
**MINUTES OF THE YUKON HEALTH AND SOCIAL
SERVICES COUNCIL MEETING
WHITEHORSE
May 14 & 15, 2010**

**MINUTES OF THE YUKON HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
COUNCIL MEETING**

Windsor Boardroom, Edgewater Hotel

May 14, 2010

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kevin McDonnell: Chair
Members Max Rispin
Doug Kearns
Graham Lang
Joseph Graham
James Allen
Marie Cox
Peter Morawsky

SECRETARIAT: Yvonne Clarke, HSS Council Secretariat

ALSO PRESENT: Brian Kitchen, Director of Corporate Policy & Planning, H&SS
Jane Bates, Manager, Family Services Unit, H&SS
Brad Bell, Manager, Child and Family Services Act Implementations, H&SS
Pat Living, Director of Communications, H&SS
Cathy Morton-Bielz, ADM of Continuing Care, H&SS
Glenn Hart, Minister of H&SS
Rodney D'Abramo, Executive Assistant

REGRETS: Doug MacPheat

FRIDAY, MAY 14, 2010

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Kevin McDonnell called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. and welcomed everyone.

Check-in & Welcome New Council Member:

[Roundtable]

Review of Agenda:

Motion 2010-05-01: That the Agenda be accepted as amended. Moved by Graham Lang; seconded by Joseph Graham; carried unanimously.

Review and Approval of Minutes of March 26 & 27, 2010:

Motion 2010-05-02: That the Minutes be accepted as presented; Moved by Graham Lang; seconded by Joseph Graham; Carried unanimously.

Review of Action Items from March 26 & 27, 2010 meeting:

Action Items were noted to be **completed and no further action warranted:**

Action #2010-03-01

Communication Strategy Sub-committee was formed and the members are: Council member Joseph Graham (lead), James Allen and Chair Kevin McDonnell. Committee will review the website and report to the council on suggested areas for improvement. Council would like to see the following documents on the website: Minutes; existing mandates; terms of reference; conflict of interest; operating procedures and so on. This is a work in progress.

Action #2010-03-03

Chair will draft a letter of appreciation from the Council to the presenters of the October, December and March meetings. **Done.**

Action #2010-03-04

Chair will update the summary of Prevention/Health Promotion Programs in Health and Social Services and will send the updated table to the Secretariat for distribution to the Council members. **Done**

Action #2010-03-09

Chair to draft a letter requesting an update regarding THAF Funding.

- Pending update; follow up action today.

Action #2010-03-11

Graham Lang will continue to work on the H&SS Council Terms of Reference. **Done.**

Action #2010-03-12

Max to send a thank you letter to the Manager of Social Services reflecting Council's support to Aging Well Expo. **Done. Letter was sent May 3, 2010.**

Outstanding Action Items from March 26 & 27, 2010 meeting:

Action #2010-03-02

Council member Graham Lang will draft a letter to the Department of Education recommending Health Promotion work in conjunction with the annual teachers meeting and to encourage the department to partner with individuals to work with the communities on health prevention programs.

- The letter has been drafted and will be sent to Chair for review, approval and signature. Secretariat to send copy of the letter to Council members.

Action #2010-03-03

Chair will incorporate on the thank you letter the invite and follow up regarding emergency radio frequency. Council member Max to send draft letter to Chair.

- The letter has been drafted. Council member Max is currently reviewing this letter.

Action #2010-03-05

Chair to get a copy of the following hospital policy: out-patient policy; transportation/ medivac; FN support; Social Worker advocate and will send to Council members electronically.

- Council raised this issue with the Director of Corporate Policy and Planning. Council is waiting for a response.

Action #2010-03-06

Clarification of Council's role regarding health investment fund and the professional development fund. Chair to provide input by email or by next meeting. Director of Corporate Policy and Planning will report back to Council and will clarify Council's role in Investment fund.

Action #2010-03-07

Council member Doug Kearns to represent the Council in liaising with the Wellness Strategy initiative. Doug Kearns to follow up with the government lead then will send an email to Council for update.

- This action item is amended to follow-up discussion with Director of Corp. Policy and Planning. Council would like to invite the government lead to come in to speak and update the Council regarding social inclusion and any data that has been collected.

Action #2010-03-08

Chair to draft a letter of appreciation to DM and Minister. It will also be included on the letter an open invitation to the DM to attend Council meetings as the need arises.

