



Oldman River Health Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday, March 16, 2023 / 12:00 – 3:00 p.m. / Zoom

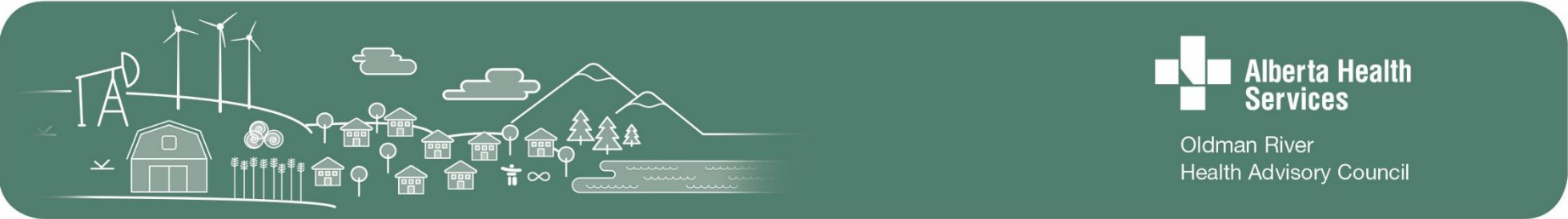
ATTENDEES & INTRODUCTIONS	
Members	Colleen Bianchi (Chair), Stephanie Leavitt (Vice Chair), David Anderson, Barbara Boyer, Behnia Hooshyarkhah, Anne Michealis, Margaret Thomas, Doug Thornton, Lisa Weekes
AHS	Dr. Aaron Low, Linda Iwasiw, Christine Osunde, Thomas Mountain, Gwen Wirth
Regrets	Jim Bennett, Marni Hope, Vicki Koersen, Tracy Oosterbroek, Betty Ann Little Wolf
Public	7
Welcome & Introductions	Colleen Bianchi welcomed all in attendance, Christine Osunde read the land acknowledgment and addressed housekeeping.
Approval of previous meeting summary	The January 17, 2023 meeting minutes were reviewed and approved by consensus.
STANDING ITEMS	
Action items from previous meeting	<p>All action items from the January 17, 2023 meeting are complete.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Christine to share the Provincial Seniors Health & Continuing Care Connecting People and Community for Living Well presentation with attendees. (Complete) Christine to share the Healthy Aging Alberta presentation with attendees. (Complete) Christine to send fillable meeting evaluation form and link to the online evaluation form on Together4Health to Council. (Complete)
Alberta Health Services Zone Update	<p>Linda Iwasiw, Chief Zone Officer, South Zone, shared the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dr. John Cowell, Official Administrator (OA), released his 90 day report "Healthcare Action Plan." The report focuses on improving emergency room wait times, improving EMS response times, decreasing emergency department wait times, improving patient flow throughout the healthcare continuum and deducing wait times for surgeries. South Zone Health Care Planning is on target. There will be further community consultation based on the feedback gathered.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government priority MAPS, modernization of the primary care system: there will be a refresh and dollars put toward recommendations. • Public health measures related to respiratory viruses, prevention, response – prevention of spread: AHS will align what it does to protect people receiving services from AHS and their employees. • Service disruptions in Oyen: South Zone leadership is currently working hard to get nursing staff in place. • Milk River physician update: current doctor leaving the community in April, there is a physician assistant there. AHS Community Engagemten hosted a successful meeting with the community. A nurse practitioner is being recruited and an international doctor is undergoing the vetting process. Second, there is an active primary care physician posting. • Connect Care implementation in South Zone is scheduled to go live in November 2023. <p>Dr. Aaron Low, South Zone Medical Director, provided a written report that was included in the meeting package.</p> <p>An update was provided on physician recruitment in the South Zone, West:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are 31 total positions being recruited for and 17 active postings in the areas of: addiction and mental health, diagnostic imaging, emergency medicine, rural medicine, obstetrics and gynecology, pediatrics and surgery. • There are nine physicians committed, with start dates throughout 2023 and four currently under assessment.
<p>Community Partners</p>	<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 from May 29 – June 2, 2023.
<p>Council Round Table & Good News Stories</p>	<p>Council members shared the following:</p> <p>Milk River - Anne Michealis is appreciative of engagement during the Milk River Community Conversation and happy with the turn out.</p> <p>Hill Spring – David Anderson assisted at an immunization clinic in Hill Spring and Glenwood in January; turnout was low.</p> <p>Blairmore - Margaret Thomas shared that nurses at the hospital now have a nursing supervisor. She also sent out information to community members in her network about the engagement on rural cancer research to community members.</p>



	<p>Pincher Creek - Barbara Boyer - thanked Christine for information on engagement opportunities for members. Barb also shared that she attended the OA 90-day report session and was pleased with the information provided. She hopes the spotlight does not fade on the priorities and that they remain a priority.</p> <p>Lethbridge – Doug Thornton – the appointment of local community paramedics is a win for Lethbridge – EMS Mobile Integrated Healthcare – Community Paramedicine Alberta Health Services</p> <p>Coalhurst - Lisa Weekes – Light therapy lamps have been integrated into the library system and have been well received.</p>
<p>Voices of the Community</p>	<p>No one spoke from the community.</p>
<p>Chair Report</p>	<p>Colleen Bianchi, Chair, shared:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highlights from the Council of Chairs meeting on February 27. • An update from the meeting with the Official Administrator, John Cowell, on March 15. • An update on the Milk River Community Conversation on February 22. • Recruitment: Council has put one community member from Cardston forward for approval, filling ORHAC membership to 15. • May meeting is rescheduled to April 17 – asked Council if they would like to meet in person or via zoom. Coordinator will send a follow up email to find out what the majority would prefer.
<p>NEW BUSINESS</p>	
<p>Presentation(s)</p>	<p>Healthy Aging Alberta - Lauren Slavik, Southern Alberta Regional Community Developer Southern Alberta</p> <p>Highlights of the presentation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthy Aging Core: Collaborative Online Resource Education (CORE) • Email: lauren.slavik@healthyagingalberta.ca
<p>Action Item(s)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christine to email Council requesting their preference for meeting in person or via zoom in April.



Date of Next Meeting	Date: Monday, April 17, 2023 Time: 12:00 – 3:00 p.m. Location: Zoom Contact: oldmanriver@ahs.ca for details.
-----------------------------	---

Our meetings are open to the public. Dates and locations are [available here](#).
[Find your Health Advisory Council here](#). Visit [Together4Health](#) (T4H) to engage with AHS online.