Guide to Health Authority Accountability Documents







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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Foreword	Page
	Overview	5
1.	Three-Year Health Plan	
	1.1. Purpose	7
	1.2. Legislative requirement	8
	1.3. Content	9
	1.4. Health plan factors, actions and measures	9
	1.5. Statement of accountability	10
	1.6. Submission, review and approval process	11
	1.7. Publication	11
2	Annual Business Plan	
2.	2.1. Purpose	13
	2.2. Legislative requirement	13
	2.3. Content	13
	2.4. Statement of risks, assumptions and implications	14
	2.5. Submission, review and publication	14
3.	Quarterly Reports	15
4	Ammuel Deport	
4.	Annual Report 4.1. Purpose	17
	4.2. Legislative requirement	17
	4.3. Content	18
	4.4. Submission, review and publication	20
5.	Appendixes	
	Appendix A: Regional Health Authority Health Plan	
	Appendix B: Planning for Results Framework	
	Appendix C: 2006-2009 Health Plan Factors, Actions and Measures	
	Appendix D: Key Dates Reference	
	Appendix E: Quarterly Performance Progress Report Format	

1



Foreword

Alberta Health and Wellness has prepared this guidebook to assist health authority boards in reporting annual performance requirements and demonstrate their accountability to government, stakeholders and the public.

The three-year *health plan* explains how the health authority will carry out its obligations under Section 5 of the *Regional Health Authorities Act*. The health plan indicates how the health authority has aligned its strategic direction with the ministry's business plan and what steps it will take to meet government expectations. Health plans also indicate which measures and targets will be used to assess performance and the key strategies that will be implemented to meet legislated obligations and government expectations.

The *annual business plan* describes the actions the health authority will take to meet first-year expectations of the health plan. Required by the *Government Accountability Act*, the business plan includes information on the strategies that will be used to meet targets, as well as what resource decisions need to be made to accomplish expectations.

Quarterly reports are intended to demonstrate what progress has been made towards meeting the goals and targets in the three-year health plan and the annual business plan.

Annual reports demonstrate how annual performance compares to what was planned. An annual report includes key achievements, states the degree to which a health authority has achieved government expectations and shows what money was spent.



Overview

The three-year Health Plan, Annual Business Plan, Quarterly Performance Reports and Annual Report are required to promote:

- 1. Governance and management of the health authority
- 2. Accountability to the Minister
- 3. Keeping the public informed

The *Guide* provides useful information for the preparation, submission, review and assessment of these key documents as used to manage the accountability relationship between the Alberta ministry of Health and Wellness and the province's health authorities. Also included as reference is a list of key dates associated with these documents – see Appendix D.

The *Guide* is not an exhaustive source of all related references. While referencing other documents, it does not quote all pertinent legislation, nor does it include a complete set of policy documents.

The *Guide* is an evolving document, subject to revisions and updates to reflect progress made in the health system as well as the experience of accountability relationships.

The following consolidated information summaries have been appended to the *Guide* as additional reference guides:

- Appendix A: Appendix B: Appendix C: Appendix C:
 Appendix C: Regional Health Authority Health Plan (a quick reference on health plans)
 Appendix C: 2006-2009 Health Plan Factors, Actions and Measures (submission
 - expectations)
- Appendix D: Key Dates Reference (a list of key dates for 2006/07)
- Appendix E: Quarterly Performance Progress Report Format (suggested report format)



1 Three-Year Health Plan

1.1 Purpose

The purpose of the three-year health plan is to:

- 1. Provide health authorities with a mechanism to set out the long-term direction for effective governance and accountability of its health region.
- 2. Communicate to the Minister how a health authority has laid out plans that align with the ministry business plan.
- 3. Indicate what achievements are planned to meet both the regional health authorities and government expectations.
- 4. Promote accountability through compliance with legislated requirements.

The development and submission of a proposed health plan consolidates and communicates the challenges and opportunities faced by a health authority as well as the strategic approach it intends to follow to meet its responsibilities. As a public document, the health plan communicates this information to stakeholders.

As a results-focused strategic document the health plan must answer three key questions:

- 1. What are the health authority's strategic priorities over the next three years?
- 2. What measures, targets and indicators will be used to enable the health authority to know it is being successful in achieving these priorities?
- 3. What specific strategies are proposed to achieve targets in support of these priorities?

The development and form of the health plan should flow from a health authority's governance responsibilities, management systems and existing planning processes. The Minister is most interested in the content of the health plan, not in its form.

Overall quality of a health plan relates to a few key attributes. Quality will improve as capacity to deliver these attributes evolves, for example comparability of measures. An effective health plan will be:

- Complete addresses the purpose and reasons for having a health plan
- Comprehensive articulates where the health authority wants to be and why
- Converged focuses on key strategies to accomplish desired results
- Comparable uses performance measures that enable comparisons across regions
- Concise facilitates administrative and public results reporting.

As a results-based planning document the logic within a health plan should demonstrate:

- Priorities, with desired results
- Appropriate measures, selected to assess progress towards desired results
- Performance targets, set for selected measures
- Strategies, to be developed and implemented to achieve set performance targets.

A condensed health plan reference is found in *Appendix A: Your Authority's New Health Plan*.

1.2 Legislative requirement

Each health authority is accountable to the Minister for meeting its responsibilities as set out in the *Regional Health Authorities Act*. Section 9 of the *Regional Health Authorities Act* requires a health authority to submit for approval a proposed health plan to the Minister, and annually to submit to the Minister a proposal to amend an approved health plan.

Section 9 (4) of the *RHA Act* requires a proposal for a health plan to contain:

- A statement of how the regional health authority (RHA) proposes to carry out its Section 5 responsibilities and to measure its performance in carrying out those responsibilities. Under Section 5 an RHA is required to:
 - o Promote and protect the health of the population in the health region and work toward the prevention of disease and injury;
 - o Assess on an ongoing basis the health needs of the health region;
 - O Determine priorities in the provision of health services in the health region and allocate resources accordingly;
 - o Ensure that reasonable access to quality health services is provided in and through the health region; and,
 - o Promote the provision of health services in a manner responsive to the needs of individuals and communities and supports the integration of services and facilities in the health region.
- Provisions for the establishment of one or more Community Health Councils (CHCs).
- Provisions setting out the role of the CHCs in their relationship to the regional health authority.
- Information respecting the health services to be provided and the anticipated cost of providing those health services.
- Any other information required in the regulations or by the Minister.

1.3 Content

The health plan should include key information about the health authority and the environment within which it operates as an aid to increasing stakeholder awareness and understanding.

Typically, areas of interest include:

- Statements concerning the health authority's vision, mission and values
- Discussion of the health authority's core businesses
- Identification of the opportunities and challenges the health authority faces
- Other information the health authority deems important to communicate.

The health plan is specific about planned achievements. For each legislative responsibility and government expectation the health plan identifies performance information (goals, measures, targets and strategies) to be used to assess achievements. Performance information should be specific, measurable and relevant, and indicating trends where appropriate. Targets should be attainable, based on priorities and the level of resources available. The health plan should identify the strategies the health authority intends to pursue to meet performance targets.

The relationship between goals, measures, targets, strategies and reporting is more fully illustrated in *Appendix B: Planning for Results Framework*.

In addition to addressing legislative responsibilities and government expectations, the health plan should identify any further regional priorities and initiatives the health authority has identified and reference the intended goals, measures, targets and strategies to address them.

1.4 Health Plan Factors, Actions and Measures

Appendix C: 2006-2009 Health Plan Factors, Actions and Measures outlines the legislative requirements and government expectations each regional health authority is expected to include in its health plan. Health authorities are expected to consider the factors identified and explicitly address the actions listed in this appendix.

Health plans should include, but not be limited to, the factors, actions and measures identified in this appendix. Appendix C is divided into four sections, as follows:

 Part One references legislative requirements to conduct health needs assessments and to establish Community Health Councils and determine their role and relationship to the health authority.