- No letter for Minister instead an open invitation to come to Council meetings.
- A letter or email will be drafted to the DM inviting him to attend to the August 6th meeting.

Action #2010-03-10

Chair to email Program Manager of Yukon Housing, copy to Manager of Adult Services, for clarification regarding the success of the Incentive Program in Yukon Housing.

- Council is looking for Community Statistics and different scenarios in the territory.
- Council would like to clarify if there is an issue with inventory of houses. Are there people above market rate?

- Chair to draft a letter or send an email to the Program Manager and will report back.

Action Items from May 14 & 15 meeting:

Action #2010-05-01

Chair to draft the Annual Report of 2009-2010 by end of May and will send to Council for review.

Action #2010-05-02

Chair to draft the Terms of Reference and will send to the Council members for review. Chair will then send the Terms of Reference, Mission Statement, and Operating Procedures to the Deputy Minister for review and approval.

Action #2010-05-03

Joseph to look at getting some information about the Jackson Lake land based healing centre; continuity and after care services.

Action #2010-05-04

Joseph and Chair will follow up with the Kwanlin Dun treatment centres- clarifications. Side Note: Criminal Defense Bar Justice and Legal Aid lawyers are looking for healing camps.

Action #2010-05-05

Watson Lake and Dawson City transfer agreements completed between YG and Yukon Hospital Corp for the construction of new hospital. A public meeting was held in Dawson by the Hospital Corp. Director of Corp. Policy and Planning will update prevention table.

Action #2010-05-06

Director of Corp. Policy and Planning will provide the Council a written summary and update of the Social Inclusion conference.

Action #2010-05-07

Council discussed its role on taskforce. Nothing specific for Council at this time (May 2010) but Council will wait and give support to the task force. Task force (James Allen and Dr. Beaton) to be invited to the next council meeting.

Update for Minister Hart from the Chair of H&SS Council:

Meetings since Last Update: October 2, 2009; December 11 & 12, 2009; March 26 & 27, 2010.

Council Focus

- Council prepared: Functions, Guiding Principles and 09/10 Council Workplan to guide its work.
- Council wrapped up its work on the theme of Aging; but continued participating on the Senior's Healthy Aging Community Reference Group and attending the Aging symposium.
- The Council is primarily focusing on the theme of Prevention Programs and has been gathering information on prevention programs (see presentations and Council Activities).
- Council has also been following up on other issues as they arise:
 - o The adequacy of emergency notification measures for rural residents -Council offered suggestions to EMO, no further action.
 - o The issue of social and subsidized housing and whether current

arrangements were a disincentive to those working - Council received information, satisfied with approach, no further action.

- o The process for reimbursing rural residents who travel to Whitehorse for medical reasons - Council received information from recent patrons indicating timely responses, no further action.

Presentations and Council Activities

- Health Promotion, Emily Aasman, Brianne Meister, HSS
- WCB Prevention Programs, Kurt Dieckman, WCB
- HSS on perspectives for Council, Stuart Whitley, Deputy Minister, HSS
- HSS initiatives update, Brian Kitchen, HSS
- Territorial Health System Sustainability Initiative, Sidney Maddison, HSS
- Report: Summary of Prevention/Health Promotion Programs (incomplete), Department of Health and Social Services
- Health Privacy Legislation (electronic Health records - an issue relating to a previous Council recommendation) Lynda Ehrlich, HSS
- Council tour of Thompson Centre escorted by Joe MacGillivray, YHC
- Overview of Social Assistance programs in Yukon, HSS Tim Brady, HSS
- Emergency Reception and Radio Stations, Brian .Kitchen and Mike Templeton, EMO
- Aging Symposium, Kelly Cooper, HSS
- Anti-Poverty and Social Inclusion, Michael McCann, HSS
- Community Drinking Water Testing, Pat Brooks, HSS
- Council communications plan - Pat Living, HSS
- New Yukon Corrections Infrastructure project, Norma Davignon and Mark Daniels, PWGS
- Chair attended the Yukon Nurses Association Wine and Cheese reception.
- 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 Annual Reports submitted to H&SS.

