



**Maurissa views every day as a chance to grow better healthcare.**



*Maurissa loves to spend time with family — and has four sons ranging in age from 6 to 21*

When a friend put the bug in her ear to attend a community meeting, Marissa Hietland soon found herself on a path that led directly to membership on the Peace River Advisory Council.

“A friend of mine directed me to a meeting — and I was very impressed with what this group does,” she says.

“I found myself inspired by our chair and other members. I would really like to raise awareness of our Health Advisory Council and what we do. I wish other people knew that we exist. (So many people do not know this!) I see our value in serving as a powerful voice for our communities and neighbours.”

As she grows into her newfound role and learns the ropes, she reflects.

“I see every day as a new opportunity to seek out the areas where our health system is doing well — and also areas where growth would benefit our communities and Albertans. I’m grateful to be learning so much, just from being involved.

“I’m interested in government and policy and the implications of who sits for us at our local municipal council and in our provincial legislature seats.”

On a more personal level, “I believe our Council gives me the opportunity to truly apply my sociology post-secondary education toward healthcare in my community — and I’m super-jazzed about that.”

Maurissa adds that she’s also passionate about art and the outdoors and loves spending time with her family.

For more information on the Peace Health Advisory Council, visit [ahs.ca/advisorycouncils](https://ahs.ca/advisorycouncils), or email [peace@ahs.ca](mailto:peace@ahs.ca).