

TRANSITION TEAM WEEKLY PROJECT UPDATE

Week of May 22, 2017

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

GENERAL INFORMATION:

The transition team is working closely with colleagues from across Regional Health Authorities (RHAs), Ministry of Health and partner agencies. To provide more information on the work taking place to transition to the Saskatchewan Health Authority, specific work streams will be highlighted in upcoming weekly updates. This week, the focus is on Finance.

FINANCE WORK STREAM:

Activities have been grouped under three work streams to ensure a seamless operational and financial transition from 12 RHAs to the single Saskatchewan Health Authority. Working groups have been established to lead work in these areas, and outreach to senior financial leaders across RHAs is occurring on a regular basis.

Financial Management and Budget Planning

- To prepare for the launch of the Saskatchewan Health Authority, a financial management and budget planning process must be established with a provincial perspective.
- The team has drafted a new Board financial reporting package that RHAs will trial with their existing Boards, beginning with the May 2017 financial reports. This work will support the development of a new consolidated reporting package for use by a Saskatchewan Health Authority Board in the future.
- Related to budget planning, the team is focused on understanding the financial status of the RHAs from a provincial perspective to help inform the budget planning process for 2018-19.
- Additionally, they are developing a strategy for a capital management system for the Saskatchewan Health Authority, including establishment of capital budget planning guidelines and principles for the 2018-19 capital budget process.

Systems and Consolidation

- There are numerous financial and related systems across RHAs that must be standardized and integrated. Systems include accounting and financial reporting, budgeting and forecasting, payroll, scheduling and HR systems, supply chain management, etc. Strategies are being developed to meet immediate, intermediate and long-term requirements.
- Integrating these systems will not occur by the day the new Saskatchewan Health Authority launches. As a result, this team is also reviewing various options to further consolidate 12 sets of financial information and other management reports for use at all management levels in the new organization, to meet fiscal management expectations.
- The team will soon begin developing a provincial chart of accounts, incorporating any required changes resulting from new or changing accounting standards the Saskatchewan Health Authority will need to follow.

Other Saskatchewan Health Authority Requirements

Strategies are being developed in a number of areas that must be addressed when setting up the new provincial organization through an amalgamation of the existing 12 regional health authorities. Some of these strategies will also have interim, intermediate and longer-term components and there are interdependencies with the other work streams.

The focus of this team includes oversight for:

- Financial and supporting policies development
- Delegation of signing authority strategy
- Insurance
- Treasury functions - banking and investment management
- Tax considerations
- Audit considerations and accounting policy consolidation
- Contract management processes/systems
- Asset management/capital planning processes and system

MORE INFORMATION: Visit www.saskatchewan.ca/transforming-health.