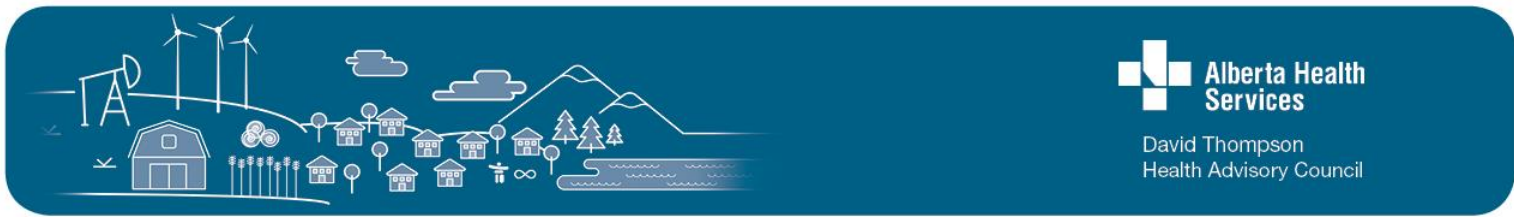


David Thompson Health Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

February 23, 2023 /5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. / Zoom

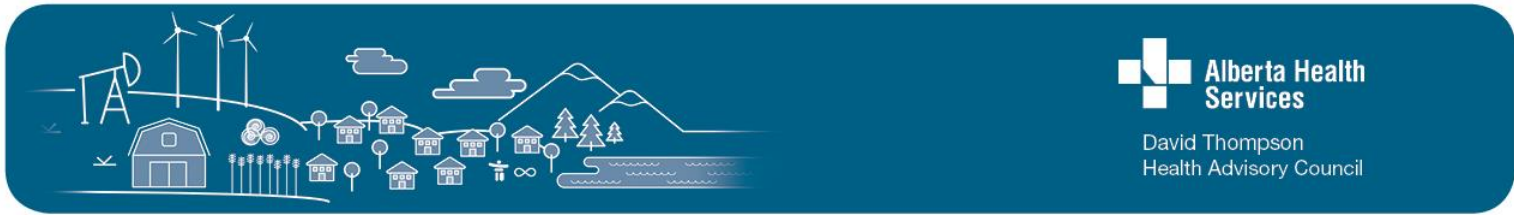
ATTENDEES & INTRODUCTIONS	
Members	Gerry Greschner (Chair), Peggy Makofka (Vice-Chair), Allyssa Deheer, Janey Olson, Judy Lorenz, Martha Winchell, Pam Hansen, Robert Yatkowsky, Rosemary Brown, Wendi Lautenbach
Alberta Health Services (AHS)	Jody Barrett, Deanna Dament, Gopan Venugopal, Leanne Grant, Corinne Hansen, Leeanne Shinski
Regrets	Christine Heggart, Darrin Thompson
Public	36
Welcome and Indigenous Land Acknowledgement	Gerry welcomed attendees, asked for introductions, and provided a land acknowledgment.
Approval of previous meetings minutes	Council approved October 6, 2023, minutes by consensus.
STANDING ITEMS	
Action items from the previous meeting	Action items from October 6, 2022, meeting: there were no action items from the previous meeting.
Central Zone Update	<p>Jody Barrett, Director, Continuing Care Partnerships and Community Administrative Support Services, provided the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recruitment is a priority and is ongoing in the Central Zone. AHS has hired new managers in Olds, Provost, Vermillion and Lacombe. Due to many outbreaks of COVID and influenza in the zone, it is recommended everyone gets vaccinated. Admissions into continuing care facilities will be done seven days a week, not only Monday to Friday. There will be no new beds to increase continuing care capacity in the next quarter. Seniors and Counting Care staff are working to get assessments for placements done. The focus is on those in acute care. Recently, continuing care health service standard audits occurred in Lloydminster, Hardisty, and Rimbey. <p>Sherri Allen, Senior Operating Officer, Central Zone Public Health, Addiction and Mental Health, shared the following:</p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Service disruptions continue in the zone because of physician and nursing shortages. • AHS is focusing on hiring internationally educated nurses (IEN) into vacant positions. There are 250 IENs going through the process, they will be eligible for some positions by spring. • Because the zone has two child psychiatrists, AHS is educating family doctors and other staff using the Can Reach program. The wait time for kids has gone from 18 months to four weeks. • Permanent funding is in place for Child and Adolescent Stabilization Teams (CAST). If a mental health patient under 18 is waiting in the emergency department and it's safe to do so, they are transferred home with an appointment the next day and a safety plan. Prior to CAST Pediatric Addiction and Mental Health beds were over capacity regularly, and it is now staying under or at capacity. • The Central Alberta Child Advocacy Centre opens in Red Deer in October 2023. It is the first in North America to have all child services will be under one roof, including but not limited to AHS, police and family violence. <p>Council Member's Questions and Comments</p> <p><u>Recruitment and Retention</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Central Zone is working to get Canadian nurses trained out of province and into vacant positions. Leadership is attempting to streamline the process. People requiring assistance can contact Sherri Allen. <p><u>Foundations</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A patio replacement project funded by the foundation is held up and they would like permission to proceed. <p><u>Post-Secondary Nursing Programs and Nurse Practitioners</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase training opportunities in Alberta by increasing the number of seats in nursing programs. The average to get into some programs is 98 per cent from high school and once in the RN program students must maintain 71 per cent in all courses. Between first and second year the school will lose half the class. What can rural municipalities do to support? Barb Shepherd, Reeve of Lacombe County, to reach out to Sherri Allen. • Placements and preceptors are needed for RN students, but the staff are over-worked. • Funding is approved for nurse practitioners (NP) in some communities, but there is no approval to start recruiting for the position.
Action Item	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carol to send Jody information and Jody will send it to the right person.

