

**STUART-NECHAKO REGIONAL HOSPITAL DISTRICT**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 11, 2022**

PRESENT: Chair Jerry Petersen

Directors Dolores Funk  
Tom Greenaway  
Clint Lambert  
Linda McGuire  
Mark Parker  
Bob Motion  
Michael Riis-Christianson  
Gerry Thiessen

Director Absent Sarrah Storey, Village of Fraser Lake

Staff Curtis Helgesen, Chief Administrative Officer  
John Illes, Treasurer  
Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate Services

Others Gregory Marr, Senior Operating Officer Northern Interior - Rural,  
Northern Health  
Anthony Radman, Project Director, Infrastructure BC – left at 9:56  
a.m.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Petersen called the meeting to order at 9:46 a.m.

**AGENDA**

Moved by Director McGuire  
Seconded by Director Parker

**SNRHD.2022-5-1**

“That the Stuart-Nechako Regional Hospital District Agenda of August 11, 2022 be approved.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**MINUTES**

**Stuart-Nechako Regional  
Hospital District Meeting  
Minutes – March 31, 2022**

Moved by Director Funk  
Seconded by Director Lambert

**SNRHD.2022-5-2**

“That the minutes of the Stuart-Nechako Regional Hospital District meeting of March 31, 2022 be adopted.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## DELEGATION

### NORTHERN HEALTH – Gregory Marr, Senior Operating Officer Northern Interior – Rural and Anthony Radman, Project Director, Infrastructure BC - RE Vanderhoof Primary Care and Stuart Lake Hospital Replacement Project

Chair Petersen welcomed Gregory Marr, Senior Operating Officer Northern Interior – Rural, Northern Health and Anthony Radman, Project Director, Infrastructure BC.

Mr. Radman provided an update regarding the Stuart Lake Hospital Replacement Project:

- Procurement Process completed April 14, 2022
- Contract executed
- Site location activities commenced end of May, 2022
- Ensure safety of work site
- Civil work and earth work moving forward
- Project well received by community
- Immediate neighbours to site – no complaints of project
- Contractor taking advantage of good weather
- Will be influenced by fall and winter weather
- Currently on schedule.

Mr. Marr provided an update regarding Vanderhoof Primary Care.

- Northern Health and physicians started work on a proposal for a new Vanderhoof Primary Care facility in 2019
- Delayed due to COVID-19
- Ministry of Health has invited Northern Health to provide an update
- Final draft of proposal will be brought forward to Northern Health Board of Directors and to Ministry of Health in fall 2022.

The following was discussed:

- Importance of a new primary care facility in Vanderhoof
- Vanderhoof provides care for patients in neighbouring communities
- Regional support for Vanderhoof medical staff
- Nurses' Residence in Vanderhoof requires updating
- Good primary care prevents individuals from having to go to hospital
- Staffing the new Stuart Lake Hospital in Fort St. James
  - o Need for nurses' residence – medical staff accommodation.

Chair Petersen thanked Messrs. Marr and Radman for attending the meeting.

## REPORT

Financial Statements for the Six Months ending June 30, 2022

Moved by Director Motion  
Seconded by Director McGuire

SNRHD.2022-5-3

"That the Stuart-Nechako Regional Hospital District receive the Treasurer's Financial Statements for the Six Months ending June 30, 2022 memorandum."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## VERBAL REPORTS

### Francois Lake Ferry Maintenance Shutdown

Director Lambert mentioned that the Chief Attendant, BC Ambulance on the Southside coordinated with other emergency agencies to ensure there was support while the Francois Lake Ferry was shutdown due to scheduled maintenance.

### Healthcare Concerns – Burns Lake

Director Funk brought forward the following concerns regarding healthcare in Burns Lake:

- Intermittent closure of the Emergency Room at the Lakes District Hospital and Healthcare Centre without notification
- lack of access to emergency care
- Residents are suffering
- Inability to access physicians for in-person visits
  - o impact to patients including elderly patients
- Individuals with serious health issues not getting care.

Discussion took place regarding the following concerns:

- o Healthcare is unsustainable
- o Medical professionals receiving bonuses to work elsewhere
- o Lack of professionals in all medical fields e.g nursing, lab services, etc.
- o Retention of residents to work in medical fields
- o Foreign workers programs for medical professionals
- o Benefits and disadvantages of remote workers program for medical workers
- o Impacts of lack of housing
- o Issues across the province
- o Consistent messaging to Northern Health and the province regarding concerns
- o Industry labour shortages
- o Develop a strategy
  - RDBN Strategic Priorities Plan
- o Community outreach for professionals similar to a Welcome Wagon program.

### Verbal Reports

Moved by Director Motion  
Seconded by Director McGuire

### SNRHD.2022-5-5

“That the verbal reports of the various Board of Directors be received.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**IN-CAMERA MOTION**

Moved by Director Thiessen  
Seconded Director Motion

SNRHD.2022-5-6

"In accordance with Section 90 of the *Community Charter*, it is the opinion of the Board of Directors that matters pertaining to Section 90(2)(b) the consideration of information received and held in confidence relating to negotiations between the municipality and a provincial government or the federal government or both, or between a provincial government or the federal government or both and a third party (Stuart Lake Hospital) must be closed to the public, therefore exercise their option of excluding the public for this meeting."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Director McGuire  
Seconded by Director Lambert

SNRHD.2022-5-7

"That the meeting be adjourned at 10:34 a.m."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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Jerry Petersen, Chairperson

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Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director  
of Corporate Services