

Date:

Dear Members of Parliament: Randy Hoback, randy.hoback@parl.gc.ca
Gary Vidal, Gary.Vidal@parl.gc.ca
Kelly Block kelly.block.c1a@parl.gc.ca

I'm writing to you with concerns or information regarding Health Care provided in Shellbrook from your constituencies in recognition that Health Care is a Provincial Responsibility however there is some Federal Influence toward First Nation communities.

The Town of Shellbrook and surrounding municipalities support and respect the services provided by all levels of Human Resources at the Parkland Integrated Health Care Facility and the medical clinics in Shellbrook and nearby communities. Human Resources are stretched due to retirements, limited worker pools and of course the stress brought on by the Pandemic. A provincial concern!

It may be of interest that Physicians and Nurse Practitioners from the Shellbrook Group have a regular rotation at the Ahtahkakoop medical center. This practice is in place to help reduce the number of people presenting at the Shellbrook Emergency Department. The doctors have reported that this strategy has worked taking some pressure off the ED and the medical transport system in place on the reserve.

The village of Leask and surrounding RM and First Nation Communities are also affected by the shortfalls experienced at the Shellbrook Health Care Center. We have a clinic and pharmacy at Leask and have been advocating for a Dr. from Shellbrook to frequent this clinic on a regular basis for some time. Because of the shortage of nursing staff and a need for more Drs. in Shellbrook, we have been unable to secure a Dr. Some of our ratepayers find it very difficult to travel to see a Dr., and therefore wait until there is a crisis and this puts unnecessary strain on the ER in Shellbrook. From the discussion with the Drs. at the AGM, it was noted that more Drs. and experienced nurses as well as support staff are crucial in order to properly serve all the patients in the Shellbrook and surrounding areas.

Please pass this on to the appropriate Federal Health Authorities and let us know if there are any programs or resources in place to aid these providers with the cost of this proactive service.

Sincerely,

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