



PEACE RIVER REGIONAL DISTRICT

HEALTH CARE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

April 25, 2025, 2:00 p.m.
1981 Alaska Avenue, Dawson Creek, BC

Directors Present: Chair Veach, Village of Pouce Coupe
Vice-Chair Hansen, City of Fort St. John (via Zoom)
Leonard Hiebert, Electoral Area D (ex Officio) (via Zoom)
Director Sperling, Electoral Area C
Director Taillefer, District of Taylor (via Zoom)

Directors Absent: Director Dober, City of Dawson Creek
Director Rose, Electoral Area E

Staff Present: Tyra Henderson, Corporate Officer
Roxanne Shepherd, Chief Financial Officer
Ashley Dimapilis, Grants Coordinator
Olivia Lundahl, Electoral Area Officer
Katherine Lovino, Administrative Clerk/Recorder

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOVED Chair Veach

SECONDED Director Sperling

That the Health Care Scholarship Committee agenda for April 25, 2025, be adopted:

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

3. GALLERY COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

4.1 Health Care Scholarship Committee Draft Meeting Minutes of January 10, 2025.

4.2 Special Health Care Scholarship Committee Draft Meeting Minutes of February 11, 2025.

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

6. DELEGATIONS

7. CORRESPONDENCE

8. REPORTS

8.1 Suspension of Scholarships – Expiry of Northern Health MOU, ADM-HCSC-014

9. NEW BUSINESS

10. CONSENT CALENDAR

10.1 NLC Cares - Annual Progress Report and Statement of Revenue and Expenses

10.2 Health Care Scholarship Matrix

10.3 HCSC Terms of Reference

11. ADJOURNMENT

CARRIED

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

4.1 Health Care Scholarship Committee Draft Meeting Minutes of January 10, 2025.

MOVED Chair Veach

SECONDED Director Sperling

That the Health Care Scholarship Committee Meeting Minutes of January 10, 2025 be adopted.

CARRIED

4.2 Special Health Care Scholarship Committee Draft Meeting Minutes of February 11, 2025.

MOVED Chair Veach

SECONDED Director Sperling

That the Special Health Care Scholarship Committee Meeting Minutes of February 11, 2025 be adopted.

CARRIED

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

6. DELEGATIONS

7. CORRESPONDENCE

8. REPORTS

8.1 Suspension of Scholarships – Expiry of Northern Health MOU, ADM-HCSC-014

MOVED Director Sperling

SECONDED Director Hiebert

That the Health Care Scholarship Committee recommend that the Regional Board suspend health care scholarship programs previously administered by Northern Health for the 2025 intake year, and authorize an investigation into potential alternative options for the administration of the scholarships that were administered by Northern Health; RN/RPN Return of Service Scholarship (Part 2), Licenced Practical Nurse Scholarship, Career Professional Development Scholarship, and RN/RPN Professional Development Scholarship; further, the investigation include submission of a report to the Health Care Scholarship Committee at a future meeting, to prompt a review of the options available for scholarship administration against the option to refocus funding on recruitment/retention, or other health care improvement initiatives permissible within the establishing bylaw for Function 180 – Health Related Services.

CARRIED

The committee discussed suspending Northern Health-related programs since they cannot be provided without a Northern Health contract. Staff clarified that suspend means funding would not be made available until the Committee and Regional Board determine a path forward to offer scholarships and that information regarding the available scholarships would be removed from the website. The Chair confirmed that the Northern Lights College and the Peace River Regional District (PRRD) Healthcare High School Scholarships would remain open and available, and that a suspension will give the Committee time to think about potential options for the program.



8.1 Suspension of Scholarships – Expiry of Northern Health MOU, ADM-HCSC-014 (Cont'd)

MOVED Director Sperling

SECONDED Director Hiebert

That the Health Care Scholarship Committee recommend that the Regional Board suspend Part 1 (4th year degree program completion funding in the amount of \$2500 per student) of the RN/RPN Scholarship administered by the Regional Board for the 2025 intake year, pending the results of the review of potential alternative options identified in the investigation summary report, for the administration of the scholarships/refocusing of the funding available to other health care initiatives permissible under Function 180.

CARRIED

9. NEW BUSINESS

10. CONSENT CALENDAR

MOVED Chair Veach

SECONDED Director Sperling

That the Health Care Scholarship Committee receive the April 25, 2025 Consent Calendar.

CARRIED

11. ADJOURNMENT

Prior to adjourning the meeting, the Chair encouraged Committee members to share their financial or funding-related ideas and issues with staff prior to the meeting so that the discussion at the July 16, 2025 Health Care Scholarship Committee meeting regarding potential approaches to administering the funds previously administered in cooperation with Northern Health funds would be an engaging conversation exploring all options.

The Chair adjourned at 2:13 p.m.

CERTIFIED a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Peace River Regional District's Health Care Scholarship Committee meeting held on April 25, 2025 in the PRRD Board Room, 1981 Alaska Avenue, Dawson Creek, BC.

Danielle Veach, Chair

Katherine Lovino,
Administrative Assistant/Recorder