- Parts Two, Three and Four identify the factors, actions and measures that align with the ministry's core businesses as outlined in the Health and Wellness Business Plan 2006-2009. The ministry's core businesses are:
 - Advocate and educate for healthy living,
 - Provide quality health and wellness services, and
 - Lead and participate in continuous improvement in the health system.

Alignment of health authority health plans with the ministry business plan helps to ensure strategic and operational consistency in Alberta's health care system.

This appendix is provided to improve the accountability relationship between health authorities and government and will continue to evolve and be amended or modified to reflect the rapidly changing and dynamic health care environment and to capture improvements made in performance measurement and management.

1.5 Statement of accountability

The health plan must contain a statement of accountability, signed by the Chair of the health authority, to confirm that the three-year health plan:

- Was developed under the direction and guidance of the Board
- Is in accordance with appropriate legislative authority and government requirements
- Aligns with Alberta Health and Wellness business plan goals
- Addresses government's expectations for health system renewal
- Signifies health authority Board commitment to achieve results indicated in the plan.

The required wording is:

"This three-year health plan for the period commencing April 1, ____ was prepared under the Board's direction in accordance with the *Regional Health Authorities Act* and direction provided by the Minister of Health and Wellness.

The strategic direction and priorities of the *{health authority}* have been developed in the context of legislated responsibilities, the Ministry of Health and Wellness' business plan, and provincial government expectations as communicated by the Minister.

Performance measures are included as the basis for assessing achievements.

The Board and administration of the *{health authority}* are committed to achieving the planned results laid out in this three-year health plan.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of *{health authority}*,

Signed by {health authority} Board Chair"

1.6 Submission, review and approval process

Submission of the health plan is required by December 31 of the year preceding the three-year period covered by the health plan. The submission is in effect a proposed amendment to a previously approved health plan. As provided for under section 9 (7) of the *RHA*, a health authority:

- May propose an amendment on its own motion, or
- Shall submit a proposal to amend a health plan on specified matters based on a written request by the Minister, or
- Shall annually submit a proposal to amend a health plan.

The ministry will review the proposed health plan and provide the Minister with an assessment of the health plan. The ministry executive will endeavor to meet with the RHA executive to discuss and provide feedback on the proposed health plan.

As stated in section 9 (8) the Minister may:

- Approve the proposal as submitted,
- Amend the proposal and approve it as amended, or
- Refer the proposal back to the regional health authority with directions to take any further action the Minister considers appropriate.

If a proposal is sent back, it must be resubmitted as directed by the Minister and approved, amended or referred back with further directions.

1.7 Publication

Once approved, a health plan is a public document. The health authority will publish the approved health plan and make a copy available, upon request, to any person requesting a copy. The health authority's web site may post the approved health plan.



2 Annual Business Plan

2.1 Purpose

The purpose of the annual business plan is to:

- 1. Communicate how the health authority expects to achieve the results in the first year of it's three-year health plan
- 2. Describe planned tactical and operational approaches and implementations
- 3. Indicate how available financial and other resources are to be deployed.

Detailed program and service plans, implementation plans and work plans are not required to be submitted, although the business plan may make reference to significant aspects of those plans. Health authorities may choose to release other documents that complement the business plan for a variety of audiences.

2.2 Legislative requirement

Legislation provides a provincial framework for the development of business plans by health authorities. Health authority business plans are submitted to the Minister of Health and Wellness in compliance with legislation as follows:

- Regional Health Authorities: Government Accountability Act
- Alberta Mental Health Board: Provincial Mental Health Board Regulation authorized by the Regional Health Authorities Act
- Alberta Cancer Board: Government Accountability Act.

The regional health authority submits the business plan to the Minister as information. The health authority business plan is a public document.

2.3 Content

The business plan outlines the tactical plan, including strategies and resources to be deployed, the health authority will implement to achieve performance targets outlined in the health plan.

Province-wide services

Health authorities that deliver province-wide services shall include, as part of its business plan, information outlining the intended approaches, budget and expected results in its delivery of province wide services.

Surgical contracts under the Health Care Protection Act

Health authorities with contracts or with plans, over the next business plan cycle, to enter into contracts for surgical services with facilities pursuant to the *Health Care Protection Act* are to include relevant information regarding the type, volume and costs of these services to facilitate assessment of the plan. A comprehensive proposal including analysis of public benefit is required when seeking ministerial approval of the proposed contracts.

Financial information

The business plan must include a financial plan that is compliant with existing legislation related to operating deficits.

Financial plan form and content are set out in templates and guidelines provided by the Ministry.

2.4 Statement of assumptions, risks and implications

When submitting the annual business plan, a health authority is also required to submit to the Minister a statement of *Assumptions, Risks and Implications* as advice to the Minister. Development of this statement considers analysis of the current and projected future of the health authority, its external environment and key internal variables. As a guide:

- Assumptions describe the significant underlying factors, both current and anticipated, that provide the foundation, rationale and strategic direction for the business plan.
- **Risks** focus on key variables and challenges that could impact a health authority's planning decisions, selected strategies, and performance targets. Include information on the degree of certainty and what contingency plans are in place to deal with key risks.
- Implications address what impact the planned deployment of financial resources is expected to have on programs, people and infrastructure and the extent to which these impacts may affect local communities.

2.5 Submission, review and publication

A **draft** of the annual business plan is to be submitted with the three-year health plan to the Minister by December 31. This draft provides the Minister with an opportunity to understand the tactical approaches the health authority will take to meet health plan objectives and what impact these tactics may have on health services and service delivery, communities, human resources and capital infrastructure.

Upon approval of the provincial government budget, the health authority will **finalize** the business plan and submit it to the Minister by March 31. As a public accountability document, the health authority is required to publish the business plan.

3 Quarterly Reports

There are two types of quarterly reports: a Performance Progress Report and a Financial Report.

Performance Progress Report

Each health authority submits within **45** days of the end of each quarter, a performance progress report to the Minister demonstrating the extent to which a health authority is meeting its health plan strategies and business plan objectives. The report provides quantitative and qualitative information related to the measures and targets and explains variances between actual results and business plan expectations.

As an accountability document between the health authority and the Minister, the performance progress report should be approved by the Board of the health authority and include a statement indicating the health authority's overall assessment and satisfaction with its performance.

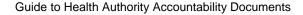
A suggested template is provided in Appendix E. Quarterly performance progress reports may follow the form of performance progress reports provided to the health authority Board by its management.

Quarterly Financial Reports

Quarterly financial reports, including Special Purpose Funds Reporting, are prepared and submitted to Alberta Health and Wellness within 30 days after the end of each quarter. The quarterly financial report is prepared in accordance with the requirements set out in financial directives.

The health authority Board must approve these reports before they are submitted to the Minister.

The submission of an annual report eliminates the need for fourth quarter reporting.





4 Annual Report

4.1 Purpose

The purpose of the annual report is:

- 1. To be a key public accountability document for reporting how the health authority has discharged its legislated responsibilities and any other responsibilities delegated by the Minister. It reports on key areas fundamental to good accountability including governance and organization, achievements relative to what are legislatively required and financial results. The Minister is required to table health authority annual reports in the Legislative Assembly. Accountability is defined as: "the obligation to answer for the execution of one's assigned responsibilities to the person or group who conferred the responsibilities."
- 2. To provide a means for highlighting the health authority's accomplishments, progress and results achieved over the year, including an explanation for any significant variation between actual results and those expectations planned in the three-year health plan and to be accomplished through implementation of the annual business plan.
- 3. To be a vehicle for communicating to residents of the region and people of Alberta. As a public communication tool, the annual report should inform the public about the major responsibilities of the Board, the services provided, major issues facing the health authority and how these are being addressed, key contacts, and information about health authority operations. The health authority will publish and make available its annual report.

