

STUART-NECHAKO REGIONAL HOSPITAL DISTRICT
AGENDA
THURSDAY, JUNE 24, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

Receive

AGENDA – June 24, 2021

Approve

PAGE NO.

MINUTES

ACTION

2-4

Stuart-Nechako Regional Hospital District
Meeting Minutes – May 27, 2021

Approve

DELEGATION

NORTHERN HEALTH – via Zoom

Michael Hoefler, Regional Director, Capital Planning
and Support Services

RE: Facility Condition Index (FCI)

REPORT

5-7

John Illes, Treasurer – Revisions to the *Hospital
District Act*

Recommendation

VERBAL REPORTS

RECEIPT OF VERBAL REPORTS

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

NEW BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

STUART-NECHAKO REGIONAL HOSPITAL DISTRICT**MEETING MINUTES****THURSDAY, MAY 27, 2021**

PRESENT: Chair Jerry Petersen

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

Staff Curtis Helgesen, Chief Administrative Officer
Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services
John Illes, Treasurer
Deborah Jones-Middleton, Director of Protective Services
Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant

CALL TO ORDER Chair Petersen called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

AGENDA & SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA Moved by Director Greenaway
Seconded by Director McGuire

SNRHD.2021-5-1 "That the Stuart-Nechako Regional Hospital District Agenda of May 27, 2021 be approved."
(All/Directors/Majority) **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

MINUTES

Stuart-Nechako Regional Hospital District Meeting Minutes – March 25, 2021 Moved by Director Greenaway
Seconded by Director Funk

SNRHD.2021-5-2 "That the minutes of the Stuart-Nechako Regional Hospital District meeting of March 25, 2021 be adopted as amended."
(All/Directors/Majority) **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

REPORTS

Memorandum of Understanding -October 2021 Update Moved by Director Storey
Seconded by Director Greenaway

SNRHD.2021-5-3 "That the Board authorize the Chair or Acting Chair to sign the memorandum on behalf of the Hospital District at or before the annual fall meeting."
(All/Directors/Majority) **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

REPORTS (CONT'D)

Discussion took place regarding:

- Funding the Stuart Nechako Manor repairs
 - o Discretion of the Board
- Hospital Districts change/adjusting funding requests
- Proposed changes to the *Hospital District Act*
 - o Staff will bring forward correspondence at a future SNRHD meeting.

Northern Health Spring Meeting

Moved by Director Storey
 Seconded by Director Riis-Christianson

SNRHD.2021-5-4

“That the Board receive the Treasurer’s Northern Health Spring Meeting memorandum.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Inviting Northern Health to a future SNRHD meeting to provide an overview of the Facility Condition Index (FCI) was discussed.

VERBAL REPORTS

Northern Health Meetings

Director Greenaway mentioned that he has attended the following meetings with Northern Health:

- North Central Local Government Association
- Stuart Lake Hospital Redevelopment
- Fort St. James Primary Care Clinic.

Director Greenaway also noted that there has been some groundwork being conducted for the Stuart Lake Hospital Redevelopment project.

COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic for Youth at the Southside Health and Wellness Centre

Director Lambert announced that the COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic for youth on the Southside will be held at the Southside Health and Wellness Centre rather than the Grassy Plains School. Director Thiessen mentioned that Northern Health has indicated that they will not be conducting vaccination clinics in schools.

BC Ambulance Concerns

Director Lambert spoke of the continued concerns regarding BC Ambulance.

Granisle Health Centre

Director McGuire mentioned that the tentative dates for the Granisle Health Centre to move to its new location is June 21 and 22, 2021.

COVID-19 Vaccination – 2nd Dose

Director McGuire spoke of the Provincial timeline change to receive the 2nd dose of the COVID-19 vaccination.

Stuart Nechako Manor -Vanderhoof

Director Thiessen brought forward concerns regarding the needed repairs for the Stuart Nechako Manor and the cost of completing the repairs. He mentioned meeting with local contractors to discuss what is needed to repair the roof structure of the Stuart Nechako Manor.

Director Thiessen spoke of arranging a meeting with Chair Petersen, CAO Helgesen, RDBN Building Inspector and a Vanderhoof contractor to review the repairs required for the Manor roof.

Stuart-Nechako

Regional Hospital District

Memo

To: Chair Petersen and the Board of Directors
From: John Illes, Treasurer
Date: June 24, 2021
Regarding: Revisions to the Hospital District Act

Recommendation: (all/directors/majority)

That the Board write to Minister Adrian Dix under the signature of the Chair, supporting the Capital Regional Hospital District's request for amendments to the *Hospital District Act*.

Discussion:

The Capital Regional Hospital District, serving the Victoria area, is requesting revisions be made to the *Hospital District Act*.

