nurses now on staff.
Voices of the Community	A community member shared his positive experience at the diagnostic imaging centres x-ray department, and expressed concern about the furnishings that are showing their age, bringing down the atmosphere in the healthcare facility.
Chair Report	<p>Krista Weiss, Chair shared:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday, October 16, 2023 will be the Council’s next meeting. • Recruitment: council has two vacancies.
NEW BUSINESS	
Date of Next Meeting	<p>Date: Monday, October 16, 2023 Time: 12:00 to 3:00 p.m.</p>

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