4.2 Legislative requirement

A health authority is required to prepare and submit to the Minister of Health and Wellness an annual report in compliance with legislation as follows:

- Regional Health Authorities: Government Accountability Act and the Regional Health Authorities Act and Regional Health Authorities Regulation 17/95
- Alberta Mental Health Board: Provincial Mental Health Board Regulation authorized by the Regional Health Authorities Act
- Alberta Cancer Board: annual report submitted in accordance with the Alberta Cancer Programs Act.

4.3 Content

As guiding principles, the content of the annual report should:

- Focus on achievements rather than on activities that have not yet yielded results
- Objectively report quantitative or qualitative evidence directly relevant to the performance measures laid out in the annual business plan
- Provide explanation on any variance to expected achievements and targets.

The following minimum elements are to be included when preparing the annual report:

Letter of Accountability from Health Authority Chair

Using the wording specified below, the Letter of Accountability informs the readers the annual report was developed in accordance with appropriate legislative authority, government requirements and guidelines, and was approved by the Board.

We have the honour to present the annual report for the {health authority} for the fiscal year
ended March 31,
This annual report was prepared under the Board's direction, in accordance with the
Government Accountability Act, Regional Health Authorities Act and directions provided by the
Minister of Health and Wellness. All material economic and fiscal implications known as at July
31, have been considered in preparing the Annual Report.
Respectfully submitted on behalf of {health authority}.

Signed by {health authority} Chair

Board Governance

Convey to the readers of the annual report how the Board directs and governs the business of the health authority in accordance with the *Expectations for Board Governance* set out by the Minister. Include information such as Board structure and process.

Organizational and Contact Information

Describe the current organizational and advisory structure and identify any changes that occurred to these structures during the year. Provide an overview of the Community Health Councils, including names, dates established, mandate, and accomplishments.

Include information sufficient to enable a reader to contact the health authority for information about the operations or services of the health authority.

Service Delivery Information

Provide sufficient information to inform a reader about the responsibilities of the health authority and the services it provides within the region.

Activities and Accomplishments

Describe the major strategic directions for the past year as set out in the three-year health plan and expected activities and accomplishments relative to the annual business plan.

Items discussed should include highlights of major initiatives and accomplishments during the past year that promoted achievements of the health authority's strategic, capital, information management and technology, and health workforce plans. A discussion on accomplishments of province wide services should also be provided if applicable.

Performance Report

Include a Performance Report section describing key activities undertaken to meet expectations and key results or outcomes achieved during the year. Report on achievements in relation to the expectations set out in the three-year health plan and the annual business plan and provide comparison of each expected achievement to actual results. Include a brief explanation of variance against targets and any other facts relevant to aid understanding of performance. Relevant fact may include community needs assessment findings, social, economic or political changes, health authority resources, and factors affecting the health status of the health region's population.

Conclude this section with the Board's overall assessment of performance during the year, and specifically highlight strategic activities that have promoted collaboration among regions, innovation and effective practices. The Minister of Health and Wellness may use the health authority information in her public communication.

Financial Summary

Include the following:

- A complete set of audited financial statements prepared in accordance with Financial Directives
- o A Statement of Management Responsibility for Financial Reporting
- o Management Discussion and Analysis (MD&A)
- o Financial indicators, as required by Financial Directives
- o Explanation of significant variance from budget
- o Any additional information to improve the communication value of the annual report.

Surgical Contracts under the Health Care Protection Act.

Summarize results from the annual performance reports submitted during the fiscal year to the health authority by surgical facilities under an agreement. For each broad service area, discuss the extent to which expected public benefit anticipated in the proposal to the Minister was achieved. Include reference to any improvements in the operations of the health authority, reduction in wait-lists and costs, flexibility to patients and any other matters relevant to the strategy for contracting out surgical services. The discussion is to closely relate to the rationale provided in the request to the Minister for approval of the proposal.

4.4 Submission, review and publication

By regulation, annual reports are to be submitted to the Minister by **July 31** following the end of the fiscal year to which they relate. Fifteen copies of the annual report are to be provided to the ministry.

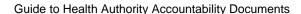
The ministry will provide updated data to support health authority annual reports by June 15.

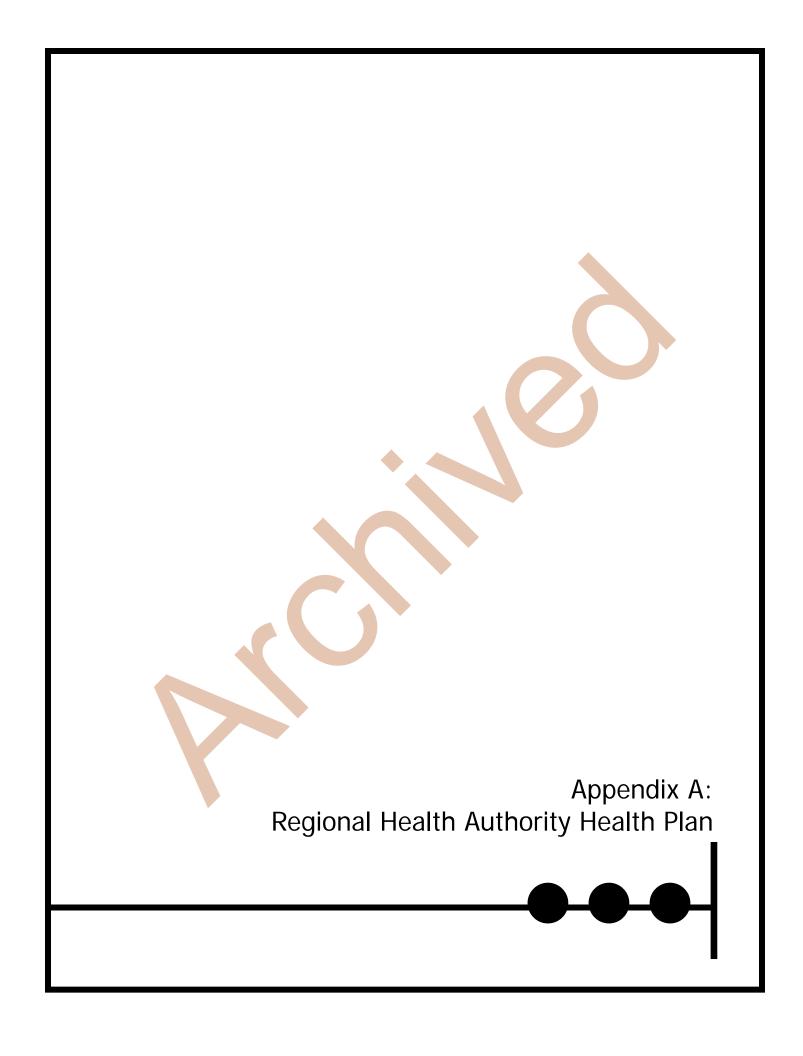
The Minister reviews the annual report to:

- Ensure all required components are included
- Assess its value as an accountability document
- Assess performance variations from plans and their impacts
- Determine specific direction, if any, for a health authority based on results reported.

Once approved by the Board, an annual report is a public document.

The health authority will publish the annual report and make a copy available, either in hard copy or electronic medium, upon request, to any person requesting a copy.





REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY HEALTH PLAN

Four Reasons for a Health Plan

- Required under legislation
- Meets government's expectations
- Aligns with Ministry business plan
- Sets the direction for effective governance

Government's Areas of Expectation (evolving)

- Information technology and services
- Cost of service information
- Quality, access
- · Wellness and healthy living
- Primary and continuing care
- · Mental health
- Workforce
- · Aboriginal health

Key Health Plan Attributes – 5 Cs

- Complete addresses all four reasons for a health plan
- Comprehensive articulates where the region wants to be
- Converged focuses on key strategies for desired results
- Comparable can be compared across regions
- Concise facilitates administrative and public reporting

Content, Not Form

- The Ministry is most interested in the content of the health plan, not in its form.
- Form should flow from regions' governance and management systems and processes.
- Health plan and business plan are the basis for reporting performance to board and Minister.

Relationship to Business Plan

Think of the health plan as your strategy — what you want to accomplish — and the business plan as your tactics — how you will use human, fiscal and other resources to implement the strategy.

