

# **Summary**

Meeting:	Dawson Creek and District Hospital (DCDH) Redevelopment Capital Project Advisory Committee	Date & Time:	February 14, 2020 10:00 – 10:46 *MST*
Location:	DCDH – 3rd Floor Conference Room		
Members in attendance:	Albert Sommerfeld, Northern Health Andrea Palmer, Northern Health Mayor Dale Bumstead, City of Dawson Creek Tracy Stromquist, Patient Voices Network Shawn Dahlen, Peace River Regional District		
Regrets:	Margaret Gladu, Kelly Lake Cree Nation Jessica Mikolayczyk, First Nations Health Authority Margo Greenwood, Northern Health Shaely Wilbur, South Peace Health Services Society Chief Ken Cameron, Saulteau First Nations Chief Roland Wilson, West Moberly First Nations		

## **Discussion Item**

## 1. Introduction

Angela provided introductions of the Advisory Committee members in attendance.

- 2. Actions arising from the October 24, 2019 meeting:
  - Mayor Bumstead would like to look at engaging peer communities/stakeholders (i.e., Mayor's of Chetwynd, Tumbler Ridge, Pouce Coupe, Electoral Area Directors from PRRD, the South Peace Divisions of Family Practice, etc.) to provide them with information on the project to date. The committee could present to them and show them materials but cannot provide hard copies due to confidentiality reasons (i.e., information that can be shared is what services will be delivered, potential number of beds, indicative design subject to change). Financial information will not be shared at this meeting. The timeframe for this meeting could be in November or wait until after the NH Board of Directors have reviewed the Business Plan/indicative design in December.

Action: Sherry to work with Mayor Bumstead to book this meeting in December. Video conference can be set up in each community at a Northern Health site so travel is not required.

- Mayor Bumstead would like a better understanding of the traffic impact and access to DCDH for future planning. NH did a Traffic Impact Study and the report did not recommend any changes would be necessary. Specific thoughts are around the traffic lights on 112th Avenue. Action: Albert to share the Traffic Impact Study with Mayor Bumstead and have further discussions on this. Mayor Bumstead asked Albert to circulate the traffic impact study to the City of DC planning staff as well.
- 3. Review Terms of Reference A copy of the Draft DCDH Redevelopment Capital Project Advisory Committee Terms of Reference (TOR) was included in the meeting package for review and reference and it was reviewed by the Advisory Committee. There were no suggested changes/revisions to the TOR at this time.

## 4. Workforce Planning

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#### **Discussion Item**

 A copy of the DCDH and Community PowerPoint Presentation was included in the meeting package for review and reference. This presentation will help to better understand the current state of health professionals and human resources at DCDH and what are the current challenges.

- In 2018, NH recognized the need for more advanced Health Human Resources planning and created Workforce Innovation Advisor positions. These positions assist managers with creating a workforce plan for their department in order to achieve the strategic priorities on a local and NH level. The NE Workforce Innovation Advisor is Krista Kerpan and she is located at the NE Corporate Office in Fort St. John.
- Shawn suggested NH could engage in a discussion with PRRD around the work they are doing (i.e., funding the scholarship program and some other components) and the South Peace Health Services Society (SPHSS) in terms of helping them understand what the challenges are around managing temporary vacancies and strategies and the opportunity to mitigate challenges. PRRD or SPHSS could potentially bring in some resources and/or funding to specific programs or opportunities.

Action: Angela to follow up on this in terms of what is the data showing and what we are hearing from staff as they are leaving.

- DCDH has been working with the local high school South Peace Senior Secondary for three years to facilitate interested high school students in the health care professions ("Growing Our Own"). Students sign up through the Work Experience program at school to attend some shadowing shifts approximately 20 hours. Students are exposed to a variety of departments nursing, medical imaging, lab, support services and facilities maintenance. There are over 42 different careers in healthcare. In the South Peace, NH also engages with the high schools students in grades 10, 11, and 12 who are eligible to take the dual credit programs through career fairs.
- For the Health Care Aide Program NLC: 25 enrolled currently to date, they formally graduate in June 2020 the last day of clinical is May 5, 2020, seven students from the Fort St. John area (three are dual credit program from North Peace Senior Secondary), 18 are from the Dawson Creek Area and a second course will be offered in March 2020 through a distributive learning model. Students will attend this second course via video conference from NLC in Fort Nelson, at Fort St. John Hospital and NLC in Dawson Creek.
- For the Practical Nursing (PN) Program: Year 2 cohort 14 enrolled, and one returning student in January 2020 = 15 students, Year 1 cohort 13 enrolled, one student from Fort Nelson, three from Chetwynd, five from Fort St. John and five from Dawson Creek and they formally graduate in June 2020. PN's need an interim license to work in a health care facility through the British Columbia College of Nursing Professionals (BCCNP).
- NH is providing students (HCA's, LPN's and RN's) with Conditional Letters of Hire based on successful completion of their programs and registration with BCCNP to ensure we do not lose them to other communities outside of the Northeast.
- Collectively, we need to be aware of how social media can negatively impact recruitment and retention. We need to encourage the public to be positive when posting on social media so that we can retain staff and also recruit.
- The physician situation in Dawson Creek is relatively stable particularly in the office practices. There are physician's taking new patients in Dawson Creek at this time. There is a vacancy for an OB/GYN. There is potential for some physician departures in the next year. Physicians must provide NH with three months' notice which does not allow enough time to recruit into that

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#### **Discussion Item**

position. Physicians are not employees of NH, they are not paid by NH so we cannot overhire physicians.

## 5. Update on Project Status and Progress

**Key Project Considerations** 

- We continue to work with the Province of BC on full completion of the Business Planning stage. Communications Update including Milestones
- The DCDH Project was added to the NH external website, see link below. http://www.northernhealth.ca/about-us/capital-projects
- The Project Overview website includes media releases, project story, project updates, capital advisory committee and contact information.
- A summary of the October 24, 2019 Dawson Creek and District Hospital (DCDH) Redevelopment Capital Project Advisory Committee meeting was included in the meeting package for review and reference.
- A Dawson Creek Healthcare Facebook group (public) is being developed, not just for this project but for all NH healthcare related discussions/topics. Andrea will let this committee know when the site goes live.

#### 6. Future items for discussion

- Mayor Bumstead commented that DCDH is a critical infrastructure for the entire South Peace region. We need to keep the message alive that DCDH is so important to all communities in the Northeast. As we get closer down the road to the announcement, we need to ensure we engage PRRD partners, as well as all communities in the Northeast, in the communication of the project because it is their acute care facility as much as it is Dawson Creek's.
- Angela noted that when new facilities are announced, there is a process that happens in terms
  of naming the facility. This will be discussed further at the Advisory Committee as well as the
  Steering Committee. We need to keep all partners informed of the progress of the project.
- 7. Next Meeting May 22, 2020 @ 10:30 am