

**STUART-NECHAKO REGIONAL HOSPITAL DISTRICT**  
**SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA**

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 15, 2024**

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**CORRESPONDENCE**

5-6	North Central Local Government Association – Follow-up on Request for Audit of Northern Health	Receive
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**ADJOURNMENT**

# Stuart-Nechako Regional Hospital District Board of Directors

**To:** Chair and Board  
**From:** Wendy Wainwright, Confidential Clerk  
**Date:** August 15, 2024  
**Subject:** **Union of B.C. Municipalities Convention – Invitation to Meet with Northern Health and Discussion Topics**

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**RECOMMENDATION:** (all/directors/majority)

Direction.

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## **BACKGROUND**

The deadline to submit a meeting request for a meeting with Northern Health at the upcoming UBCM Convention is August 21, 2024. They have also requested that any topics that the Board wishes to discuss be included.

Chair Greenaway has provided the following topics for consideration.

1. Seniors Health
2. Healthcare Worker Shortage
3. Neurodevelopmental Assessment wait times.

At this time staff are requesting direction regarding scheduling a meeting and confirmation of topics the Board would like to discuss with Northern Health during the upcoming UBCM Convention.

**Attachment:** **Invitation to Meet with the Health Authorities of BC during UBCM Convention**

**From:** [Wendy Wainwright](#)  
**To:** [Wendy Wainwright](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Invitation to Meet with the Health Authorities of British Columbia During UBCM Convention  
**Date:** August 12, 2024 11:41:59 AM  
**Importance:** High

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**From:** MUNI UBCM Meeting Requests MUNI:EX <[MUNI.UBCM.MeetingRequests@gov.bc.ca](mailto:MUNI.UBCM.MeetingRequests@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 19, 2024 11:01 AM  
**Subject:** Invitation to Meet with the Health Authorities of British Columbia During UBCM Convention  
**Importance:** High

[EXTERNAL EMAIL] Please do not click on links on open attachments from unknown sources. This message is being sent to all Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) Member Municipalities, Regional Districts, and First Nations on behalf of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs.

**Subject:** Invitation to Meet with the Health Authorities of British Columbia During UBCM Convention  
**Intended Recipient(s):** Mayors/Regional District Chairs/Islands Trust Chair/CAOs/Chiefs and Chief Councillors  
 and cc: General Email/Administrative Support staff/Alternates

If you have received this message in error, please forward it to the appropriate person in your organization.

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**2024 UBCM Convention – Ministries, Agencies, Commissions, and Corporations (MACC) Staff Meetings**

Senior staff from the Regional Health Authorities and the Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA) are pleased to offer UBCM Delegates an opportunity to meet to discuss matters related to the following:

**Regional Health Authorities (Northern Health Authority; Interior Health Authority; Fraser Health Authority; Vancouver Coastal Health Authority; Island Health)**

- When most people think about health care, the first thing they think of are hospitals. While many services are offered in the hospitals operated by the regional health authorities, they also offer a wide range of other important services such as:
  - Home and community care
  - Long-term care
  - Seniors care
  - End of life care
  - Mental health & substance use
  - Environmental health
  - Public health
  - Healthy Living

- Infant & Youth
- Sexual Health
- Lab and medical imaging services
- Indigenous health

**Provincial Health Services Authority:**

- PHSA has a unique role in B.C.'s health authority system: to ensure that B.C. residents have access to a coordinated provincial network of high-quality specialized health-care services.
- PHSA programs provide care and services through specialized hospitals and centres across B.C. such as BC Children's Hospital and BC Cancer.
- PHSA is also responsible for specialized health services, which are delivered across the province in collaboration with regional health authorities, such as cardiac, trauma, perinatal and stroke services. Through BC Emergency Health Services, PHSA oversees the BC Ambulance Service and Patient Transfer Services.

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To request a meeting with the Regional Health Authorities or the PHSA, please complete the form located at: <https://www.civicinfo.bc.ca/UBCMMeetingRequest/Staff>.

The deadline to submit online meeting requests is **Wednesday, August 21**. Decisions regarding MACC staff meeting requests will be communicated by September 11 to the contact(s) identified on your meeting request form.