Health Plan (3-vear)

- Results-focused strategy document
- Required under the Regional Health Authorities Act
- Identifies measures, targets and key strategies over three years
- Released publicly
- Subject to Minister's approval

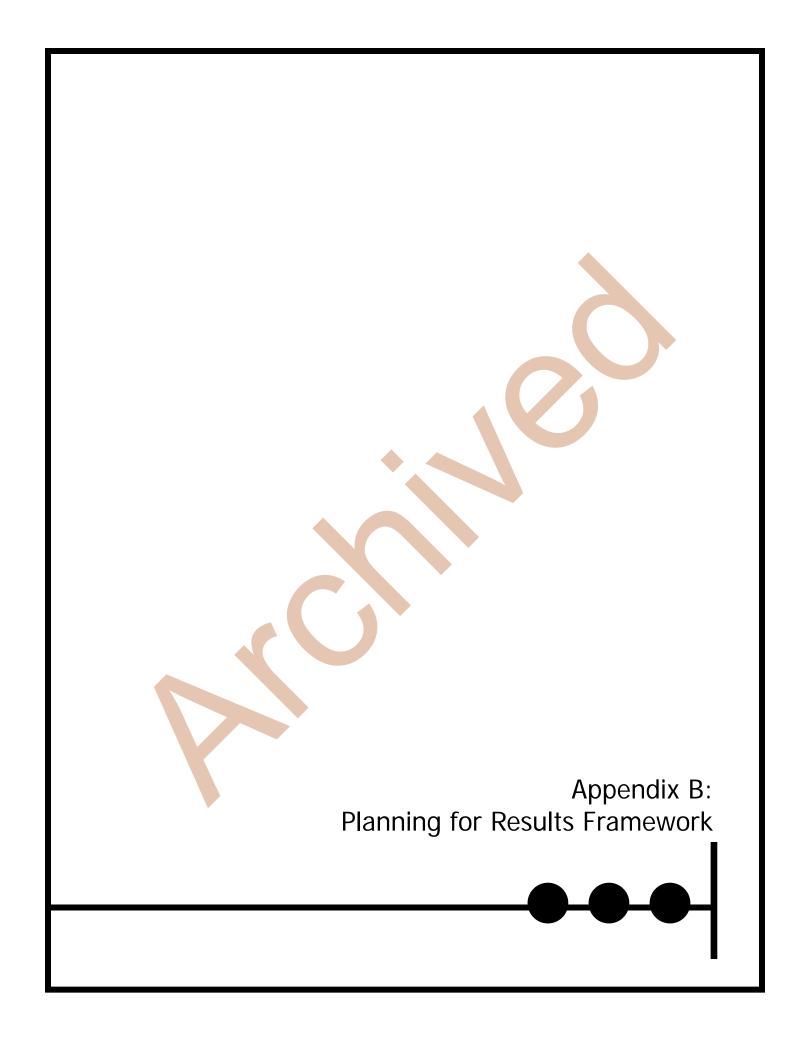
Business Plan (Annual)

- Tactical implementation document
- Required under the Government Accountability Act
- Health authorities are "accountable organizations"
- Shows how resources will be used over one year
- Released publicly
- Does not require Minister's approval

Measuring Results

- Measures turn good intentions into actions
- Measures help to focus efforts and resources
- Measures can be based on:
 - outcomes e.g. healthy birth weights
 - *outputs*| e.g. shorter wait times, more MRI scans, more designated assisted living spaces
 - *activities* e.g. regional mental health plan, research initiatives
 - process e.g. stronger partnerships, quality assurance
 - *inputs* e.g. more nurses, investment in training
- Measures should support those in the provincial business plan
 - *Ministry* e.g. success with treating chronic conditions
 - Region e.g. increase in community diabetes awareness





Planning for Results Framework

KEY STEP **KEY QUESTIONS** How are priorities consistent with: Identify priorities mandate, AHW Business Plan, with desired results and government expectations? Select measures to How do measures assess desired assess progress results? What results can be realistically Set targets to be committed to over the next three accomplished vears? Determine and What strategies can be implement strategies implemented to achieve results? What indicators will be used to Evaluate and report review and report progress?

EXAMPLE

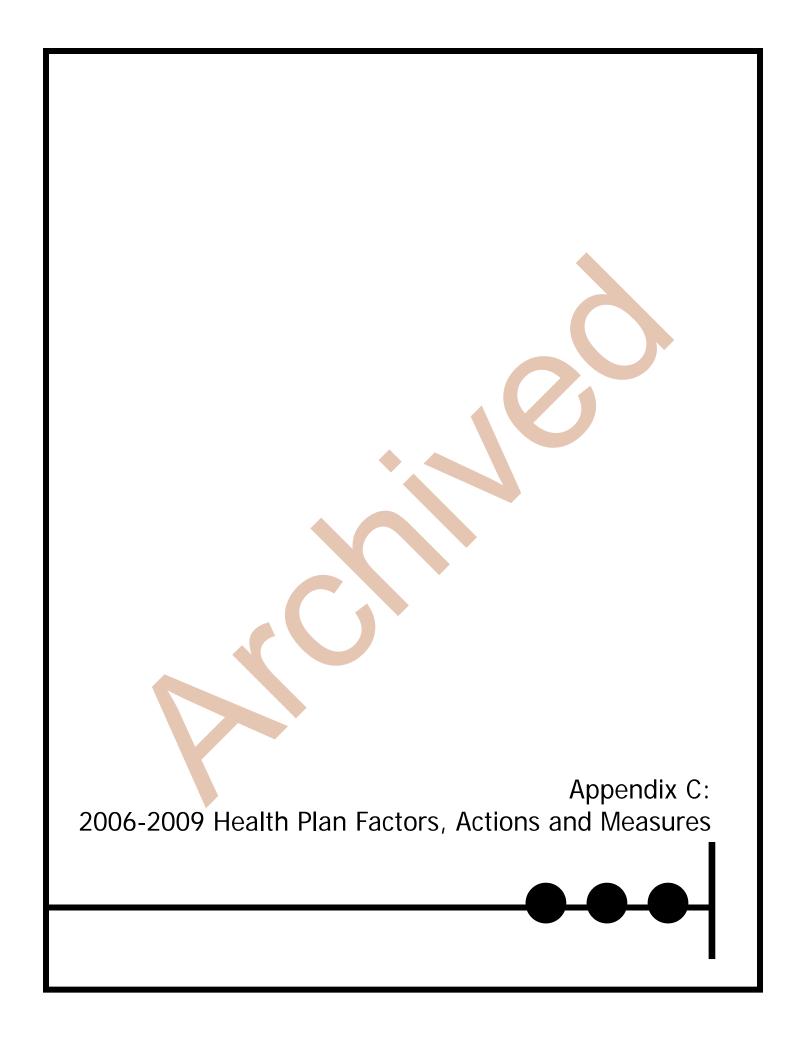
Population is protected against the spread of influenza

Immunization rates:

- seniors (65 years+)
- infants (6-23 months)

Annual vaccinations:

- 75% of seniors
- 45% of infants
- Provide vaccine to family physicians
- Offer vaccine to infants at mass clinics
- Immunization rates reported to AHW by May 2006



PART 1: ASSESSING THE NEEDS OF THE POPULATION

AREA / GOAL	REFERENCE	FACTORS & ACTIONS	MEASURES
1.1 Needs Assessment Assess on an ongoing basis the health needs of the health region	Section 5 (a) (ii) Regional Health Authorities Act	 Action: Consult with communities and stakeholders on health needs of the communities. Include CHC input in developing the plan. Action: provide a health plan for the region, based on an assessment of health status of the population environmental influences on health and well-being in communities and the region as a whole current health service utilization estimated health service needs Action: Assess regional ability to respond to health service needs 	
1.2 Community Health Councils (CHC) One or more CHCs are established with clear role and relationship responsibilities.	Section 9 (4) (c) Regional Health Authorities Act	 Compliance with the legislation for the establishment of at least one CHC. Action: Where no CHC is established, the health plan makes provision for at least one CHC. Action: Bylaws for established CHCs are up to date and approved by the Minister. Action: continuously improve the role and relationship of CHCs. (i.e. business plan, annual report, areas of accountability) Action: Indicate whether the CHC operates in an advisory role as to the provision of health services has entered into agreement with the health authority, or both. 	