Next Steps

- Council will continue its review of Prevention programs.
- Council is set to welcome new members Samantha John and Peter Morawsky. Council appreciates the Minister's support in appointing two new members.
- Council will be reviewing and updating its mission statement, terms of reference and procedures.
- A Council sub-committee will be developing a communications strategy in collaboration with HSS to enhance public awareness and input.
- Council member Kearns to represent council in liaising with wellness strategy initiative.
- Council participation in HSS initiative: Health Care in the Yukon - Future Trends

Presentations:

Departmental Update (THAF), Brian Kitchen, Director of Corporate Policy and Planning, H&SS

Territorial Health Access Fund (THAF) was a five-year funding agreement that expired March 2010. There will be an extension of two years to THAF. THAF is one part of the Territorial Health System Sustainability Initiative. Although final decisions have yet to be made, the following activities are likely to be included: Chronic Conditions Support, Mentoring, Yukon Health Line (811), Palliative care, Telehealth, Early psychosis intervention, Social Inclusion Strategy, Wellness, and Aging Strategies, Healthy eating/Healthy Living, Risk Management and Quality Assurance and Health Privacy Legislation.

Other activities that are also being considered are: Mental Health services in rural communities, Mental Health Services for complex cases, Health Promotion campaigns, Tobacco reductions, and Tuberculosis treatment.

New Children's and Family Services Act, Jane Bates, Manager, Family Services Unit, & Brad Bell, Manager, Child and Family Services Act Implementations, H&SS

The new *Child and Family Services Act* is now in effect and replaces the 26 year-old *Children's Act*.

This new legislation is more inclusive than the previous act. It provides more options and support to families and extended families to care for children, and collaborative planning processes like family conferencing to involve extended family in decision making for their children.

One considerable change with the act is the mandatory reporting of suspected child abuse and neglect. Beginning today any Yukoner who has reason to believe a child is being abused or neglected must inform Family and Children's Services branch, a community social worker or the RCMP. Other changes include increasing the defining age for youth from age 18 to age 19. In addition, youth leaving the child welfare system can now access supports, such as educational training and independent living skills training, up to age 24.

Fundamental Change:

- Partnership, Involvement: Families, communities, First Nations, children and youth will be involved in decisions about the care and safety of children
- Prevention, Support: New supports for families, extended families and youth
- Accountability: New mechanisms to measure the success of the new Act and to hold government accountable

Under the old act, only teachers and child care workers were mandated to report suspected child abuse and youth in care were not eligible for additional services and supports past age 19.

The act is a result of input from many community stakeholders, First Nation governments and Health and Social Services employees.

Real Change:

- Children will have more consistency, stability and will be more connected to their families, communities and culture
- Families will have more support and feel included in decisions
- Less court time
- Focus will be on outcomes

Website for the new act: <http://www.hss.gov.yk.ca/childact.php> and Information on cooperative planning: <http://www.americanhumane.org/protecting-children/programs/family-group-decision-making/>

Communications Strategy, Pat Living, Director of Communications, H&SS

Patricia Living, Director of Communications, brainstormed with the Council regarding Communication Strategy.

Here's what came out of the discussion:

Goal: Increase the profile of Council, identify function of Council, encourage increased input from the public, realistic meeting of priorities from the public and efficient and effective Council.

Communication Objective: Community Cooperation

Target Audience: someone involved in system, health professionals delivering programs such as NGOs and YG. Council needs to note how we want to be viewed by the public. Audience may include NGOs, Government departments, Yukon Hospital Corp. FN health commission, Ministers/DM/ADM/Director of Policy, Municipal government (rural and urban), Association of Yukon Communities, School Councils and Ministerial Association.

Key Messages: May 1990 mission, Council membership representatives, independent awareness group to Cabinet, conduit between public and government on improving health, social and justice issues.

Website: to include news release, letters to presenters/stakeholders, ads, meetings, etc.

Council Meetings: to include Watson Lake rolling ads and Watson Lake newsletter- run through Health Center, advertise on Yukon News, CBC free radio ad, identify spokesperson, issue FYIs to media, message box, same message for all Council.

Council will seek advice on Communication issues.

Thomson Centre Update, Cathy Morton-Bielz, ADM of Continuing Care

Cathy Morton-Bielz, ADM of Continuing Care gave a brief PowerPoint presentation of Thomson Centre. Thomson Centre has approval to open 19 beds. As of May 2010, there were 9 clients waiting for long term care and the average wait was 3.9 months. In December of 2009, there were 25 clients waiting for long term care and the average wait was 8 months.

