



## **Health Services**

### **Mr. Speaker,**

DHSD have been working really hard meeting with Labrador-Grenfell Zone, Newfoundland and Labrador Health Services and Air Borealis to improve our schedevac service - contrary to all the social media frenzy last week. We finally have some good news.

Starting Monday past on June 3rd there will be a 5 day a week, scheduled service - Weather or other external factors may alter the schedule but for the most part the schedule will stand and folks will know in advance the schedule so no more waiting until the night before.

We also have an agreement now for Air Borealis to copy us on all emails regarding weather hold, etc... so we can better manage patients. If the weather is 50/50 patients will still have to go to the airport but days when there is little chance of flying they can stay at their accommodations. If patients are on weather hold we will know and provide food vouchers, etc...in a timely manner versus relying on someone to call us from the airport.

We are hoping to have further information about improved seating and amenities for patients waiting soon so stay tuned. We are happy we can bring this important news to the assembly.

## **Public Health Nursing**

### Community Updates:

Nain:

TB Public Health Nursing position remains vacant. Posting is open until filled.

Casual Public Health Nurse travelling to Nain Monday June 3<sup>rd</sup> to June 8<sup>th</sup> for orientation. This PHN will be providing coverage in Nain over the summer.

## **Tuberculosis**

Since January 1, 2024 there have been 4 confirmed cases of TB Disease.

TB Manual is now completed. Jen Bull will be providing an orientation and overview of the new manual during the Nursing face-to-face meeting in June. The meeting is a partnership between NG and LGZ.

Diagnostic Imaging Committee – LGZ has not assumed lead role of this committee as we near the implementation phase of piloting the Chest XRay equipment as a pilot in Hopedale for August 2024.

**NIHB NEC presentation** on May 22, 2024. The presentation elicited a lot of feedback and questions, but was well received.

Mr, Speaker,

- **Vision:**

- Dr. McIntosh is scheduled for:
  - Rigolet May 25-29, 2024
  - Hopedale June 16-30, 2024
  - Nain August 7-14, 2024
  - Postville September 5-11, 2024
  - Makkovik October 20-25
  - Hopedale November 3-9, 2024
  - Nain December 1-9, 2024

Purchase of new vision equipment budgeted for 2024-2025 to serve ULM beneficiaries.

Plans currently held up with Infrastructure in renovating Corte Real office basement to include area for vision clinic plus additional office space for Mental Health staff.

- **NG Hygienist Visits:**

- Jennifer Johnson is scheduled for:
  - Postville June 11-15, 2024
  - Hopedale June 15-21, 2024
  - Nain June 21-28, 2024
  - Makkovik June 28-July 2, 2024
- Developing a contract between NG and Dental Hygienist.

- **NG Community Dental Visits:**

- Dr. Power is scheduled for:
  - Nain June 21- July 5, 2024
  - Hopedale July 5-15, 2024
- Contract complete between NG and both Dentists.
- Electronic software and Digital x-rays purchased for all 5 dental suites.
- 6 desktops and 3 laptops purchased for all 5 dental suites. IT in process of setting up equipment

Lastly Mr. Speaker,

- **Audiology**

An RFP developed for audiology services for the 5 coastal clinics. RFP closed April 5<sup>th</sup> 2024 – zero applicants.

RFP reposted and also distributed throughout the Canadian Academy of Audiology. RFP closed May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

Will review proposals with legal team.

Will purchase travel equipment for successful audiologist.