

STUART-NECHAKO REGIONAL HOSPITAL DISTRICT

MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY, JUNE 19, 2025

PRESENT:	Chair	Judy Greenaway
	Directors	Martin Elphee Clint Lambert Linda McGuire Shirley Moon Kevin Moutray Mark Parker Michael Riis-Christianson Sarrah Storey Henry Wiebe
	Staff	Curtis Helgesen, Secretary Cheryl Anderson, Acting Secretary John Illes, Treasurer Wendy Wainwright, Recording Secretary
	Others	Shane Brienens, District of Houston – left at 10:11 a.m. Stoney Stoltenberg, Electoral Area A (Smithers/Telkwa Rural)

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Greenaway called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

AGENDA

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson
Seconded by Director Elphee

SNRHD.2025-7-1

“That the Stuart-Nechako Regional Hospital District Agenda of June 19, 2025 be approved.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MINUTES

Stuart-Nechako Regional
Hospital District Meeting
Minutes – April 10, 2025

Moved by Director Moon
Seconded by Director Parker

SNRHD.2025-7-2

“That the minutes of the Stuart-Nechako Regional Hospital District meeting of April 10, 2025 be adopted.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

REPORTS

UBCM – Minister Meeting Requests

- Retention/recruitment of doctors
 - o Medical professionals as well
 - o Understand problem provincially and nationally
 - o Focus on prioritizing areas and taking into consideration distances between hospitals
 - Lower mainland hospitals are in proximity of one another
 - Northern communities have further distances between hospitals
 - Prioritize when a limited number of medical professionals are available
 - o Discussions with Minister Osborne during the hospital opening in Fort St. James regarding adjusting Emergency Room operations to allow them to remain open without physicians on site
 - o Drone Transport Initiative
 - Joint project led by the University of British Columbia's Faculty of Medicine, the Stellat'en First Nation, the Village of Fraser Lake and other health system partners
 - Examining how unmanned aerial vehicles, or drones, could be used to improve health service access in rural and remote communities
 - o Prioritizing Fraser Lake Clinic upgrades.

Financial Statements (Mid/Year)

Moved by Director Storey
Seconded by Director Riis-Christianson

SNRHD.2025-7-3

"That the Financial Report to the end of May be received."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CORRESPONDENCE

Northern Health – CEO – Update – April 2025 and 2024-2025 Capital Plan NH/RHD Joint Fall Meeting – April 2, 2025

Moved by Director Storey
Seconded by Director Wiebe

SNRHD.2025-7-4

"That the Board receive the correspondence from Northern Health regarding CEO Update – April 2025 and 2024-2025 Capital Plan NH/RHD Joint Fall Meeting – April 2, 2025."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

VERBAL REPORTS

Village of Burns Lake - Update Director Wiebe noted that the Doctor Recruitment and Retention Committee continues to work to recruit more doctors to Burns Lake after two new physicians relocated to Fraser Lake.

Village of Fraser Lake - Update Director Storey provided an update:

- Village of Fraser Lake has two new doctors (relocated from Burns Lake)
- Call with Honourable Josie Osborne, Minister of Health
 - Provincial Health Services Authority review and expanded review on health authority spending
 - Relay concerns directly to Minister Osborne
- Attended the Drone Transport Initiative Phase II one day event
 - Will be helpful to transport medication to residents and other potential uses.

District of Fort St. James -Update Director Elphee mentioned that a physician in Fort St. James will be moving from fulltime to working a two week on and two week off shift. Closures of the Emergency Room in Fort St. James are happening mid shift due to shortages.

District of Vanderhoof -Update Director Moutray indicated that there will be a significant number of closures of the Emergency Room at St. John's Hospital in Vanderhoof over the summer months including neighbouring communities at the same time.

Chair Greenaway – Update Chair Greenaway spoke of the importance of continued advocacy to mitigate the Emergency Room closures throughout the region. She noted the need to develop solutions to address the issue.

Chair Greenaway thanked Board members and staff that attended the Grand Opening of the new Fort St. James Hospital. She recognized past SNRHD Chair Jerry Petersen and Vice-Chair Tom Greenaway for their attendance and the work towards the new hospital. She expressed her gratitude for everyone's support.

Receipt of Verbal Reports Moved by Director Wiebe
Seconded by Director Elphee

SNRHD.2025-7-5 "That the Board receive the various Directors' verbal reports."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Director Lambert
Seconded by Director Parker

SNRHD.2025-7-6

"That the meeting be adjourned at 10:18 a.m."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Judy Greenaway, Chairperson

Wendy Wainwright, Recording Secretary