Here is the timelines for the Thomson Centre as of May 2010:

- Seeking Management Board Approval
- 8 months minimum to open
 - start up team- 6 month (June- November)
 - renovations complete – December 1, 2010
 - Full staffing- two months pre-client admissions (Dec 2010- Jan 2011)
 - Anticipated opening for admissions is February 1, 2011

The renovations to the building are being undertaken by the Yukon Hospital Corporation and should be completed by the end of November 2010. Admissions to the building will begin after the facility is commissioned. The residents in this facility will have intermediate care needs similar to Macaulay Lodge.

Jackson Lake Land Based Treatment Centre

Joseph Graham updated the Council on some of the basics of the Land Based Healing Program Pilot Project at Jackson Lake. The program is available for all people, First Nations and non- First Nations. There is a steering committee that is planning the structure of the program. As it looks now, the first camp will run this summer and will be for females. The steering committee consists of First Nation's people with experience in these programs. Council member James Allen will ask one of the steering committee members, Phil Gatensby, for more details. Joseph and James explained some of the philosophy around land based healing.

Land-Based Healing Camp

The healing camp ran from May 28, 2010 to June 7, 2010 and was funded by YTG Health Investment fund and CAFN. The camp involves on the land cultural activities and spiritual cultural teachings. A typical day would begin with a morning check in and circle session with different aspects of our cultural beliefs and spiritual teachings. The afternoon would involve cultural activities on the land such as setting the fishnet, hunting, fishing or trapping.

James Allen said, "We invited George Roberts from Bandit Knives and Moe the leather maker to the camp to teach us how to make knives and sheaths. We had 11 participants and all completed making their knives and cases. They were all pretty proud of their skills and accomplishments. We treat the people as human beings and try to give them back their self esteem in a nonjudgmental atmosphere." All participants enjoyed the camp and expressed that they wished camp was longer and that they will be back if there is another camp.

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May 15, 2010

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kevin McDonnell: Chair
Members Max Rispin
Doug Kearns
Graham Lang
Joseph Graham
James Allen
Marie Cox
Peter Morawsky

SECRETARIAT: Yvonne Clarke, HSS Council Secretariat

REGRETS: Doug MacPheat

SATURDAY, MAY 15, 2010

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 9:09 a.m., and Chair Kevin McDonnell welcomed everyone back.

Check in.

Recap

Chair Kevin McDonnell provided a quick recap of Friday's meeting and the presentations that were made to the Council.

Review of Agenda:

Motion 2010-05-03: That the Agenda be accepted as revised; Moved by Graham Lang; seconded by Doug Kearns; Carried unanimously.

Council Business

- Review and revising of existing Terms of Reference, Mission Statement, and Operations Procedure
- Review and discussion of May 14th meeting presentations

- Discussion on Jackson Lake land based treatment centre
- Debrief from meeting with Minister
- Discussion on Council's focus and priorities
- Review and discussion of Task Force Motion
- Discussion on Wellness Strategy and Prevention Programs
- Discussion on Communications Strategy

Terms of Reference, Mission Statement, and Operations Procedure

Council spent some time reviewing the Council's Terms of Reference (TOR), mission statement and operations procedure. The TOR will be sent to the Deputy Minister of Health for review and approval.

The Mission Statement was amended and will be submitted to the Deputy Minister of Health for approval.

Operating Procedures was amended by Council and will be sent to the Director of Communications for approval.

All documents, once approved, will be published on the website.

Motion 2010-05-04: That the Terms of Reference, Mission Statement and Operating Procedures be adopted as revised; Moved by Graham Lang; seconded by Peter Morawsky; Carried unanimously.

Motion 2010-05-05: Chair to forward the Terms of Reference, Mission Statement and Operating Procedures to the Deputy Minister of Health for approval. Chair to mention to the DM that all the amendments are reproduction of the Health Act; Moved by Graham Lang; seconded by Peter Morawsky; Carried unanimously.

Wellness Strategy and Prevention Programs Discussion:

Intoxicated Respite- Council to inquire task force. What role does Council play? Assess the alcohol prevention programs to identify gaps issues for which the Council might make recommendations.

1. Summary of Prevention- information should be on the web, investigate prevention programs, an information source.
2. Land Based Treatment- specific area for Council to focus, needs clarification, specific focus on the land based treatment and issues of application, effectiveness and coordination.

Council to focus on prevention and to monitor/respond direction from task force. Goal for Council is to generate a summary of alcohol treatment program, what is currently available and to identify disconnect and areas for improvement.

Next Council Meeting: August 6 & 7, 2010.

Adjournment.

Motion 2010-05-06: That the meeting adjourn. Moved by Graham Lang; seconded by Doug Kearns; Carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned.