



Heartland Health Region

Healthy People, Health Communities and Service Excellence in an enduring System

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MEDIA RELEASE

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For Immediate Release:

Heartland Regional Health Authority Approves Balanced Budget and 2011-2012 Operational Plan

The Heartland Regional Health Authority (HRHA) approved a balanced operating budget for the 2010-11 fiscal year at its meeting on June 1, 2011. The plan is aligned with both the 2011-12 Strategic Operational Direction for the Saskatchewan Health Sector and the region's Strategic Plan - Destination 2015. The revenue and expenditure plan is focused on four main areas of strategic focus:

1. Improving the client experience through patient and family centred care
2. Improving access
3. Sustainability and
4. A Healthy Workplace.

"Heartland Health Region will continue to manage our resources judiciously and look at innovative ways of doing business so that our efforts contribute to the sustainability of our services and delivery of the programs that people most want and need to improve their health," said CEO Greg Cummings.

HRHA's approved operating budget for 2011-12 will result in a planned balance of revenues and expenditures totaling \$95.76 million. The 2011-12 funding increase of 9.3% will allow the region to invest in strategies that put the patient first, improve access to health services and improve the health of the people and staff of the Heartland Health Region. Some strategic investments include:

- Improved focus on enhancement of Primary Care Service, including multi disciplinary teams and improved access;
- Enhanced patient safety by improving infection control and safe work practices;
- The region is committed to working with the Saskatchewan Surgical Initiative putting patients first by providing sooner, safer and smarter surgical care to achieve shorter wait times and a better surgical experience for patients;
- Increased coordination to support Physician recruitment and retention;
- Increased emphasis on Falls Prevention and Medication Reconciliation practices to ensure safety for all;

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- To examine our system and work processes with LEAN methodology to create efficiencies that increase productivity and quality of care;
- Working together with patients and families to provide the best care experience by continuing with the Releasing Time to Care Program in Outlook;
- Ongoing commitment in advancing our three Capital projects in Rosetown, Kerrobert and Biggar;
- Continue to reduce sick time, overtime and WCB days lost in the region to ensure a safe and healthy workplace for our providers.

Board Chair Richard Anderson says “In addition to the day to day delivery of health care services throughout the region, Heartland staff are engaged in numerous initiatives to improve quality and to develop the skills they need to evaluate the effectiveness of their efforts. We are thankful for our skilled and dedicated work force as well as the generous contributions of community partners who invest so much in the health care system.”

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