TRANSITION TEAM PROJECT UPDATE
Week of July 17, 2017

This update will provide ongoing information related to the project work underway to transition the health system to a single provincial health authority. On occasion this update will include information about work tied to health system restructuring, but not directly related to transition team functions. A date for the creation of the new Saskatchewan Health Authority is still to be determined, but is currently anticipated for fall 2017.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

The transition team is working closely with colleagues from across Regional Health Authorities (RHAs), the Ministry of Health and partner agencies. To provide more information on the work taking place to transition to the Saskatchewan Health Authority, specific work streams will be highlighted in upcoming weekly updates. This week, the focus is on Governance.

GOVERNANCE WORK STREAM:

On Monday, June 14, a Saskatchewan Health Authority Board of Directors was announced.

- The Board will legally begin governing operations when *The Provincial Health Authority Act* is proclaimed and the new organization officially launches (anticipated in fall 2017).
- In the meantime, the Board will act in an advisory capacity to help guide the transition and prepare for operations. One of the Board's first advisory areas of focus will be to recruit and recommend the new CEO.
- It is important to note that the 12 current RHA Boards will remain in place and will continue to lead the operations of the RHAs until the first day of operations for the Saskatchewan Health Authority.

Governance and Policy Working Group

In preparation for the appointment of the Saskatchewan Health Authority Board, the Governance and Policy Working Group was formed in February.

- This Working Group is being led by the transition team leads for the Governance and Human Resources work streams.
- Members include representatives from Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region and Saskatoon Health Region with expertise in policy development and Board support.

Currently, each of the 12 RHAs has its own its own set of region and Board policies, procedures and templates, and there are significant differences from region to region. To ensure consistency and clarity on day one of operations, the new Saskatchewan Health Authority requires a comprehensive governance and policy framework.

Over the past few months, the Working Group has focused on identifying important activities, tasks and documentation required to support a new Board of Directors, and to begin to identify critical policies and procedures that should be standardized in the new provincial organization. This work began by examining Board governance and policies from across the health system, and conducting an environmental scan of similar policies and procedures in other provinces and sectors.

Work Underway to Support Launch of Saskatchewan Health Authority

- Develop a Governance Framework with the new Board.
  - This framework will be a set of rules and practices to provide broad organizational strategy and direction to ensure accountability, consistency and fairness across the Saskatchewan Health Authority.

- Identify critical policies that must be in place on day one of operations in the new organization, such as a conflict of interest policy and delegation of signing authority.

- Develop a process to be used over time to integrate regional policies into standardized provincial policies.
  - This will include development of a policy framework to review, develop, align, approve, implement and communicate provincial policies.

- Recommend a staggered policy renewal cycle and policy removal process over the long term once provincial policies have been implemented.

MORE INFORMATION:

- As work progresses, the transition team is committed to keeping you informed with regular updates.
- Visit www.saskatchewan.ca/transforming-health.