



# “Candle Lake – Alive and Well”

## A Candle Lake Health Services Project 2024

### Introduction

Candle Lake Health Service Committee (CLHSC) believes the rural perspective is unique and local health service requires tailored solutions.

We hold a firm conviction that our community is endowed with innovative ideas, valuable resources, and an unwavering collective determination to meaningfully contribute to the provision of local health services.

Our committee is confident in our ability to mobilize the community, to find ways to support health services and to make healthy living a shared and achievable community goal.

We aim to demonstrate the myriad ways in which rural communities can actively participate in the delivery of health services.

Ultimately, we wish to strengthen our partnerships and work collaboratively with the SHA, the provincial government, its agencies and all stakeholders to assist in the provision of optimal local health service and promotion of healthy living.

### Project Overview

#### We will:

**1: Build and perform a community needs and resource assessment.**

- To gain a deep understanding of the community's health and wellness,
- Identify available resources,
- Identify service utilization patterns, access challenges, and existing gaps in service.

**2: Clearly report the health assessment data, identify priority needs and then collaborate with stakeholders to develop strategies to address them.**

- Propose, plan, and trial initiatives for community interventions, **simple small town solutions.**

- Create goals and develop quality monitoring evaluation tools as part of any new initiative.

**3. Clearly report the community resources identified with the survey that can be activated to support community health and wellness. They may include:**

- Human Resources
- Financial Resources
- Physical spaces available

**4. Monitor the uptake and the effectiveness of every initiative introduced to ensure service is adaptive to evolving needs and being utilized.**

- Regularly reporting on performance, utilization and achievements will renew and create community momentum to participate.

**5. Plan for the future, empowered with information about our needs and resources.**

- Anticipate future requirements for services and infrastructure.
- Collaborate and negotiate with all stakeholders to fill service gaps and remove health service access barriers.
- Build local Health Service resources by recruiting qualified professionals to or from within the community.
- Validate community approval for infrastructure development and resource commitment.

**6. Regularly re-evaluate initiatives and reassess community needs to ensure efficient and effective use of finite resources.**

- Re-evaluation will ensure evolving needs are identified and addressed and ensure that services stay aligned with the community's changing landscape and needs.

**7: Share successes: Create a network of like-minded communities that can share their ideas and success, learning and growing together.**

- Implementation of commonly required programs, such as transportation assistance, community respite, meal provision, and post-operative monitoring can be templated to simplify implementation in other rural settings.
- Building relationships with other similar communities will stimulate energy and ideas to solve common local health and wellness issues.

## Goals and Potential Outcomes

**1. Gain insight into our unique demographics and specific health service needs.**

- Identify the health services currently being utilized and where residents are obtaining them.

**2. Identify and Bridge Service Gaps:**

- Identify factors limiting or impeding access to necessary health assessments or interventions, with a goal to remove barriers where possible.

- Collaboratively explore strategies to fill these voids.
- Identify and mediate barriers to enhanced local service delivery.

### **3. Identify and Build Support for At-Risk and Vulnerable Populations:**

- Explore ways to provide targeted support.

### **4. Support the Community's Vision for Healthy Living:**

- Promote a collective vision for healthy living within the community.
- Support existing programs that contribute to community health and wellness.
- Develop specific goals for health and wellness tailored to the community's needs.

### **5. Fuel Enthusiasm for Volunteerism:**

- Train and Support a Local Volunteer Force. Develop a framework and standard training modules for a **new type of community volunteer**, socially supporting and serving as the eyes and ears of the greater health care system.

### **6. Establish a Path for Financial Support for local Health Service:**

- Create a smooth pathway for receiving tax-deductible financial support for required local health services or facilities.

### **7. Monitor and Strengthen Community Interventions:**

- Implement robust monitoring and quality improvement strategies for community interventions, ensuring ongoing effectiveness through measurable outcomes for each initiative.

### **8. Strengthen Stakeholder Partnerships:**

- Improve communication with service providers, supporting agencies, and the community, fostering collaboration in planning and understanding of all system goals.

### **9. Partner with Other Health Service Providers:**

- Collaborate with health providers to bring a range of services directly to the community, including physiotherapists, chiropractors, dietitians, health educators and specialists.

### **10. Collaborate with Other Rural Centers**

- Create a supportive network of rural communities working towards similar local objectives.