PART 2: ADVOCATE AND EDUCATE FOR HEALTHY LIVING

AREA / GOAL	REFERENCE	FACTORS & ACTIONS	MEASURES
2.1 Wellness and	Section 5 (a) (i) Regional	1. Active Living	 Percent of residents age 12 and over who report being "active or moderately active"
Healthy Living Regions will set targets	Health Authorities Act Alberta Health and	2. Healthy Eating	 Percent of residents age 12 and over who report eating at least 5-10 servings of fruit and vegetables daily
and implement strategies to achieve the objectives	Wellness Ministry Business Plan	3. Healthy Weights	Percent of residents reporting a healthy BMI
and targets set out in the Framework for a	Government Expectation	4. Alcohol Consumption	 Percent of resident women who reported consumption of alcohol during pregnancy
Healthy Alberta and the Third Way initiatives.			 Percent of residents who report regularly drinking heavily
·		5. Tobacco use	 Percent of residents who report smoking Percent of pregnant women who report
			smoking
		6. Self-reported mental health status	• Percent of residents reporting they are in "excellent, very good or good mental health" by age group (18-64; 65+)
		7. Enjoy good mental health	Percent of residents at risk of depression
			• Percent of residents reporting "quite a lot" of stress
		8. Injury Prevention	Percent of residents using seat belts
			 Percent of children traveling in child safety seats
			Rate of hospitalizations due to falls
			Lost time claims rate per 100 years worked
		 9. Mortality Rates (Injury) Action: Align prevention strategies with the Alberta Suicide Prevention Strategy 	Mortality rates due to motor vehicle collisions (land transport accidents) per 100,000 people
		where appropriate.	Suicide per 100,000 population / rates and trends

REFERENCE	FACTORS & ACTIONS	MEASURES
	10. Diabetes	Number of new cases of type II diabetes
		per 1000 general population at risk
		Number of new cases of type II diabetes
		per 1000 Aboriginal population at risk
		Mortality rate from heart disease
	12. Cancer	 Percent of women age 50 to 69 screened
		for breast cancer within the recommended
		screening guidelines
		Mortality rate from breast cancer
		• Percent of women aged 18 to 69 screened
		for cervical cancer
		Mortality rate from cervical cancer
		Rate at which people get lung cancer
		Mortality rate from prostate cancer
	13. Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease	Mortality rate from COPD
	(chronic lower respiratory disease)	-
	14. HIV Rates	Age adjusted rate of newly reported HIV
		cases per 100,000 population
	15. STI Rates	Rates and type of newly reported
		infections per 100,000 population
	REFERENCE	11. Heart Disease 12. Cancer 13. Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (chronic lower respiratory disease) 14. HIV Rates

PART 3: PROVIDE QUALITY HEALTH AND WELLNESS SERVICES

AREA / GOAL	REFERENCE	FACTORS & ACTIONS	MEASURES
3.1 Access to Services Targets Provincial Targets CABG:(90 th percentile) Emergencies: ≤ 24 hrs Urgency 1: ≤ 1 week Urgency 2: ≤ 2 week Urgency 3: ≤ 6 week Hip & Knee Replacement: (90 th percentile) Emergencies: ≤ 24 hours Urgency 1: ≤ 4 week Urgency 2: ≤ 13 weeks Urgency 3: ≤ 20 week Breast Cancer Care: (90 th percentile) Referral to surgery: ≤ 4 week Referral post surgery to radiation/ systemic therapy: ≤ 8 week MRI:(90 th percentile) Emergencies: ≤ 24 hours Urgency 1: ≤ 1 week Urgency 2: ≤ 4 weeks Urgency 3: ≤ 12 weeks CT: (90 th percentile) Emergencies: ≤ 24 hours Urgency 3: ≤ 12 weeks Urgency 3: ≤ 12 weeks	Section 5 (a) (iv) Regional Health Authorities Act Alberta Health and Wellness Ministry Business Plan Government Expectation	Timely access to services is a key provincial/territorial initiative, outlined in the Sept 2004 First Ministers' Agreement. The areas identified through the agreement align closely with existing provincial initiatives, identified in the Ministry Business Plan, in response to the Premier's Advisory Council on Health Report (2002). Progress should be demonstrated in improving access to CABG, hip and knee replacement surgeries, MRI and CT, breast and prostate cancer care, cataract surgery, and children's mental health services. Action: identify strategies to reduce the gap between targets and actual performance Action: identify additional projects through improvements to access are being addressed.	Regional Achievement Wait Time (in weeks, by urgency category, if appropriate) CABG Hip replacement surgery Knee replacement surgery Referral to surgery Surgery to radiation or system therapy MRI CT Children's mental health services Wait time (in weeks – provincial initiatives where targets not yet established) prostate cancer care children's mental health additional regional initiatives Patients Waiting at end of reporting period CABG, Hip replacement, knee replacement, breast cancer patients

AREA / GOAL	REFERENCE	FACTORS & ACTIONS	MEASURES
Alberta Waitlist Registry	Government	The Alberta Waitlist Registry is a key tool for	Regional Achievement
(AWR)	Expectation	demonstrating progress in addressing access issues.	
		Health authorities are accountable for the reliability	 Proportion of months the submissions
Goals (from submission		of the data and its timely collection and	were on time
Guidelines)		dissemination.	
Timeliness : Data will be			
submitted to the AWR by		There will be increased focus on timeliness of	
the health authorities on		submissions and completeness of data.	
the 21 st of each month			
(exception: May 19 th , due		Increasingly, questions are asked regarding who is	• Proportion of months the submissions
to Good Friday and Easter		on the waitlist. During this fiscal year, there is an	were complete
holiday dates)		expectation that all wait lists contributing to the	*
Completeness : monthly		AWR will be reviewed to determine that patients	
submissions will be		(still) require the service, or are at a level of urgency	
include surgeries, MRI &		to merit being on the list. The Ministry and health	
CT for all facilities		authorities will jointly examine wait lists, to ensure	
contributing to the AWR		they reflect Alberta's experience.	



AREA / GOAL	REFERENCE	FACTORS & ACTIONS	MEASURES
Accreditation The Health Authority and contracted health service providers shall maintain fully accredited status CCHSA identifies the following levels: • Full Accreditation • Accreditation with Report • Accreditation with Focused Visit • Non- accreditation Quality The RHA Act provides direction to health authorities that they provide quality services to residents	Section 5 (a) (iv) Regional Health Authorities Act Alberta Health and Wellness Ministry Business Plan Government Expectation	Accreditation Accreditation is a mechanism to demonstrate that quality improvement is pursued. • Action: identify accreditation achievement, including • Date and level of CPSA accreditation • Date and level of region and contracted agencies accreditation with CPSA (Medical Diagnostic Laboratories, Diagnostic Imaging Services, Neurophysiology testing facilities, Pulmonary function laboratories and non—hospital surgical facilities) Ouality Matrix Working with health authorities and the health professions, the Health Quality Council of Alberta has led a process to obtain support for the Matrix as a measurement framework for the province. Measures of quality, in addition to those for access above, are in development. The focus this year continues on the dimensions of accessibility, acceptability, efficiency and safety. While effectiveness and appropriateness are equally important, specific provincial initiatives have not been identified. (Accessibility – see "Access" above)	

