



Position Profile

Indigenous Advisory Council

Responsible Ministry: Health
Open Date: April 16, 2024
Closing Date: August 30, 2024

Role(s) Required

Public members will be appointed over two stages in spring 2024 and between fall and the end of 2024.

Role Description

The Indigenous Advisory Council will have a provincial scope and provide advice on priorities and ways to improve health care for Indigenous peoples. Council members will provide current knowledge, critical thinking, and analysis to advise the Government of Alberta on important health care priorities – including clinical service planning, capital planning, and workforce planning.

Indigenous Advisory Council members also bring wisdom and knowledge of Indigenous patient and family experiences with health care, community health needs, gaps, and program requirements. Indigenous council members will also bring wisdom of key health priorities impacting First Nations, Métis, and Inuit patients, including:

- Improving health equity for Indigenous peoples in Alberta. Addressing Indigenous-specific racism in health care.
- Building a culturally safe primary health care, Indigenous health care workforce and Indigenous ownership, stewardship, design and delivery of health care services.
- Appreciation and understanding of the importance of approaching healing through a trauma informed lens, and the need for inclusion of traditional medicine and healing.

Council members will play a critical role in building long-term and meaningful relationships, fostering mutual understanding, and demonstrating commitment to aligning health care provision with the evolving needs of Indigenous peoples across the province.

Public members are required to:

- Be able to take an active role and engage with their community.
- Prepare for, attend, and participate in council meetings.
- Provide input to the Ministry of Health on issues affecting the community.

Indigenous Advisory Council members may also be cross appointed to a Regional Advisory Council based on the region where they reside.

About the Agency

The council will represent Indigenous community perspectives, bring forward local priorities and give input on how to improve the health care system. Objectives of the Indigenous Advisory Council are to:

- Bring Indigenous perspectives to directly advise government and the new primary care, acute care, continuing care, and mental health and addiction organizations on clinical service planning, capital planning and workforce planning.

- Bring the voice of the community, and amplify local health needs, clinical service access issues, and cultural requirements.
- Inform practices and protocols associated with culturally appropriate program and service delivery.
- Explore opportunities to integrate traditional Indigenous practices and teachings.
- Provide advice on goals and measurable outcomes to ensure the programs and services support Indigenous peoples to meet health and wellness needs.
- Identify Indigenous partnerships and service providers to support continuity of care between acute care, primary care, continuing care, mental health and addictions, and community care.

The overall scope of the council spans the entire health care system. It is anticipated the council will include up to 22 members, including a council chair.

Agency Classification

The Indigenous Advisory Council will be established as public agencies with an advisory role. The Regional Advisory Councils are subject to the *Alberta Public Agencies Governance Act*.

Skills and Experience

Indigenous council members will represent a wide range of geographic locations and diverse experiences. This includes Indigenous peoples receiving health care services as well as Indigenous health care workers, and community leaders.

Relevant skills and experience may include:

- Knowledge of community health needs and gaps in care.
- Knowledge of traditional medicines, cultural practices, and ceremonies.
- Understand practices and protocols associated with culturally appropriate programs and service design and delivery.
- Understand issues impacting rural and remote Indigenous communities and resources required to improve access to care.
- Strong communication skills

Specialized Knowledge and Experience

- Demonstrates knowledge, and understanding of Indigenous health priorities, Indigenous peoples culture, values, history, barriers and challenges when accessing care in both urban and rural settings.
- Fosters meaningful dialogue with Indigenous communities.
- Understands the contemporary and historical context of the issues facing Indigenous people, and the strength and resilience of Indigenous people and their communities.
- Leadership experience or experience in areas such as engagement or advising.

Remuneration, Time Commitment and Meeting Location

The term of office for a member shall be determined upon appointment. Members will be appointed for up to three (3) years.

The councils shall meet four (4) to six (6) times in a year or as otherwise required by the chair. Meetings may be conducted either in person or virtually, including teleconference. There may be other expectations outside of council meetings, such as taking part in community engagements, preparing for meetings and developing proposals.

Members are not paid for time spent on a council. Council members may only receive payment of or reimbursement for travelling, living or other expenses incurred while away from their ordinary places of residence and while in the course of their duties as members, in accordance with the Public Service Relocation and Employment Expenses Regulation and the Government of Alberta Travel, Meals and Hospitality Expense Policy.

Additional Notes

Applicants must be 18 years of age or older.

The following person is **NOT** eligible to be appointed as public member:

- Individuals whose appointment would result in an actual or perceived conflict of interest that cannot be managed.

Candidates will be requested to submit a resume. Applicants are asked to indicate any previous or current appointments they may have to government, private, or not-for-profit sector agencies, boards or committees.

Only applicants who are most suitable for the council member role will be contacted for an interview. Following the interview applicants may be asked to provide the following additional documents:

- Contacts for at least two references
- Conflict of Interest Declaration
- Biography
- A criminal record check

If you are appointed to this position:

You must comply with the agency code of conduct as referenced in the Conflicts of Interest Act sections 23.922-23.924 throughout your appointment.

It is recognized in Alberta as a fundamental principle and as a matter of public policy that all persons are equal. Diversity and inclusion are valued and supported on the boards of Alberta's public agencies.

Some examples include:

- Geographical, diversity or residency requirements.

Contact Information

Advisory Councils Secretariat

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