

**Grimshaw Regional Health Care Attraction and Retention
Committee Meeting Minutes
Monday, June 10, 2024 @ 7:00 p.m.**

Attendees:

M.D. of Peace 135

Lori Kinnee, Councillor

Town of Grimshaw

Stacey Messner, Deputy Mayor, Chairperson GRHARC

Wendy Wald, Mayor

Brian Allen, CAO

Village of Berwyn

Tristan VanderKlok

County of Northern Lights

Brenda Yasinski, Councillor - Vía Zoom

Alberta Health Services

No representation

RhPAP Consultant

Kate Tindall

Lac Cardinal Economic Development

No representation

Members at Large

Charlene Cavers

Tara Elliot

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1. **Call to order:** Stacey Messner called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

2. **Additions/changes and approval of agenda:** Lori Kinnee moved to adopt the agenda as presented. **CARRIED**

3. **Review Meeting Minutes:** Brenda Yasinski moved to adopt the meeting minutes from March 11, 2024. **CARRIED**

4. **Presentation – Corina Hendrickson, Practice Liaison, Grande Prairie, Primary Care Network** – Corina provided an overview of the PCN and the numerous services and programs provided. Information on all these services is available on their website. Municipal members are encouraged to do a Facebook post informing citizens of the services offered by the PCN. Vanessa will be asked to create a post on the committee’s behalf. The PCN will also share social media posts with the committee. The chair will draft a letter in support of the PCN requesting services we would like to see in Grimshaw. Brenda Yasinski moved to add the PCN to our terms of reference as a standing member of the committee. **CARRIED**

5. **Old Business**
 - Dr’s Farewell dinner Dr. Louw and Dr. De Kock – March 25, 2024: The event was well attended and well received by the community. The Doctors were very appreciative of the recognition they received. The venue was too small for the large number of attendees.
 - Business Expo-Welcoming Community Feedback: “What makes Grimshaw a welcoming community.” Discussion on what do we do next with the feedback received from the community at the Business

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Expo? It needs to be shared with member councils and the Lac Cardinal Economic Development Board to help promote the region. Any promotional materials created by the board need to include a “healthcare spin.”

- RhPAP Northwestern Polytechnic Grande Prairie – Nurses Presentation: Tara and Stacey attended the 2nd year LPN class in Grande Prairie on May 23, and provided information on the Town of Grimshaw to the students.
- Rural Health Week: Went very well, Northern Dough treats were a big hit, and all recipients were surprised and pleased.
- Regional Promotion Project – Lac Cardinal Economic Development: Misty will provide an update to the committee in September.
- Rural Remote Medicine Conference in Edmonton – Feedback: A lot of recruitment organizations were there, not a lot of municipalities. The Fairview Attraction committee attended and said that a lot of the physicians in training have no idea about northern Alberta opportunities. It was also stated that participants need to provide easily accessible information to potential candidates.

6. New Business

- Farewell Event for Dr. Blom: Stacey will reach out to Dr. Blom to see how he would like to be recognized for his 12 years of service to our community. August 2nd is his last day so the event will have to be held in July depending on his 2-week rotation.
- 2024 Conference – Rural Health Professions Action Plan (rhpap.ca) – October 8-10 – Wainwright: Brenda will be attending on behalf of CNL, Tara through her work, Stacey on behalf of the T of G, Lori may attend on behalf of the M.D. of Peace. Lori Kinnee moved that Charlene Cavers attend the RhPAP conference representing the Grimshaw Regional Health Care Attraction and Retention Committee, with registration cost being covered by the committee. **CARRIED**
- Northern Alberta Medical Program – Northwestern Polytechnic & UofA: Stacey, Wendy and Brenda attended a recent meeting at the

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Sunrise Medical Clinic in Peace River. Because of physician shortages support is necessary from AHS in order for a training center to be located here.

- Nurse Practitioner Program – Alberta Health: Discussion amongst the committee as to how we could attract a Nurse Practitioner to our community. Currently our doctor's priority is to hire a family practice nurse – LPN. Would our physicians support the committee recruiting a nurse practitioner?
- Physician Sponsorship Program – CPAS: Information on this program is contained in the link attached to the agenda.
- Welcome – Chiropractic Interns: Grimshaw Chiropractic Clinic: Two interns from Manitoba are doing their internship at the Grimshaw Clinic with a plan to take ownership of the clinic. The Committee will welcome them by providing a card and gift basket.
- Pharmasave – AED: Pharmasave has an AED on site for the Community to use in an emergency. The GRHARC committee should promote this.
- GRHARC Committee Feedback Sessions: Only 2 feedback sessions have been completed to date, perhaps scheduling has been an issue for some committee members?

7. AHS Recruitment Update Stacey provided an update on behalf of Susan and Nicole. AHS is still looking for 2 physicians for Grimshaw, there is currently no one in the cue, but they are hopeful that more applications may be coming. 2 more International nurses are expected in Grimshaw in the next year. Stacey will speak with Nicole to set up a meeting with Lynne Gaydosh and Trisha Towns to gain understanding of the recruitment process for nurses and what consideration is given to local applicants. It will also be an opportunity for our committee to provide community feedback.

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8. RhPAP Update – Kate Tindall: Kate provided a reminder and update of the RhPAP Conference happening in Wainwright, October 8-10, 2024. Early bird tickets are on sale before the end of June (save \$75)

9. Next Meeting: Monday, September 9, 2024

10. Meeting Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:42 p.m.

Approved