AREA / GOAL	REFERENCE	FACTORS & ACTIONS	MEASURES
AREA / GOAL	REFERENCE	Acceptability Patient Concerns Resolution Regulations New regulations are anticipated, in support of implementation of the Ombudsman Act. The regulations focus on the resolution of patients concerns. Efficiency The projects enabling improved access are identifying efficiencies in service provision. Initial measures reflect work ongoing in the Access to Services projects and pilots. Patient Safety The Safer Healthcare Now! campaign is focusing attention on patient safety. Measures identified through this project may provide additional measures for next year's plan. Work is proceeding on a provincial framework for disclosure of harm within the province, and further highlights the provincial approach in reporting adverse events.	Percent of concerns/complaints responded to in three business days Percentage of residents, who have received a service, who are satisfied with the way services are provided (source: HQCA survey) Percentage of residents who rate the overall quality of health care available in their community as excellent or good- (source: HQCA survey) Client's rating of quality of care received (source: regional patient satisfaction surveys) Patient Safety Number of health authority projects participating in Safer Healthcare Now! campaign. Percentage of Albertans who believe that during their care in Alberta's health system they or a family member experienced a medical mistake that resulted in serious harm, such as death, disability, or additional prolonged treatment (source: HQCA survey)

AREA / GOAL	REFERENCE	FACTORS	MEASURES
3.3 Primary Health		Primary Health Care Plan	
Care (PHC)	Section 9 (4) (d)	Action: Develop and implement a 3-year	Number of regional PHC plans in place
Regions will achieve the	Regional Health	PHC plan for the region based on the five	
following PHC reform	Authorities Act	PHC reform objectives. The Plan should:	
objectives:		 address integration of all PHC and 	
1. Improve access to	Alberta Health and	Primary Care Network activities	
appropriate PHC	Wellness Ministry	 coordinate with regional mental 	
services	Business Plan	health plans	
2. Provide coordinated		 include regional measures and targets 	
24/7 management of	Government Expectation	• indicate how regional PHC plan	
access to appropriate		addresses the five objectives of the	
PHC		PHC reform	
3. Increase the emphasis		 point out how regional PHC plan 	
on health promotion, disease prevention,		links to regional mental health plan	
and chronic disease			
management		Diam'r Con Manual	
4. Increase coordination		Primary Care Network	Number of Primary Care Networks in
and integration with		• Action: identify specific plans for Primary	operation
other health services		Care Network roll-out, including how	Number of Primary Care Networks under
5. Establish		many and when	development
multidisciplinary PHC			Percentage of regional residents enrolled
teams of providers so			in a Primary Care Network
that the most			in a 1 milary Care rectwork
appropriate care is		Promotion of Health Link and other health	Annual number of calls to Health Link by
provided by the most		information services.	population segment
appropriate provider		,	Percentage of callers to Health Link who
Regions will implement			rate the service as very good or excellent.
the tri-lateral Primary Care			
Initiative Agreement			

3.4 Mental Health Section 9 (4) (d) Information Management and Technology Access to good data and information is a requirement for demonstrating progress in provincial and regional	REFERENCE		MEASURES
Advance mental health by integrating mental health services with health services with health authority operations and by improving access to meet demand for service in accordance with provincial mental health plan Alberta Health and Wellness Ministry Business Plan Alberta Health and Wellness Ministry Business Plan Government Expectation Action: Participation in developing standardized provincial mental health data; e.g., establish budgets across the continuum; build capacity to report the number of patients receiving mental health plans. This requires active participation by all regions. • Action: Participation in developing standardized provincial mental health data; e.g., establish budgets across the continuum; build capacity to report the number of patients receiving mental health Promotion activities should align with provincial strategies • Action: dentification of alignment • Action: Results of participation in the provincial Mental Health Promotion strategies • Suicidal behaviour per 100,000 popula trends (Suggested to	Authorities Act Provincial Mental Health Plan Alberta Health and Wellness Ministry Business Plan Government	dardized plish acity to mental should	Suicidal behaviour (para-suicides) per 100,000 population rates and trends (Suggested target: 10% reduction in suicidal behaviours

AREA / GOAL	REFERENCE	FACTORS & ACTIONS	MEASURES
		Access to Services Strategies are underway to develop provincial standards for "acceptable" wait times for programs across the continuum. First priority: Children Telehealth: this technology supports access to mental health services. Action: Include mental health in setting targets for clinical use of telehealth (Health Plan Goal 4.2) Service Integration for select co- morbid conditions Given the high rates of co – morbidity for mental health problems with addictions or developmental disabilities, integration of services is desirable.	 Wait time for children to access mental health services (90th percentile, first visit) Utilization rate of Telehealth Services for metal health consults per 100,000 population Proportion of mental health delivery sites offering services for addictions and developmental disabilities (Target: At 75% of mental health service delivery locations, addiction and developmental disability services are available)
		 Quality of Services Effectiveness, Acceptability Action: Report on measures of effectiveness and acceptability that are in development - Symptom Reduction, Level of Functioning, Quality of Life. Current priority is Client Satisfaction. Action: Research/Evaluation: Regional plans align with provincial research plan. Action: Programs have ongoing evaluations. Action: Process in place to support and implement best/leading practices. Primary Care: Increased regional family physician participation in shared care programs. 	 Percentage of clients reporting overall satisfaction with mental health services Percentage of regional programs that have incorporated evaluations. Number of family physicians participating in shared care

AREA / GOAL	REFERENCE	FACTORS & ACTIONS	MEASURES
		 Culturally Appropriate Services Action: Report on the development of culturally sensitive programs Collaboration initiated with key stakeholders: Action: Report on outcomes of partnerships with consumer groups, other regions, government ministries, universities, colleges, AMHB and other stakeholders. (e.g., innovative collaboration that increases access for children) 	• Stakeholder ratings of effectiveness
		Accountability Action: Report progress of implementing Regional Mental Health Plans in the following: Annual Reports; Quarterly reports; Annual Business Plans	

AREA / GOAL	REFERENCE	FACTORS & ACTIONS	MEASURES
		Quality of care:	Quality of care:
3.5 Continuing Care Improve quality of continuing care services, implement new standards and ensure compliance Sect Reg Authorized Authorized Authorized Authorized Authorized Albert Section Authorized Albert Section Authorized Au	Section 9 (4) (d) Regional Health Authorities Act Alberta Health and Wellness Ministry Business Plan Government Expectation	 Increase of average paid hours in long term care facilities to a minimum of 3.4 hours per resident per day by 2005/2006, 3.8 hours per resident per day by 2006/07 and 4.1 hours by 2007/2008. Continue implementation of Continuing Care System Project. Action: Report on progress including details on terms of phases, activities, and timelines. Action: Prepare and implement a quality improvement plan for all continuing care services (long-term facilities, supportive living and home care) covering core areas such as medication administration, medication utilization, care planning and case management and abuse 	• Average paid hour per resident day by quarter
		prevention. Action: approval of action plan at the Board level Continue to shift continuing care clients from facility living to community living: provincial target facility resident ratio per 1000 75+: 69.00 in 2005/06 and 68.00 in 2006/07 Action: Regions to set regional targets for resident ratios. Access to services Action: full implementation of coordinated access policies by March 2007. Action: improve seven-day access to continuing	 Resident ratio per 1000 over 75 years for long term care facilities measured against targets. Explanation of variance. Number of persons waiting for long-term care beds by quarter.
		 Action: Improve seven-day access to continuing care services Action: Integration of long range planning process and projections in Health Plan submission 	Proportion of admissions on weekends by quarter

AREA / GOAL	REFERENCE	FACTORS & ACTIONS	MEASURES
		Continuing care health services standards	Continuing care health services
		Action: Full implementation of continuing care	standards
		health services standards in fiscal year 2006/2007.	 Proportion of continuing care
		Action: Implement staff training programs on new	programs where standards have
		standards for all continuing care staff and	been implemented. (Target: 100%)
		contracted operators/agencies	Explain variance
		Compliance to continuing care standards and	 Proportion of continuing care staff
		monitoring of quality of care	educated on new standards (Target:
		Action: Establish continuing care performance	100%). Explain variance.
		audit mechanisms to monitor care of	
		operators/agencies, and report on progress.	
		Action: Establish reporting mechanisms with	
		service expectations on key elements of standards	
		to ensure compliance to standards and safe and	
		quality care, and report on progress.	
		Home care	
		Enhance of short-term acute home care, short-term	
		acute community mental health home care, and end-	
		of-life home care based on First Ministers' agreement by December 2006.	
		Action: Implement home care commitments	
		agreed to by First Ministers Sept 2004.	
		• Action: Implement Home Care Strategic	
		Innovations in a phased in approach in 2005/06	
		and 2006/07.	
		 Action: Report on progress made in implementing 	
		strategic innovations	
		Action: Report on impact of changes including	
		changes on other parts of the health system.	
		Workforce	Workforce
		Action: Develop and implement staff training,	Total number of separations (April to
		staff recruitment and retention strategies for	March) over average total employee
	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	continuing care workforce.	head count as of March 31.

