

**STUART-NECHAKO REGIONAL HOSPITAL DISTRICT
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, September 04, 2025**

Directors Present: Chair Judy Greenaway
Martin Elphee
Clint Lambert
Linda McGuire
Shirley Moon
Kevin Moutray
Mark Parker
Michael Riis-Christianson
Sarah Storey
Henry Wiebe

Staff: Curtis Helgesen, Secretary
Cheryl Anderson, Acting Secretary
John Iles, Treasurer
Wendy Wainwright, Recording Secretary

Others: Michael Hoefer, Executive Director, Capital Planning, Facilities Operations & Logistics, Northern Health - via Zoom
Mark DeCoos, Vice President Financial and Corporate Services/Chief Financial Officer, Northern Health - via Zoom

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Greenaway called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

AGENDA

2025-SNRHD-001

Moved by Director Parker
Seconded by Director Moutray

That the Stuart-Nechako Regional Hospital District Agenda for September 4, 2025 be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MINUTES

Stuart-Nechako Regional Hospital District Meeting Minutes - June 19, 2025

2025-SNRHD-002

Moved by Director Elphee
Seconded by Director McGuire

That the Stuart-Nechako Regional Hospital District Meeting Minutes of June 19, 2025 be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DELEGATION

NORTHERN HEALTH

Michael Hoefer, Executive Director, Capital Planning, Facilities Operations & Logistics
Re: Nats'oojeh Hospital (Fort St. James)

Mr. Hoefer provided an update of the Nats'oojeh Hospital and Health Centre.

- Implementation Process - High-level Update
- Design and Construction Process Update
- Demolition of Old Hospital
- Schedule - High Level
- Local Business and Labour Demographics.

Discussion took place regarding the contaminant being removed from an old fuel tank that was in the ground for approximately 20 years.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Honourable Josie Osborne, Minister of Health - Response to May 16, 2025 Letter

2025-SNRHD-003

Moved by Director Storey
Seconded by Director Wiebe

That the SNRHD Board receive the correspondence from the Honourable Josie Osborne, Minister of Health.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Discussion took place regarding:

- Rural practice in Granisle
 - Physician receiving additional funding
- Physician Coverage in Granisle
 - Clarity required regarding clinical resources
- Village of Granisle has a meeting with the Honourable Josie Osborne, Minister of Health, at the 2025 UBCM Convention and will discuss the topic further
- Letter stated what the region has and didn't address the needs of the region
- Toolkit provided is being utilized.

VERBAL REPORTS

Village of Burns Lake

Director Wiebe brought forward concerns regarding Emergency Room closures.

Village of Granisle

Director McGuire met with Lisa Puglas, Health Services Administrator, Lakes District and Daryl Petsul, Senior Operations Officer, Northern Interior, Northern Health and discussed:

- Emergency Exit has been tendered
- Video cameras are in place to assist with safety
 - Needing an automatic door opener as well.

District of Fort St. James

Director Elphee provided the following update:

- Emergency Room will be closed every evening for the three weeks in September as well as times over the weekends
- Celebrated his mom's 100th Birthday.

Chair Greenaway, Electoral Area C (Fort St. James Rural)

Chair Greenaway attended a meeting with the Honourable Bowinn Ma, Minister of Infrastructure, the Honourable Josie Osborne, Minister of Health and the Regional Hospital District Chairs.

Three questions were asked of the Chairs:

- What is the role of the Regional Hospital District?
- What role does the Province see the Regional Hospital Districts will have in the future?
 - Chair Greenaway indicated that the Province will move toward downloading recruitment and retention to Regional Hospital Districts which will have significant impacts on communities.

- What are two to three priorities within the hospital district?
 - Chair Greenaway noted:
 - Recruitment and retention
 - Percentage of funds required by hospital districts to fund hospitals and equipment
 - SNRHD is a small hospital district with a small population
 - Would like to work with Ministers Ma and Osborne to find a solution
 - Taxation – SNRHD pays one of the highest taxation rates
 - Emergency Room Closures
- Minister Ma spoke of the following:
 - Infrastructure responsibility
 - school, hospitals, transportation
 - Main focus
 - To respond quickly and most cost effectively
 - Considering building modular units
 - Will be coming to regional districts to amend Official Community Plans to accommodate future construction.
 - Focus of other Regional Hospital Districts
 - Wanting to work and provide input with health authorities in determining project needs
 - Want more fulsome discussion for projects needs and requirements
 - Concerns regarding the different percentages that hospital districts are required/asked to fund – want consistency.

RECEIPT OF VERBAL REPORTS

2025-SNRHD-004

Moved by Director Storey
Seconded by Director Wiebe

That the Board receive the various Directors' verbal reports.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

IN-CAMERA MOTION

2025-SNRHD-005

Moved by Director Parker

Seconded by Director McGuire

That this meeting be closed to the public pursuant to Section 90(2)(b) of the *Community Charter* for the Board to deal with matters relating to:

- Vanderhoof Primary Care Facility.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT

2025-SNRHD-006

Moved by Director Lambert

Seconded by Director McGuire

That the meeting be adjourned at 9:59 a.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Judy Greenaway, Chairperson

Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate Services