



**705-382-2900**  
**www.almaguin-health.org**

**Minutes:** October 1<sup>st</sup> 2021, 11:00am via zoom and in person at the AHHC boardroom

Present: In person- Rod Ward, Brad Kneller, Cathy Still, Tom Bryson

Via Zoom- Liz Stermseck (representing Carol Ballantyne), Barbra Belrose, Dennis Banka

Regrets: Marianne Stickland, Carol Ballantyne, Norm Hofstetter

Guests: In person- Kevin MacLeod (Executive Director BFFHT)

Secretary: In person- Camille Barr

Called to order at 11:01 am by Chair R. Ward

1. 2021-050 Moved by Cathy Still and Seconded by Brad Kneller  
**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** The Almaguin Highlands Health Centre Committee adopt the minutes from September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021, as circulated. Carried.
2. **DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY OF INTEREST:** None at this time.
3. **DELEGATIONS:** None at this time
4. **RESOLUTIONS PASSED:** See 5.f)
5. **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**
  - a) **AHHC Terms of Reference**

R. Ward shared there is desire to finalize the Terms of Reference for the Almaguin Highlands Health Centre Council. A draft was completed removing the building from Council functions. With changes on the horizon due to upcoming elections, the time is right to have clear terms. R. Ward will share the draft terms with the Council. All are asked to review prior to next meeting and bring feedback.
  - b) **AHHC Boardroom Signage**

R. Ward and C. Barr are moving forward with the sign for the AHHC boardroom honouring Bruce Campbell. C. Barr is working with Peacock's Signs and Designs to receive a mockup. Mockup will be sent to Council to review and approve/adjust. Once the sign is in place Council would like to invite Bruce to the beginning of a meeting to present him with the recognition.
  - c) **Health Centre Building Wi-Fi**

K. MacLeod confirmed the AHHC building has Wi-Fi. There are concerns from IT and Lakeland surrounding security when considering making Wi-Fi available to more than just health teams to utilize. He is working on solutions. R. Ward suggested a managed service through Lakeland could be a possibility. This

would be a separate Wi-Fi for public access. R. Ward and K. MacLeod will discuss further outside of this meeting.

**d) Health Centre Building Renovations (BFFHT)**

Since the last AHHC Council meeting B. Kneller and K. MacLeod have had further conversation clearing up questions regarding renovations. To date Ryerson, Armour, Perry, and Burk's Falls have agreed to support the funding ask of the FHT for renovations to bring the new doctor to the centre. There is a funding short fall of approx.\$11,000.00. K. MacLeod says plans will continue to move ahead. The hope is renovations will be complete by April 1, 2022. K. MacLeod will connect with B. Kneller and attend a future Magnetawan Council meeting in hopes of gaining financial support for the renovation by further providing clarity and answer questions. R. Ward will also attend. K. MacLeod mentioned he may connect with Kearney, McMurrich and Monteith as well as other groups for support. In addition, R. Ward will ask Armour if there is any ability to provide more funds for the renovation to assist. Dr. Salmon has started her practice.

**e) Muskoka & Area OHT Updates**

K. MacLeod shared a news release with Council- "Ontario Announces Eight New Ontario Health Teams".

BFFHT put forward a motion to join the Muskoka and Area OHT as an official member.

K. MacLeod updated that they continue to recruit for a OTN Telemedicine Nurse as the position has been vacant and OTN closed since August. K. MacLeod will send the recruitment to Council to share.

Jeanette Smith has accepted the position of Patient Navigator for the Muskoka and Area OHT. As someone who knows the area, she will be an excellent asset to the team.

OHT continues to meet every 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday.

**f) Health Centre Building – Potential New Tenant / Request for Support**

C. Still and C. Barr brought forward a request for support to Council. There is interest from a physiotherapist in renting the space Dr. Dempster is vacating. It is felt that this is a great fit to the building and Almaguin as currently it is the understanding that there is no physiotherapy available between Huntsville and Powassan. The Doctor made a request for support in starting up his practice by way of reduced or waived rent for the first 6 months. The Village of Burk's Falls asked Council to consider supporting this request. A resolution was passed in favour. R. Ward suggested it may be nice to have the practice supplied with signage to say, "this month sponsored by" and then the corresponding municipality noted to show partnership and support to bring physiotherapy to the Almaguin Highlands.

Village of Burk's Falls to provide letter to the member municipalities outlining the request.

2021-052 Moved by Tom Bryson Seconded by Cathy Still

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Almaguin Highlands Health Centre Council supports Dr. Palocaren's request for a reduction or waived rent for the first 6 months of practice; and further that a letter be drafted to the member municipalities of the Almaguin Highlands Health Centre Council with the request. Carried.

**Resolution:** 2021-051 Moved by Tom Bryson and Seconded by Cathy Still

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** The Almaguin Highlands Health Centre Council adjourn at 11:55 am to meet again on November 5<sup>th</sup> 2021 at 11:00 am. Carried. Location will be AHHC boardroom or via zoom.