The legislation has not kept up with the current practice of many Hospital Districts. For example, generally consultation with Ministry does not take place on capital bylaws and the Ministry is generally uninterested in the operation of Hospital Districts except for the funding of major projects.

The act is oddly silent about the share of costs between Hospital Districts and the Province. However, some sections of the Act indicate that the minister may set the Province's amount or share. For major Hospital District's, the minister has likely, either by tradition or by letter, set the Province's share at 60%. This leaves the Hospital District, with a difficult funding decision. If the District chooses not to fund at 40%, the project may be delayed and not move forward. The Stuart-Nechako RHD has benefitted by the ability to negotiate the share of major projects as well as the ability to finance projects at different rates to either expedite projects or to encourage more dialogue between Northern Health and the Hospital District Board. Having the act specify a fixed share between the Province and the Hospital Districts may not be in the interest of Stuart-Nechako RHD.

The Minister must designate each building that a Hospital District can fund as a "hospital". This can limit the opportunities to provide funding for health-related infrastructure that the Board deems essential or urgent. In Hospital Districts that are more populated, this constraint has often stalled the construction of new infrastructure, especially for buildings that may not fit the current health delivery model.

The *Hospital District Act* does need to be amended to match current practices and to provide Hospital District Board's the flexibility to support health care tailored for each specific region.

The differences around the province on needs and wants vary drastically as does the ability to fund. As an example, the mill rate per \$1,000 in the SNRHD in 2021 was \$1.31 per \$1,000, dropping from \$1.37 per \$1,000 in 2019 while the mill rate in the other hospital districts was often much lower. The SNRHD is one of the smallest hospital districts in the province and therefore, any changes to the act, will have to be closely monitored, as the impacts to our taxpayers could be more significant than larger HD's. The Tax rates for 2019 are included below for reference.

Attachment: Capital Regional Hospital District March 29 Letter to Minister Dix

Appendix: 2019 Hospital Tax Rates

SEA TO SKY HOSP	0.03074
NORTHERN ROCKIES	0.04314
CCRHD	0.09131
SUNSHINE COAST HOSPITAL	0.09256
FRASER VALLEY HOSP	0.13041
POWELL RIVER REG HOSPITAL	0.13388
KOOTENAY EAST HOSP	0.14599
NANAIMO REG HOSP	0.16353
CAPITAL REGIONAL HOSPITAL DIST	0.21109
ALBERNI-CLAYOQ HOSP	0.22104
CENTRAL OKANAGAN HOSPITAL	0.24774
W KOOT-BOUNDARY HOSP	0.26055
OKAN-SIMILK HOSP DIST	0.26355
N OKAN/COL SHUS HOSP	0.28696
MT WADDINGTON HOSP	0.3132
THOMPSON HOSP	0.4503
COWICHAN VALLEY HOSPITAL	0.50975
FRASER FORT GEORGE HOSPITAL	0.55672
COMOX STRATHCONA HOSPITAL	0.57852
PEACE RIVER HOSP	0.59161
NORTH WEST HOSP	0.64667
CARIBOO-CHILCOTIN HOSPITAL	0.70439
STUART-NECHAKO HOSP	1.37249

By Email
March 29, 2021

Honourable Adrian Dix
Minister of Health

Re: Revisions to Hospital District Act (HDA)

On behalf of The Vancouver Island Regional Hospital Districts (RHDs) we are restating our concerns regarding current HDA legislation and the need for it to be updated. We understand from our colleagues and partners that there has been a variety of correspondence with the Ministry of Health on this issue since the 2003 Ministry of Health review and the issue is only becoming of greater concern.

In 2016, Deputy Minister Brown agreed amendments to the HDA would bring it into closer alignment with current practices and policies, noting that the Ministry would seek to consult with RHDs likely in 2017 or 2018. Regrettably RHDs have not been engaged on this matter as suggested and upon enquiry in 2019, were disappointed to be advised that consideration of proposed amendments to the HDA were not a priority at that time.

Specific concerns and suggested amendments raised by RHDs thus far include:

- Eliminating the need for Ministry sign off on designation of facilities that can be cost-shared by RHDs;
- Eliminating the need for consultation with the Ministry on capital bylaws;
- Providing RHD Boards with the power to designate signing authority to staff, similar to Regional District legislation;
- Matching funding eligibility language around projects and operational needs to current practices; and
- Broadening restrictive language of “hospitals and hospital facilities”.
- Provisions to reduce RHD share in special circumstances such as funding a tertiary care facility with a broad spectrum serving multiple regions

We feel this would serve to increase our efficiencies, meet the increasing demand on our funding and administrative resources and strengthen our relationship with health care partners in British Columbia.

In moving forward, we ask that the Minister work with RHDs on planning a session to discuss HDA amendments as a priority in 2021. Specifically, we request the RHD representatives be included in the legislative review

Thank you for attention to our request.

Sincerely,

All RHD signatures