

## **TRANSITION TEAM WEEKLY PROJECT UPDATE**

***Week of April 24, 2017***

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This weekly update will provide ongoing information related to the project work underway to transition the health system to one single Provincial Health Authority (PHA). On occasion this update will include information about work tied to health system restructuring, but not directly related to the transition team functions. A date for the creation of the new PHA is still to be determined, but is currently anticipated for fall 2017.

### **INDIGENOUS HEALTH ENGAGEMENT AND PIPE CEREMONY:**

- As part of transition planning, Indigenous Health is identified as a priority under the Clinical Health Services transition work stream.
- This supports the Advisory Panel on Health System Structure recommendation to engage with Indigenous people to help inform how best to address First Nations and Métis health needs in a culturally responsive and respectful manner. Specifically, the Panel recommended the following to be considered:
  - Appropriate representation in the governance of the PHA;
  - Ensuring community advisory networks are reflective of the ethnicity and culture of the community; and
  - Establishing a senior administrative role within the PHA with responsibility for ensuring health care services respect the Indigenous and Métis patient experience.
- To embark on an engagement process, the transition team hosted a traditional Pipe Ceremony on Tuesday, April 25 at Wanuskewin Heritage Park, a location long known as a gathering place.
- Gabe Lafond, the transition team lead for the Indigenous Health work stream, organized the traditional ceremony to start this journey in the best way possible, building on the respect, understanding and collaborative spirit that all share.
  - Four male Elders and four female Elders led the ceremony to provide their wisdom and prayers to this special occasion.
  - Participants included First Nation and Métis community partners and patients, and representatives from the transition team, Ministry of Health, and Regional Health Authorities.

### **MORE INFORMATION:**

- As work progresses, the transition team is committed to keeping you informed with regular updates.
- For more information, visit [www.saskatchewan.ca/transforming-health](http://www.saskatchewan.ca/transforming-health).