AREA / GOAL	REFERENCE	FACTORS & ACTIONS	MEASURES
3.6 Aboriginal Health Regions will close the gap in health status between Aboriginals and non-Aboriginals	Section 5, Regional Health Authorities Act Alberta Health and Wellness Ministry Business Plan Government Expectation	 Diabetes prevention Action: Identify strategies to provide diabetes prevention programs to Aboriginal People. Indicate progress made. Suicide prevention Action: Identify strategies to prevent suicides among Aboriginal People (e.g., youth resiliency programs). Indicate progress made. Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Action: identify initiatives to reduce/prevent FASD in Aboriginal People. Indicate progress made. Action: identify collaborative initiatives with Children Services and/or AADAC on FASD preventative program delivery. Indicate progress made. Infant Mortality Action: identify strategies in place to reduce infant mortality in Aboriginal infants, such as focused infant care training for new mothers, additional home visiting etc. Indicate progress made. 	Trends in para-suicide rate for First Nations Peoples

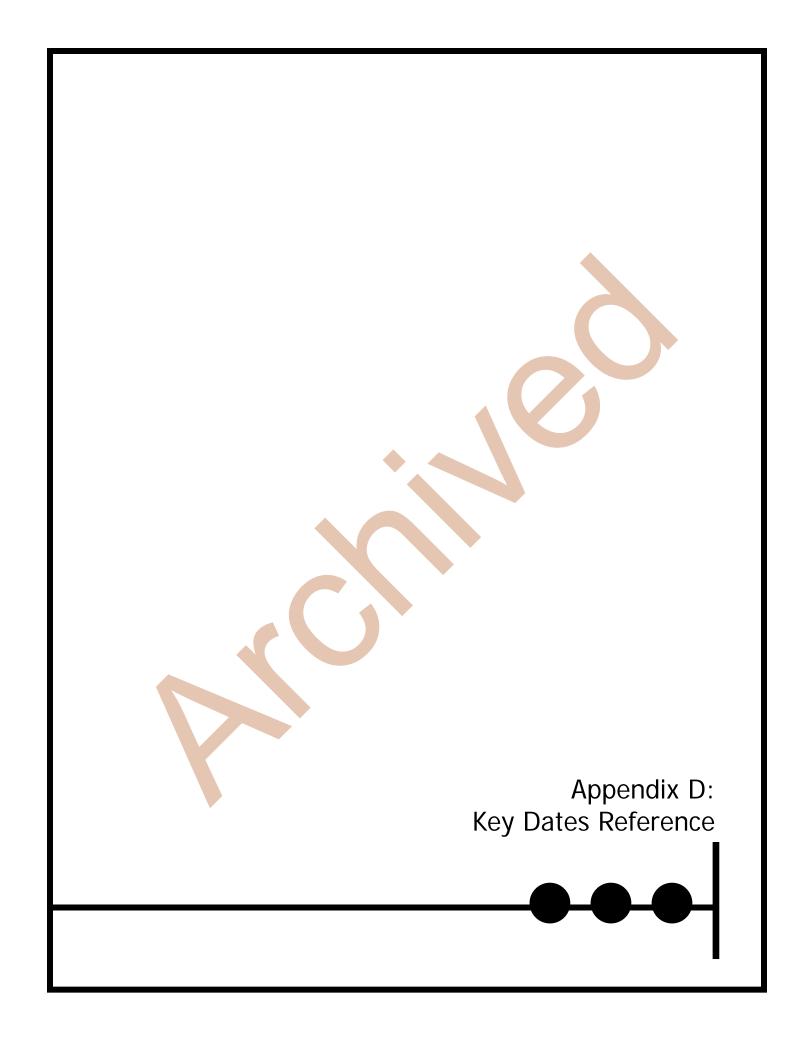
AREA / GOAL	REFERENCE	FACTORS & ACTIONS	MEASURES
		Building Planning Capacity: indicates	
3.7 Workforce	Section 5 (a) (v)	actions to build the capacity and continuously	
	Regional Health	improve workforce planning	
Regions will secure and	Authorities Act	Action: Report on actions to develop and	
retain an adequate and		implement a Workforce Plan that is	
appropriate supply of	Alberta Health and	aligned with the provincial	
health care workers to	Wellness Ministry	Comprehensive Health Workforce Plan	
meet identified health	Business Plan	Action: Report regional planning actions	
needs		to link Health Plan to the regional	
	Government Expectation	business plan, workforce plan and financial plan	
		Action: Report on training for health care	
		staff to serve mental health clients.	
		Utilization: indicates actions to strive for	
		effective and efficient utilization of health	
		workforce providers with reference to specific	
		client group needs.	
		<u>Action</u> : review staff mix/staff utilization	
		Healthy Workplaces indicates the outcomes	Comparison of individual RHA WCB
		of actions to create workplace environments	premium rate to WCB industry rate for
		that will have a positive impact on job and	Hospitals/Acute Care Centres, Health
		professional satisfaction and safety, which in	Units and LTC Centres
		turn impact recruitment, retention and productivity.	Hours of sick leave usage as a percentage of total earned hours
		Action: mental well-being programs are	
		developed and delivered to health care	LTD incidents per 1000 insured persons
		staff.	
		Separation Rates : indicates the outcomes of	Total number of separations (April to
		actions to recruit and retain sufficient	March) over average total employee head
		numbers of health service providers to meet	count as of March 31
		health service requirements.	Number of RN separations (April to
			March) over total RN head count as of
			March 31

