

**Vancouver Island Health Authority
And
Vancouver Island Regional Hospital Districts**

**Regional Joint Planning Meeting
Nanaimo Regional General Hospital
1200 Dufferin Crescent, Nanaimo, BC**

Minutes of Meeting

In attendance from VIHA

Don Hubbard
Dr. Brendan Carr
Grant Hollett
Kim Kerrone
Georgina MacDonald
Joe Murphy
Chris Sullivan

In attendance from the Regional Hospital Districts

Penny Cote, Alberni-Clayoquot
Terry Fong, Alberni-Clayoquot
Clair Moglove, Comox-Strathcona
Bruce Jolliffe, Comox-Strathcona
Debra Oakman, Comox-Strathcona
Beth Dunlop, Comox-Strathcona
Warren Jones, Cowichan Valley
Joe Stanhope, Nanaimo
Paul Thorkelsson, Nanaimo
Wendy Idema, Nanaimo

Guest

Ian Knipe, Director, VIHA Aboriginal Health

1. Call to Order & Introductions

Joe Murphy welcomed everyone to the meeting and roundtable introductions were made.

2. Approval of Agenda

An update on the Mobile MRI was added to the agenda.

Due to scheduling conflicts, Capital RHD will provide an update on their Community Wellness Initiative at the next meeting.

3. October 12, 2012 Minutes

The Action Items in the Minutes were discussed. Most items were completed or would be addressed in the meeting. Staff from the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation will be invited to the next meeting.

4. VIHA Update

Dr. Brendan Carr provided opening comments on the agenda with respect to the importance of the First Nations Health Authority and refocusing VIHA's strategic plan including engaging community partners.

5. VIHA Aboriginal Health

Ian Knipe provided a presentation describing:

- the context and highlights of VIHA's Aboriginal Health Plan including the process for updating the Plan and next steps; and
- an update of the Partnership Accord currently being negotiated by VIHA and the First Nations Health Council.

Aboriginal Health Plan

VIHA has identified improving the health of Aboriginal people as one of its strategic priorities. The Aboriginal Health Plan provides a road map to support the health authority to accomplish this goal. The purpose of this Plan is to:

- articulate VIHA's strategic objectives about health outcomes for Aboriginal people;
- discuss our emerging relationships with Aboriginal partners; and
- describe the services we are striving to provide and improve.

Partnership Accord

In 2011, a Tripartite Agreement on First Nations Health Governance was signed between the First Nations Health Council (FNHC), Canada and British Columbia. This agreement described the commitment of the three parties to work together to achieve a higher quality, more integrated, culturally appropriate, and effective health system for BC First Nations. The Agreement also established the First Nations Health Authority (FNHA) which takes responsibility for program management and service delivery from Health Canada (BC Region).

The FNHC is a political advocacy body regionally-driven and appointed by First Nations Chiefs and Leadership. VIHA is negotiating a Partnership Accord with the regional representatives of the First Nations Health Council to formalize and strengthen our partnership. The Accord commits that the partners will work together to increase the influence of First Nations in decisions relating to health services that are delivered within the Vancouver Island region while recognizing that each partner is accountable to make decisions for the programs and services for which they have responsibility.

6. First Nations Treaties – Funding for RHDs

Chris Sullivan provided a summary of information received from Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation (MARR) staff. Since the Maa-nulth treaty in Alberni-Clayoquot, the Province has developed the following approach to be used on an ongoing basis for Treaties:

- It is optional for a First Nation to become a Regional District member. If the First Nation chooses to join, taxation applies and the First Nation director is represented by a director on the Regional District.
- First Nation lands will form part of the Regional Hospital District. If the First Nation is part of the Regional District, the First Nation director will also be the Regional Hospital District representative. If there is no Regional Director, then an elected member of the First Nation government will sit as a Regional Hospital Director.
- The Indian Act does not apply after the Treaty is signed. This affects property tax exemptions. The general rule is that commercial properties on First Nation Treaty lands will be taxable immediately, First Nation residents will have their tax exemption phased out over 12 years and First Nation governments will remain tax exempt.

Teri Fong provided an update on the Alberni-Clayoquot experience where a commercial property is being taxed. Teri will also share a Treaty Tool Kit created by the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation based on the experience with having the first two Maa-nulth Nations join the Alberni-Clayoquot Board.

Follow-up items are:

- ACRHD to share the Treaty Tool Kit.
- Invite representative from Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation and Ministry of Health to next VIHA-RHD meeting.
- Request RHD representatives to provide focused questions for this agenda item.

7. VIHA's New Strategic Plan

VIHA is preparing an update on its Strategic Plan titled "Island Health 2018". Georgina MacDonald presented an environmental assessment and emerging

themes. Participants were asked for feedback and advice on these points, as well as the proposed engagement process. Another point of discussion was how can we better work together to better support the health of residents across Vancouver Island. A variety of suggestions were provided

8. Capital Planning Update

Chris Sullivan advised that there were no significant items to report.

9. Facility Condition Audit

As part of the provincial review, the facility condition audit is about 50 percent complete at Royal Jubilee Hospital. The Nanaimo Regional General Hospital is slated for review in 2014.

10. Community Wellness Information Session

Deferred to next VIHA-RHD meeting in the Fall.

11. Portable MRI Update

Chris Sullivan provided an update on the implementation of the portable MRI at Cowichan District, Westcoast General, St. Joseph's General and Campbell River General Hospitals.

The service began in September 2012, rotating between the four sites and in operation from Monday to Friday. About 15 scans are performed each day. For 2012/13, the number of scans was below target, largely due to a learning curve associated with start-up and a required change in the staffing model. For 2013/14, 3,800 scans are planned, 14 percent of the total scans to be completed across VIHA. The Medical Imaging department indicates there have been some logistical issues, but the MRI has been successful in improving accessibility.

The Medical Imaging department determines the number of scans to be completed at each site based on a population based model.

12. Roundtable

Nanaimo Regional Hospital District offered to host the next VIHA-RHD meeting at their facility.

13. Closing Comments & Adjournment

Don Hubbard thanked everyone for their participation at this meeting.