Commented [AJ(1)]: It's not clear what the question is. Much of this section appears more commentary than Q&A.

Commented [AJ(2)]: This would need to be reflected in an action items section.

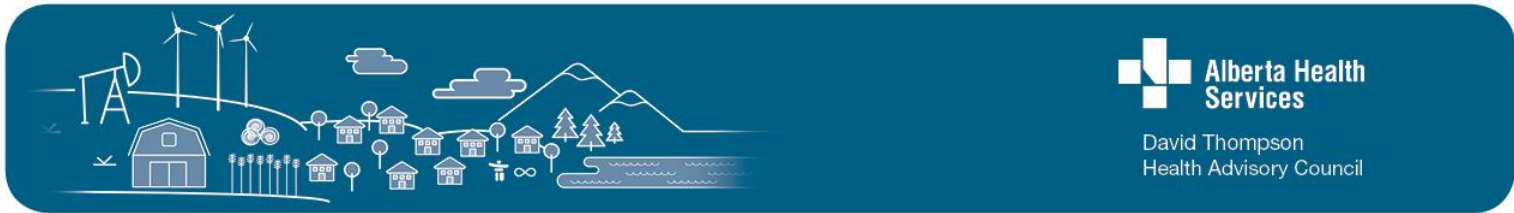


<p>Council Round Table</p>	<p>David Thompson Health Advisory Council members shared the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peggy reported Rimbey’s Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) adult day program contract was extended by AHS and there are two new doctors in Rimbey. • Care packages were delivered to 250 Rimbey healthcare workers from December to February. • Martha reports hearing fewer negative comments about the Red Deer Hospital, though there are still some challenges. There is also a long waitlist to get into the cardiac rehab program. It can be several weeks after the health crisis and still the patient has no rehabilitation. • Pam shared there are no doctors in Bentley, but a new doctor is in Rimbey to help care for area residents. Closing of the grocery store has had significant impact as some people require assistance. • Janey joined the Olds Community Lifestyles Committee who runs a campaign on ageism. Coats for Everyone, Pregnancy Care Centre and The Lending Shelf are organizations working together to share resources to help the community. • Rosemary reported a structure is visible at the construction site in Rocky Mountain House and the auxiliary is planning a spring celebration for the hospital’s 85 anniversary. • Rob shared the loss of day home subsidies in Hanna will impact 33 homes and multiple families in the area. • Gerry said the Sundre foundation kicked off a campaign for a new portable digital imaging machine. There are two new family doctors in Sundre, and the high school skills days is March 21, 2023.
<p>Voices of the Community</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three C’s area (Consort, Castor and Coronation) are losing two doctors. There will be one doctor by April. Many residents are now without a primary care provider. • The Coronation foundation is seeing a rise in memorial donations resulting from a recent awareness campaign. • There are one to two functions a month at the Coronation’s Golden Age Drop-in Center for older adults and seniors. • Three nursing scholarships were recently handed out in Coronation.
<p>Rural Health Professions Action Plan (RhPAP)</p>	<p>Anya Langkow, Rural Community Consultant, East Central Zone shared the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The monthly free RhPAP program on March 16 focuses on Health Aging in Alberta. • Rhapsody Awards nominations and Expression of Interests (EOI) for various programs are on the RhPAP website. The link is Rural Health Professions Action Plan (rhpap.ca).

Commented [AJ(3)]: Is this all part of the report from the three C’s (presuming it’s from Carole T)?

Commented [AJ(4)]: Regular folk won’t know what this stands for.

Commented [AJ(5)]: Suggest you add a link to their website.



Report from the Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gerry provided an update on DTHAC membership and on the January Council of Chairs meeting, discussing Work Commitments.
Advisory Council Coordinator Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deanna Dament provided an update on Community Engagement’s new e-newsletter, Council Connect and the annual satisfaction survey. Deanna Dament discussed the 2023-24 meeting schedule and asked for a volunteer to attend the Patient Access Working Group (PAWG).
Action Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deanna to email DTHAC about PAWG and the proposed 2023-24 meeting dates.
NEW BUSINESS	
Presentation	<p>Title: Dementia Care Options and Support for Caregivers Offered in the David Thompson Area Presenters: Leanne Shinski and Gopan Venugopal</p> <p>The presentation focused on resources and supports that can benefit any individual living with or caring for someone with dementia. My Healthy Alberta website is an excellent source of dementia information. The link is Dementia Advice Service Alberta Health Services. Medical Assistance in Dying (MAID) in advance dementia patients is not an option because the patient may change their mind and the cognitive abilities of patients are too impaired.</p>
Action Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deanna to email all attendees the PowerPoint presentation and all resources mentioned in the meeting. Deanna Dament will email all council members in attendance the evaluation link from Together 4 Health.
Date of Next Meeting	<p>Date: May 3, 2023 – Engagement Event Time: 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Location: Online via Zoom Contact: davidthompson@ahs.ca for details.</p>

Commented [AJ(6)]: Always spell out the first use of an acronym.

Our meetings are open to the public. Dates and locations are [available here](#).
[Find your Health Advisory Council here](#). Visit [Together 4 Health](#) (T4H) to engage with AHS online.