

Rural Health Action Group (RHAG) Report

March 11, 2022

Liaison Councillor Sabine Dietz

The RHAG met March 3rd for an update and a review of the plan of the Health Services Group (#5 below).

The project charter mentioned in the last report has been finalized with clear goals and objectives – this project will be working on many of the priorities of the RHAG, but RHAG continues work on those priorities in parallel.

Progress on the five priority areas identified by the RHAG area:

1. Community Recruitment and Retention

- Microsite is near launch; the RHAG expressed sincere thanks Francois Giroux for his leadership, and to the Town, specifically Mr. Burke and Ms. Miller, as well as Council for the financial support for this work. The creation of this microsite would not have been possible without all of this support.
- Some excellent recruitment videos were published (physicians, nurses).
- HHN recruitment staff and local physicians are attending the National Forum of Rural Physicians next month –RHAG is assisting with community links and tools.

2. Community Fund & Incentives for Health Purposes

- An initial brainstorming with HHN staff and volunteers took place last week and follow ups scheduled.

3. Morale

- Maintain direct links with hospital staff to identify any opportunities that arise.

4. Communications

- Bulletins are being published weekly, will be posted on Town website regularly; with the approval of the project charter, some collaborative communication can be expected soon.

5. Future Health Services Design

- Working group is in place and has a plan. The goal is to undertake an assessment of current health services and provide recommendations to improve overall health outcomes in the region.