



August 2010



The Prairie North RHA Board held its regular monthly meeting August 25, 2010 in Turtleford. Board members are pleased to share the following:

### **Neilburg EMS**

- √ CEO David Fan gave a brief overview of events at the Neilburg Public Meeting on August 23, 2010. Fan admitted that the meeting was difficult and that the personal stories Neilburg and area residents shared about their experiences with the ambulance service resonated with Fan, and with the PNHR staff and Board members who were at the meeting.
- √ Fan relayed the communities' request for postponement of the Neilburg Ambulance Service closure to the Board members. The communities request that a one-month extension be granted so that community leaders may work with PNHR to explore other options for the ambulance service.
- √ The PNRHA Board approved the one-month extension.

### **Review of Governance Policies**

- √ The PNRHA Board reviewed and reaffirmed governance policies pertaining to the organization's Vision, Mission and Values, Statement of Goals, Philosophies of Governance, Role of the Authority and Role of the Chairperson.

### **Appointment to Lakeland Community Advisory Committee**

- √ The PNRHA Board reviewed the application of Mr. Wes Lundall for appointment to the Lakeland Community Advisory Committee. The Board appointed Mr. Wes Lundall to the Committee.

### **Presentation - Dental Health Screening Program Report 2008-2009**

- √ Dental Health Educator Ashley White presented the Dental Health Screening Program Report for 2008-2009 to the Board. All regional health authorities are performing the same screening in search of early childhood caries. Evidence of caries or decay means that a child needs a cleaning, has a cavity or needs a tooth removed.

- √ White outlined the standards for dental screening and where PNHR stands in meeting those goals. White explained that only 29 schools in the Region are participating in the Fluoride Mouth Rinse program and that the preventative Dental Sealant program was abolished in May 2008. In addition, there are no communities in PNHR that fluoridate their water at optimal levels. All these factors contribute to an increase in early childhood caries.
- √ Fan thanked White for her presentation and for delivering a powerful message to the Board.

## Reports to the Board

- √ VP of Finance Jerry Keller noted that one third of year is gone and that at this point in the fiscal year PNHR is experiencing a surplus of \$1.3 million due primarily to a reduction in vacation payable as staff take their vacation over the summer months. Utilities and food costs are still under budget, however, that is likely to change with colder and busier months on the way. VP Jerry Keller reported that the insurance has been renewed until July 1, 2011 and that premiums through provincial group purchasing have resulted in savings of \$13,500.
- √ Board Chair Bonnie O'Grady reported on the meeting she attended in Lloydminster on July 23, 2010 with the Alberta Minister of Health Gene Zwozdesky. The meeting was an opportunity to open the lines of communication between the Alberta Ministry, Alberta Health Services and PNHR. O'Grady was optimistic that movement on some of the issues in Lloydminster would happen in the near future and hopes that there are more meetings like this one to come.

## Board Meetings

- √ All regular meetings are open to the public. Upcoming PNRHA Board meetings are scheduled as follows:

√ Wed. Sept. 29/10	Meadow Lake	Northwest Health Facility
√ Wed. Oct. 27/10	Lloydminster	Lloydminster Hospital
√ Wed. Nov. 24/10	North Battleford	Battlefords Union Hospital
√ Wed. Dec. 15/10	Maidstone	To be determined

### \*\*\*\*\* How to Reach Us \*\*\*\*\*

If you have questions or concerns about the information provided in this edition of Board Notes, please contact:

**Prairie North Health Region – Battlefords Office**

**1092 – 107 Street, North Battleford, SK S9A 1Z1**

**Phone: (306) 446-6606**

**Fax: (306) 446-4114**

