



Greater Edmonton Health Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 13, 2023 / 6:00 pm – 9:00 p.m. / The Edmonton Community Health Hub North (The Hub)

ATTENDEES & INTRODUCTIONS	
Members	Kavis Reed (Chair), Shakib Rahman (Vice Chair), Shelley Biermanski, Donalda Farwell, Noah Martin, Nazret Russon
Alberta Health Services (AHS)	Carol Anderson, Jane Newman, Robyn Cieply, Dr. Chester Ho, Lynette Lutes, Dr. Sikora, Valerian Nyaga, LauraLee Clarke, Deanna Dament
Regrets	Maria Melizza Carino, Towunmi (Priscilla) Coke, Ben Gronberg, Floyd House, Maryana Kravtsenyuk, Vincent Liu, Austin Mardon, Leahann McKinnon, Andrea Petryk
Welcome, Land Acknowledgement & Introductions	Kavis Reed welcomed all in attendance. He went through introductions and provided a land acknowledgment.
Approval of previous minutes	January 11, 2023, meeting minutes were approved by consensus.
STANDING ITEMS	
Action items from the previous meeting	<p>All action items are completed from the Jan 11, 2023, meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deanna to follow up with Dr. Sikora on the status of naloxone kits and their use by contracted staff and city employees. Deanna to email Council and determine the location and topic for the community engagement event on March 8.
Edmonton Zone Executive Leadership Update	<p>Carol Anderson, Chief Zone Officer - Edmonton Zone (EZ), provided the following update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Alberta Surgical Initiative (ASI) and Enoch Cree Nation partnered to break ground at the new chartered surgical facility construction site located on the reserve. EZ staff supported wildfire evacuees from the North Zone and the Northwest Territories (NWT). The virtual home hospital program allows eligible patients to receive hospital-level care in their own homes. The program is expanding across the province and into other areas such as pulmonary medicine. <p>Q&A Q: Where is nasal naloxone spray available?</p>



	<p>A: Naloxone is available at pharmacies and public health clinics. Get Naloxone Alberta Health Services.</p>
Action Item	<p>Carol to follow up with Nazret about nasal naloxone spray availability.</p>
Council Round Table	<p>The following was shared by Council members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opioid use in Leduc, like the rest of the province, is high. A youth survey is underway. • Wildfire response by AHS staff was greatly appreciated. • Council is receiving a lot of positive feedback about the Misericordia Hospital revamped Emergency Department. <p>Q&A Q: Will the 811 Patient Advisory Committee be resurrected? A: It is unknown at this time; Deanna will inquire.</p> <p>Q: There is concern about the lack of access to family doctors – can nurse practitioners (NP) be used more? A: Yes, but the pool of eligible NPs is very small.</p>
Action Item	<p>Deanna to find out about 811 Patient Advisory Committee and will report back to Nazret.</p>
Voices of the Community	<p>Community members appreciate the Hub’s programs, services and facilities and information provided by Council. Other public members inquired if the Hub works with school boards and indeed, it does, which allows for connection with parents of students in schools.</p>
Report from the Chair	<p>Kavis provided the following update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He is attending the Council of Chairs meeting in Edmonton on September 15, 2023. • The Council needs to distribute the work amongst a subcommittee for the November 15 event. • If Council is ever in doubt if information is confidential or not, please ask Deanna.
Advisory Council Update	<p>Deanna provided an update on Council member recruitment, AHS Community Engagement staffing, regular meeting surveys, the AHS people survey, the annual Advisory Council survey and the October Learning Series for members. GEHAC discussed different topics for the November 15 event. One suggestion is palliative care. Also, discussion re Council forming a What’s App group.</p>
Action Item	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deanna to email Council members so they can decide if they want to join a What’s App group.



Action Item	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deanna to email Council and determine the topic for the community engagement event on November 15.
NEW BUSINESS	
Election for Chair and Vice Chair	<p>Greater Edmonton Health Advisory Council held its elections Friday, March 31, 2023, online for Chair and Vice Chair as follows: Kavis Reed put forth an expression of interest for the position of Chair. Deanna Dament asked three times if there were any further nominations from the floor. Kavis Reed was declared Chair of the Greater Edmonton Health Advisory Council by acclamation. All in favour. MOTION CARRIED.</p> <p>Greater Edmonton Health Advisory Council held its elections Friday March 31, 2023, online for Chair and Vice Chair as follows: Shakib Rahman put forth an expression of interest for the position of Vice Chair. Deanna Dament asked three times if there were any further nominations from the floor. Shakib Rahman was declared Vice Chair of the Greater Edmonton Health Advisory Council by acclamation. All in favour. MOTION CARRIED.</p>
Presentation(s)	<p>Title: Home Care in Greater Edmonton. Presenters: Jane Newman, Program Manager, Rural/Suburban West, and Robyn Cieply, Program Manager - Destination Home, Home Living Program, Edmonton Zone</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defined home care’s mandate to preserve and supplement care provided by families and communities. Indicated home care is provided for many reasons, any place and is for people of all ages. Reported from 2010 – 2021 the number of clients remained around 31,000 per year and the top two diagnoses are hypertension and Alzheimer’s Disease/dementia. <p>In response to questions posed, Jane and Robyn added the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Client-directed care home care invoicing (CDHCI) is accessible across Alberta and that an approved caregiver is required to be the provider. Home care is also provided at shelters and AHS collaborates with various inner-city agencies to ensure well-rounded care is available. Indigenous peoples also access and receive home care and if they reside within the Edmonton Zone, that service is provided by AHS. If they reside on a reserve, service is provided by federal programming. Uninsured health benefit coverage is not a barrier for Indigenous clients to access services. Respite falls under either self-managed care or the invoice program, not both.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AHS caseworkers often start with an assessment, followed by a discussion about the best way to support the client. One can utilize an approved contracted service provider or use the self-managed care option where the client is their own employer. There are no barriers to the provision of services. It is about assessing each unique situation and determining the best fit for the client and their family. • If something is beyond the scope of home care, the program connects clients to the seating clinic at the Glenrose, if needed. If wound care, bathing assistance or dressing help is needed home care will find supports. AHS often partners with other organizations and healthcare professionals.
	<p>Title: Discussion on Allied Health and Rehab in the EZ Presenters: Lynette Lutes, Senior Operating Officer, Glenrose Rehabilitation Hospital and Dr. Chester Ho, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Edmonton Zone Healthcare Services Planning (EZHSP) is looking for focus group volunteers. • EZ would like to develop a model that optimizes rehabilitation services to support better patient flow. <p>Q&A</p> <p>Q: For a person who is on another steering committee, can they participate in the focus group?</p> <p>A: Lynnette Lutes indicated yes, a volunteer can be on the focus group and another steering committee.</p> <p>Q: How can GEHAC members get involved?</p> <p>A: Deanna will get volunteer contact information to the appropriate AHS staff.</p>
Action Items	Deanna to email Council with information on how to volunteer with the rehabilitation focus group.
Date of Next Meeting	<p>Date: Wednesday, November 15, 2023 – Community Engagement Event</p> <p>Time: 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.</p> <p>Location: Zoom</p>

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.