



What does it mean to be a member of a society, committee, advocacy group?

A third doctor will arrive to the Ashcroft Medical Clinic. On March 16th

Dr. Stefan Akunkunmi was introduced to the group at the healthcare area planning table. He is arriving from Ontario, he was part of the Practice Readiness Assessment program through 100 Mile House.

He will be moving his family to Ashcroft, his wife, a son and a daughter. Ages 10 and 12.

We are pleased to see three doctors in the clinic and living in our community for the first time in many years. This is a great step towards our goal for consistent and sustainable healthcare for our communities.

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Seniors advocate visit will be rescheduled.

- MLA Jackie Tegart and her office had arranged for the Provincial Seniors Advocate to meet with local seniors and advocacy groups on March 19th at the Ashcroft Seniors Centre.

“in response to health concerns regarding the coronavirus (COVID19) we are exercising an abundance of caution, as seniors may be particularly vulnerable, and for everyone’s safety”.



Isobel Mackenzie, Provincial Seniors Advocate

Healthcare Area Planning Table

A meeting was held in January and again in February.

January

There have been no ED closures since July; there is a new, consistent nursing rotation in Ashcroft with additional home health care available and more flexibility;

Dr. John Soles of Clearwater, Interior Region Physician Lead, spoke plainly about why doctors are not coming to/staying in the community, the challenges physicians face when they move to rural communities, and the need to build relationships with physicians so they feel a part of the community and want to stay. He noted that the whole community has to be behind them, not undercutting them or complaining.

A new manager position was created after Bev Grossler retired, it will be responsible for Ashcroft/Clinton/Logan Lake based out of Ashcroft .

A request from the Village of Ashcroft that the Planning Table form a standing committee specifically to discuss seven day per week Emergency Department service was discussed, with a decision deferred to a future meeting to give participants an opportunity to consider the matter.

February

We made some progress on trying to start looking at what the catchment area is, what services there currently are, what statistics we can look at for trying to identify what the health site should look like. We meet again in May.

Website Update

Much work has been done on the website including some education for us to learn how to build the site and how to update the site.

Previously there was a webpage set up through the earlier leaders. After many unsuccessful attempts to gain access to the website through them, it had fallen into sad disrepair with nobody looking after it. We also discovered it was more expensive to maintain difficult for newbies like us to understand how to keep it in good repair.

We received recommendations for the web page we are using and will be launching this month.