

For Immediate Release

July 26, 2016

Five Hills Approves Balanced 2016/2017 Operating and Capital Budget

The Five Hills Regional Health Authority (FHRHA) approved the 2016/2017 operating (\$160.4 million) and capital budgets at a special meeting held July 21, 2016. The budget remains largely status quo from a quantitative perspective, though it does contain increases related to collective bargaining increases, Out of Scope compensation increases and Saskatchewan Medical Association remuneration increase.

A number of changes are included in the operating budget to achieve the Region's share of the \$7.5 million in administrative savings including a \$377K reduction in administrative positions through vacancy management (one Vice President position, one Labor Relations position, and one Continuous Improvement position) and a decrease in the Senior Medical Officer position from full-time to part-time. These reductions will result in an increase of 7.0 FTE positions in Long Term Care.

The approved capital budget of \$4.8 million includes \$3.2 million for equipment, \$1.3 million for infrastructure and \$0.3 million for debt repayment.

Betty Collicott, FHRHA Chairperson, expressed thanks on behalf of the Board. *"Thank you to our management team for the tremendous work to find savings and ensure we can continue to deliver high quality health care services."*

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