As a reminder, meetings will be held **Monday, September 16 to Thursday, September 19** at the Fairmont Waterfront Hotel.

If you have any questions, please contact the MACC Staff Meeting Coordinator, Sarah Staszkiel, by phone at: 778 405-1784, or the Assistant MACC Staff Meeting Coordinator, Casey Cathcart by phone at: 778 405-3140. You may also reach out via email at: [MUNI.UBCM.MeetingRequests@gov.bc.ca](mailto:MUNI.UBCM.MeetingRequests@gov.bc.ca).

Regards,

Birgit Schmidt, Director  
MUNI UBCM Convention Coordinator  
Local Government Division | Ministry of Municipal Affairs  
Phone: 778 698-3260 | Email: [Birgit.Schmidt@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Birgit.Schmidt@gov.bc.ca)



August 2, 2024

Honourable Adrian Dix  
 Minister of Health  
 PO Box 9050 Stn Prov Govt  
 Victoria, BC V8W 9E2  
 Via Email: [HLTH.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:HLTH.Minister@gov.bc.ca)

**Re: Follow-up on Request for Audit of Northern Health**

Dear Minister Dix,

I am writing on behalf of the North Central Local Government Association (NCLGA) to address the critical need for a comprehensive review of healthcare services in Central and Northern British Columbia.

At the July 18, 2024, Regional Board meeting, the Peace River Regional District (PRRD) Board expressed their concerns about the ongoing diversions and emergency room closures within the Peace Region. In response, the Board passed a resolution to request a review of Northern Health, focusing on financial, operational, and workplace aspects.

Additionally, at the NCLGA Annual General Meeting held in Smithers, BC, in May 2024, the NCLGA membership endorsed a resolution (also submitted for endorsement by UBCM membership in September 2024, attached) that underscores the challenges faced by healthcare facilities in Central and Northern BC. This resolution emphasis:

- Limited emergency room capacity,
- Insufficient operating room hours,
- Inadequate capital upgrades, and
- Severe staffing shortages.

Residents of these regions often endure long journeys to access essential medical procedures, leading to delays in receiving vital healthcare services.

We recognize the challenges that Health Authorities and the Ministry face regarding finances and recruitment. We acknowledge the difficulties encountered in communities, along with the realities of increased costs and staffing challenges. We are also aware of the capital plans and budgets in our Regional Health Districts (RHDs).

Considering these challenges, the NCLGA calls upon the Provincial Government to undertake a comprehensive review of healthcare services throughout Central and Northern BC. The goal is to identify areas for improvement and use the findings to inform future healthcare planning initiatives.

We believe that a thorough review will provide valuable insights into the specific needs and issues within our healthcare system, paving the way for necessary enhancements. We appreciate your attention to this matter and look forward to your positive response.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Judy Greenway'.

Judy Greenway  
 President  
 North Central Local Government Association

cc: Regional District Chairs in the NCLGA Operating Area  
 MLAs in the NCLGA Operating Area  
 MPs in the NCLGA Operating Area

Dr. Robert Halpenny, Chair of Interior Health Authority  
 Colleen Nyne, Chair of Northern Health Authority



## **RESOLUTION**

### **NCLGA 2024: Urgent Investment in Healthcare for Central and Northern British Columbia**

**Sponsor:** NCLGA Executive

**Status:** Endorsed by NCLGA Membership, May 2024

Submitted for endorsement by UBCM membership, September 2024

WHEREAS healthcare facilities in Central and Northern British Columbia (BC) are confronting a myriad of pressing challenges, including but not limited to limited emergency room capacity, insufficient operating room hours, inadequate capital upgrades, and critical staffing shortages; and

WHEREAS the residents of Central and Northern BC endure significant hardships as they are compelled to undertake extensive journeys to access essential medical procedures, owing to the dearth of specialized healthcare facilities in the region, thereby leading to considerable delays in receiving vital healthcare services;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the NCLGA and UBCM vehemently call upon the Provincial Government to undertake a comprehensive audit of healthcare services throughout Central and Northern BC, with the explicit aim of identifying areas for enhancement and utilizing the findings to inform future healthcare planning initiatives.