



# Protocol Table on Health Update Report

## Chiefs

- Chief James Badger
- Chief Gordon T. Auger
- Vacant Chief position

## Minister

- Honourable Sarah Hoffman

## Senior Officials

- Justin Riemer, Assistant Deputy Minister, Innovation and Strategic Operations Division, Health, Province of Alberta (Current SO)
- Lara McClelland, Executive Director, Strategic Policy and Indigenous Health, Health, Province of Alberta (SO Designate)
- Scott Harris, Executive Director, Planning and Operations Branch, Health, Province of Alberta (Previous SO)
- Rarihokwats, Treaty 8 First Nations of Alberta
- Gwen Muskwa, Treaty 8 First Nations of Alberta

## Minister and Chiefs meeting – December 6, 2017

Treaty 8 First Nations of Alberta and Alberta Health endorsed the 'Health Protocol Table Work Plan' which establishes the framework to directly increase Treaty 8 input into programs and policies, as well as create networks and structures that can be sustained over time.

Of the 13 priorities identified in the Work Plan, five achievable priorities with tangible results over the short and medium term were agreed to that will be the focus for 2018/19.

The 2017/18 priorities included:

- anti-racism and cultural sensitivity training;
- data-collection;
- increased access to services and supports through capital development of a 24 Nations Lodge;
- increase access to services and programs through a Youth and Family Treatment Facility; and
- design and implement solutions to address opioid use and save lives.

## Key Messages

- The Health Protocol Table provides the forum for information exchange and discussion with the goal of identifying mutually agreeable priorities.
- Alberta Health provided funding for a Health Table Coordinator position to Treaty 8 First Nations of Alberta.
- Relationships between Treaty 8 and Alberta Health have strengthened over this period with regular meetings between Minister and Chiefs, as well as Senior Officials.
- Treaty 8 First Nations of Alberta and Alberta Health developed and endorsed a long-term Work Plan with 13 strategic priorities including racism, mental health, youth and family treatment centre, long term care, physician services, First Nations Hospital, Elders Lodge, Primary Care, Ambulance Services, Dental Services and a 24 Nations Lodge.



## Work Plan Protocol Table Senior Official Update

Of the 13 priorities identified in the Work Plan, Alberta Health and Treaty 8 First Nations of Alberta agreed to work on five priorities in the short and medium term. Progress on these priorities includes:

- Anti-racism and cultural sensitivity training: The Minister directed Alberta Health Services (AHS) to adopt mandatory anti-racism and cultural sensitivity training for all AHS staff. Treaty 8 Elders Focus Group delivered the first of many Treaty 8 Awareness Workshops to Alberta Health, AHS and Indigenous Relations employees on March 26, 2018. Culture, way of life, health and environment, racism and challenges in health care were a few of the topics of discussion at the workshop.
- Data collection and analysis: Efforts to understand the health status and health outcomes of Treaty 8 First Nation are underway.
- Improved access to accommodations for families accessing services in urban settings (24 Nations Lodge): Treaty 8 has developed a business plan proposal for a '24 Nations Lodge'.
- Opioids: Alberta Health has provided \$725,000 to support community-based proposals that support culturally safe and appropriate opioid related initiatives in Treaty 8.
- Improved access to primary health care: Alberta Health is providing \$600,000 over the next two years to support primary care, via nurse practitioners, serving the Wabasca community in Treaty 8 territory.