

RHA Central Board of Directors Community Engagement and Partnership Activities

Regional Health Authority
Central Manitoba Inc.



Office régional de la santé
du Centre du Manitoba inc.

**REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY – CENTRAL MANITOBA INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND PARTNERSHIP ACTIVITIES
MARCH 2004 TO MARCH 2009**

- **April 28, 2004:** Board affirms that the revised Board ENDs are representative of the Board's work in terms of the prioritization. Board ENDs officially approved.
- **June 23, 2004:** Board meeting in St. Jean Baptiste and discussion with St. Jean seniors to examine issues that impact the life of seniors.
- **August 25, 2004:** Board member liaisons appointed to work with the CHA teams
- **August - October, 2004:** Board Plans Annual Meeting to look at 'closing the loop' on the CHA by sharing the findings of the assessment.
- **August 25, 2004:** The Board agreed to go ahead Ownership Linkage with Teens and individuals. Correspondence was sent to select school principals who were asked to select a minimum of ten and up to twenty-five students interested in talking about health matters. Meetings were arranged during November, 2004. Five meetings were held in total. Board member reports collated and forwarded to the Children's Team for grouping into themes. and information presented back to Board.
- **October 27, 2004:** An ownership linkage with Long Plain First Nations Chief, council and staff was held to engage aboriginal people in discussion regarding their health needs in relation to the Board ENDs – Statement of Purpose related to Aboriginal people. Discussion focused on what aboriginals believed was required to help people in aboriginal communities attain the highest health standards available.
- **March 23, 2005:** Board members presented at the All Party Task Force on Healthy Kids, Healthy Futures. There were five MLA's present and Task Force Chair, the Honourable Theresa Oswald, Minister responsible for Healthy Living, present. Mr. McKenzie reported that the brief was followed closely with the addition of a few comments. The Board discussed the impact that children can have on their health by making healthy lifestyle choices vs. unhealthy choices related to their nutritional needs and level of physical activity. Finally the all-party Healthy Kids, Healthy Futures Task Force, produced a report aimed at keeping children and youth active and healthy now and into their adult lives.
- **June 22, 2005:** The Board determines to meet with community stakeholders across the Region to hear about what "At A Reasonable Cost" means to the community and in turn, what it means to the board. Board members decided to accompany the CEO Fall Tour and attend the Focus Group meetings facilitated by the epidemiologist in early spring 2006. The question of defining what 'at a reasonable cost' means to individuals across our region proved difficult to answer and resulted in many different views being expressed. Common themes were: access to services and navigating the system. Some people considered the dollars while others considered the community; however, it was generally recognized that the RHA was the facilitator and not the keeper of health in our region.
- **October 5, 2005:** Following the visits to schools and after taking part in the Healthy Kids, Healthy Futures Task Force presentation; the Board questioned: 'should the Board return to the schools or should the Board take a different direction? It was determined that a presentation should be made at the Annual meeting by Board members to explain how the Board collects and/or receives information from the community and how this information is processed to achieve desired outcomes. It was suggested that the journey from the Community Health Assessment to the final document preparation be presented at the annual meeting. It would also be important to invite a representative from the Healthy Kids, Healthy Futures Task Force to speak to the final document.
- **October 26, 2005:** Presentation by Dr. Catherine Cook, Winnipeg Regional Health Authority regarding institutional racism, including a brief history. Cook explained that understanding the background will help engagement and planning for future services. Jurisdiction can have an effect on health care in terms of both delivery and outcomes.
- **November 23, 2005 to February 16/17, 2007:** The Board considered the next step towards achieving the Board END relating to Children and agreed, by consensus, *to consider how to partner with schools to talk about health and to promote*

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'healthy schools'. The Board agreed to identify this item as the topic for the fall Board Workshop and to invite the Manitoba Centre for Health Policy (MCHP) and others to attend, including the Children's Program Team. A letter, regarding the establishment of a Joint Planning Committee with the Education Sector in central region and the RHA Central Board to plan a workshop addressing issues raised in a report entitled 'Starting Behind, Staying Behind: Low-Income Area Kids and School', was sent to Manitoba Association of School Superintendents (MASS) and Manitoba Association of School Teachers (MAST). The Board struck a Working Group. With representation from Education, Health and the Manitoba Centre for Health Policy planned a workshop entitled: 'Creating a Partnership: Education & Health Working Better Together for Kids' was planned and took place in February, 2007.

