

## **XX Community Health Council**

### **Terms of Engagement**

#### **Purpose**

To promote the active engagement of individuals and communities in planning, reviewing and implementing strategies that both maintain and improve the health and well-being of citizens of XX Health Region.

1. To develop processes that support communities as active partners in their health and health care services.
2. To partner with communities and key stakeholders to jointly share information and promote understanding of perspectives that might not otherwise be understood.
3. To build capacity through informing and empowering individuals and communities to take more responsibility and control over their health.
4. To build mutual trust and credibility through the process of engagement.
5. To promote effective, efficient and sustainable services that appropriately meets the needs of communities.
6. The Terms of Engagement will be reviewed on an annual basis.

#### **Guiding Principles**

1. Communities will be actively and meaningfully engaged in identifying community needs and participating in key strategic initiatives.
2. Except in circumstances beyond the control of the Regional Health Authority (RHA) no decisions shall be made to eliminate, significantly change or add to existing services without the knowledge of active input from and discussion of options with the local Community Health Council.
3. It is understood the Regional Health Authority has the ultimate final decision making authority.
4. RHA and the local communities will openly share information that affects the health and well-being of residents.
5. RHA and the local communities will support healthy living by participating together to address priority health promotion and disease prevention strategies.
6. The engagement process must be transparent, legitimate and official.

7. Community input is valued and the region is committed to providing feedback about its decisions.
8. Participants should be involved as early as possible in the process.
9. The potential for communities to influence decisions must be real.
10. Information must be timely such that sufficient time is allowed to understand, discuss and deliberate. Information must be clear, transparent and easy to understand.
11. RHA resources must be available to support engagement processes.
12. RHA and the Council shall strive to achieve mutually acceptable outcomes.

### **Membership**

1. Town of XX:
  - a. Mayor, Administrator and Councillors (2)
2. RM of XX:
  - a. Reeve, Administrator and Councillors (2)
3. Health Region:
  - a. Senior Managers (2).
4. Local Facility:
  - a. Facility Manager, Staff Representatives (3)

Note: Primary Health Facilitators from RHA Primary Health Services will participate as meeting facilitators. Additional RHA representatives will be accessed as required.