- **October, 2006** Guest Speaker for Annual Public Meeting Marian Walsh, President & CEO Bridgepoint Health agreed to facilitate a meeting with key stakeholders. Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) within Central Region were invited to this event as well as the Chief and Council of each First Nations and Rural Municipality Chief Administrative Officers.
- **May 24, 2006:** The Board heard from a Gladstone Delegation about some health issues in the community.
- **April/May, 2007** The Board plans the Topic of: Altona Immigration challenges facing the community and what resources are available: what can the health system do to contribute and what strengths have been identified? Mr. Ray Loewen, Chair, Altona Refugee Network was invited to the Board meeting and responded to the Board's identified questions: *What challenges are faced when helping these people be as healthy as can be? What successes or strengths can we learn from these newcomers? How can RHA Central help?*
- **May/June, 2007:** Board plans June 27, 2007 Board Meeting at Rock Lake/Crystal City. Prior to the June Board meeting, the Board shared a meal and fellowship with Rock Lake Health District Board of Directors and Rock Lake Health District Prairie View Lodge Board of Directors who shared information about some of their work completing a needs assessment and a strategic plan.
- Board Meeting **August 22, 2007** was held with members of the community of Notre Dame de Lourdes where the Lourdeon community was invited to share information about some of its work, most notably the construction of the Centre Albert-Galliot wellness centre which was officially open on September 21, 2007.
- **April 27, 2005 - December 13, 2006:** Board decides to explore the definitions of the following words/phrases in its Board ENDS statements:
 - Independence eg. transportation - from what perspective is this being considered?
 - Active (static or flexible) – from what perspective is this being considered and how do we promote activity? Is it even our business?
 - 'Community of choice' – until services are required, which are unavailable in that community – what do our Seniors have to say about this and the dynamics of processing that ie. housing/relationships?
 - End of life issues
 - Affordable housing
- The Board decides to link with seniors 75+, in the smaller rural communities. With the addition of an Aboriginal group, the Board agreed with the communities identified previously by the Seniors Team i.e. Gretna, Gladstone, Darlingford and St. Claude. A focus group of 8/10 individuals with a separate group of aboriginal elders, facilitated by the epidemiologist and supported by two Board members.
- The Epidemiologist, provided a summary of the findings from the Focus Group sessions held during the summer. The report not only affirmed the fact that RHA Central is providing appropriate health care and services to the seniors of Central Region but it also identified items for future implementation.
- **In September, 2007,** in Winkler, the Board of Salem Home Inc. was invited to share information about its vision, mission, and its many accomplishments.
- **In October, 2007,** in Winkler, the Board had an opportunity to listen to the CEO of Eden Health Care Services who shared information about its vision and accomplishments on behalf of Eden Health Care Services, Eden Mental Health Centre, Eden Residential Care Services.
- **In December, 2007,** the Board met with the Swan Lake First Nation. The Board acknowledged that many of the issues raised at the meeting were program related and recognized its role to support staff in this work.
- **In January, 2008,** the Tabor Home Inc. Board of Directors, Morden made a presentation regarding their need for facility replacement. The process to develop a plan was started at the grassroots with various groups being approached bringing people along. RHA Central continues to include a new facility for Tabor Home in its Annual Health Plan.
- In **February, 2008,** Dr. Dali Dhaliwal, CEO, CancerCare Manitoba provided a presentation to the Board via Telehealth.
- In **March, 2008,** by way of motion, the Board appreciated Central Region's health care volunteers who give so freely of their valuable time, energy and abilities all year.

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- **In May 2008**, representatives from the table de concertation du Centre and the Conseil communauté en santé provided a brief history of French Language Services (FLS) in Central Region together with an explanation of the organizational relationships that exist on a national, provincial and regional basis in relation to FLS. Of the 11 RHAs in Manitoba, RHA Central is one of seven (7) designated bilingual and as such certain sites and services must 'actively offer' services in the official language of the client's choice.
- The Community Health Assessment process was reviewed and endorsed at the April 2008 Board Workshop, the June 2008 Board Meeting and the September 2008 Board Workshop.
- **In October, 2008**, the Annual Public Meeting was held in Altona with the theme "Today's Choices are Tomorrow's Opportunities". As part of the consultation process during the meeting, Board members were seated at a number of round tables to encourage dialogue with members of the public. Questions or discussion around the tables raised issues such as immigrant populations, home care; enquiring questions related to the work of the Board e.g. the Board's role in ethical decision-making and clarification of funding. Questions raised indicated the public's desire to know more about the Board and the environment whilst the format also provided an opportunity for more sensitive issues to be discussed.
- In **January 2009**, the Board heard from representatives of the Town of Carman and Rural Municipality of Dufferin who shared some of the successes and challenges that healthcare has presented to their respective communities in recent times. Although involvement with healthcare is relatively new for local authorities, both communities expressed a willingness to be involved and to work with the RHA. Discussion as to how these two roles might best fit together and what these roles might be have commenced and are ongoing with the RHA.
- In **February, 2009**, the Board appreciated meeting with the Fairholme Colony, Portage la Prairie to hear a presentation on the Youth Health Survey.

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