November 2005 15

PART 4: LEAD AND PARTICIPATE IN CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT IN THE HEALTH SYSTEM

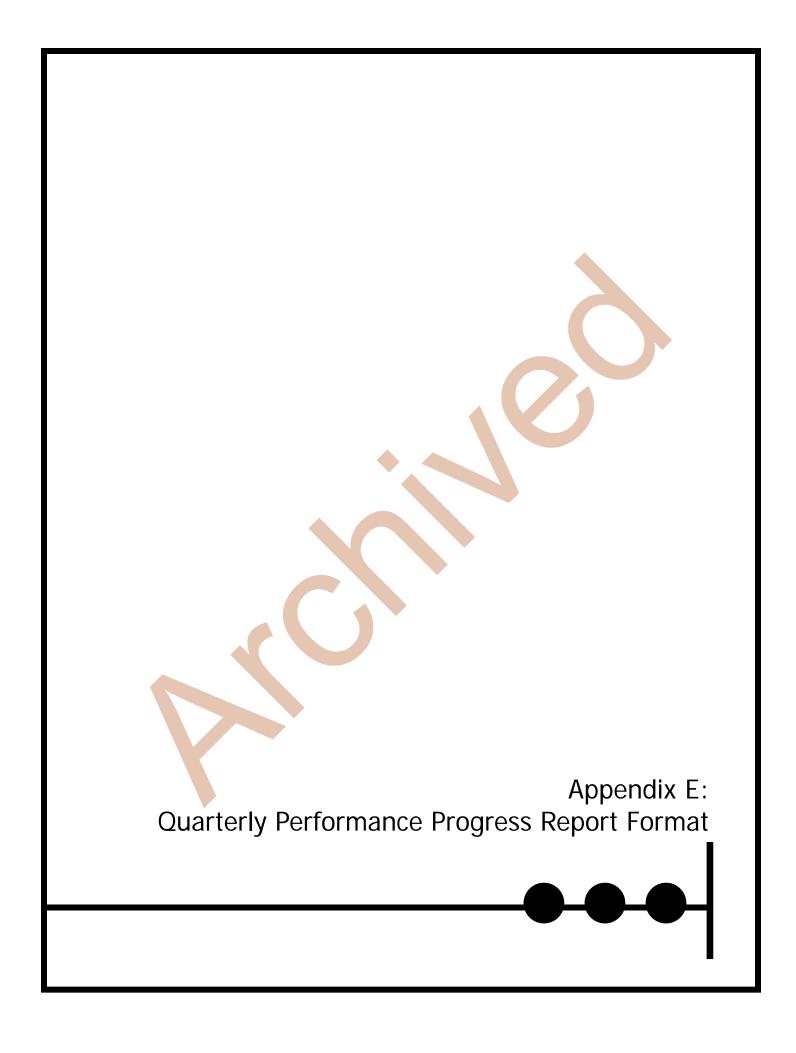
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AREA / GOAL	REFERENCE	FACTORS & ACTION	MEASURES
		Action: present a comprehensive plan	
4.1 Cost of Services	Section 9 (4) (d)) Regional	setting out steps and timelines to build	
	Health Authorities Act	capacity to meet reporting requirements	
Deliver services in a		for:	
cost-effective manner	Government Expectation	1. Inpatient cost on a weighted case basis	
cost-cricetive manner	_	Hospital inpatient	
		(budgeted/actual) cost per	
		weighted case using CIHI/	
		provincial guidelines	
		 Targeted weighted cases by 	
		facility	
		 Actual costs per bed day in 	
		hospitals	
		2. Diagnostic and therapeutic activity	
		and costs (for region) for selected	
		high profile functional centres - e.g.	
		X-ray, MRI, CT Scan.	
		3. Emergency room and other clinics -	
		functional centre costs and stats.	
		4. Continuing care costs	
		Net expenditure per resident day	
		for all long term facilities	
		Net RHA home care expenditures	
		Number of home care visits	
		5. Nursing workforce	
		producing personnel) working	
		hours per weighted inpatient case	
		Total nursing hours worked	
	▼		

AREA / GOAL	REFERENCE	FACTORS & ACTIONS	MEASURES
4.2 Information &	Alberta Health and Wellness Business Plan	Security Standards	Number of ISO 17799 controls implemented
Technology Regions improve the capacity of Alberta's health system to promote and deliver services by cost-effectively harnessing the advances being made in information technology.	Wellness Business Plan Government Expectation	Electronic health record • Action: identify region-specific plans align to provincial IM/IT Plan (EHR GEN 2) Data Quality • Action: Develop regional Data Quality Plan, ensuring completeness, including: • Accountability for the Plan is assigned • Data Asset Inventory is completed • Audit Plan (including schedule) is documented • Remediation Plan is documented Data Quality Targets: • Action: Develop and provide data quality targets Technology Renewal • Action: Board approves plan • Action: Implementation strategy	 Number and type of care providers accessing the EHR Technology renewal expenditure as a percent of total technology expenditure
		linked to business plan Clinical use of Telehealth Action: set targets for increased clinical use of Telehealth	Percentage increase in the clinical use of Telehealth



Key Dates Reference

DATE	ITEM	NOTES
October 3,4 2005	 Health Plan Workshop 	Executive Royal Inn, Leduc
October 28	 Preliminary 2006/2007 Budget Request Submission 	
October 31	 2nd Quarter Financial Report (2005/2006) 	Due 30 days after the quarter
November 15	 2nd Quarter Performance Report (2005/2006) Guide issued 	Due 45 days after the quarter Provides information on four key accountability documents (Health Plan, Business Plan, Quarterly Reports and Annual Report
December 31	 Health Plan (2006/2009) Preliminary Business Plan (2006/2007) 	Refer to Guide
January 31 2006	 3rd Quarter Financial Report (2005/2006) 	Due 30 days after the quarter
February 15	3 rd Quarter Performance Report (2005/2006)	Due 45 days after the quarter
March 15	Final Business Plan (2006/2007)	Subject to tabling of the Provincial Budget
March 31	 2006/2009 Health Plan approval 	Minister approval
May 15	 4th Quarter Performance Report (2005/2006) 	Due 45 days after the quarter
June 30	Audited Financial ReportLong Term Capital Plan	
July 31	• Annual Report (2005/2006)	



Quarterly Performance Progress Report Format (Suggested Template)

< Health Authority	>
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Part 1: As	ssessing the N	leeds of the Popular	tion	
1 1 37	7 4			
	eds Assessment			
•	Planned targets	Tor 2006/07:		
•	Quarterly Upda			
	Action Taken	:		
	Outcomes:			
	Explanation:			
	Status:	[] Ahead of plan	[] On track	[] Behind schedule
1.2 Cor	nmunity Healt	h Councils		
•	Planned targets	for 2006/07:		
•	Quarterly Upda	te:		
	Action Taken			
	Outcomes:			
	Explanation:			
	Status:	[] Ahead of plan	[] On track	[] Behind schedule
Part 2: Ac	dvocate and E	ducate for Healthy	Living	
	llness and Heal			
•	Planned targets	tor 2006/07:		
•	Quarterly Upda			
	Action Taken	:		
	Outcomes:			
	•			
	Explanation:			
	Status:	[] Ahead of plan	[] On track	[] Behind schedule

Part 3: Provide Quality Health and Wellness Services

3 1 \ 1 \	cces to Services	2		
3.1 A		ts for 2006/07:		
		13 101 2000/07.		
•	Quarterly Upo	late:		
	Action Take	en:		
	Outcomos			
	Outcomes:	0		
	Explanation			
	Status:	[] Ahead of plan	[] On track	[] Behind schedule
3.2.Or	ality of Servic	• 6		
3.2 Qt	-	ts for 2006/07:		
•	Quarterly Upo			
	Action Take	en:		
	Outcomes:			
	Explanation			
	Status:	[] Ahead of plan	[] On track	[] Behind schedule
3.3 Pr	imary Health			
•	Planned target	ts for 2006/07:		
	Quarterly Upo	late:		
	Action Take			
	Outcomes:	7		
	•			
	Explanation	:		
	Status:	[] Ahead of plan	[] On track	[] Behind schedule

3.4 Me	3.4 Mental Health							
• Planned targets for 2006/07:								
•	Quarterly Upda	nte•						
	Action Taken:							
	■ Tetion Tuken	•						
	Outcomes:							
	•							
	Explanation:							
	Status:	[] Ahead of plan	[] On track	[] Behind schedule				
3.5 Co	ntinuing Care							
•	Planned targets	for 2006/07:						
				7 4				
Quarterly Update:								
	Action Taken							
	Tietion Taken							
	Outcomes:							
	•							
	Explanation:							
	1							
	Status:	[] Ahead of plan	[] On track	[] Behind schedule				
3.6 Aboriginal Health								
•	Planned targets							
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Quarterly Update: Action Tolory								
Action Taken:								
Outcomes:								
outcomes.								
	Explanation:							
	Status:	[] Ahead of plan	[] On track	[] Behind schedule				
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•	• Planned targets for 2006/07:							
•	Quarterly Update:							
		Action Taken:						
	Outcomes:	Outcomes						
	outcomes.	outcomes.						
	Explanation:							
	Status:	[] Ahead of plan	[] On track	[] Behind schedule				
Dort 1. I	and le Dortini	note in Continuous l	mprovement in	the Health System				
rait 4. L	eau & Partici	pate in Continuous l	mprovement m	the Health System				
4.1 Ca	ost of Services							
•	Planned target	s for 2006/07:						
		3 101 2000/07.						
•	Quarterly Update:							
	Action Taken:							
	•							
	Outcomes:	Outcomes:						
	Explanation:							
	Status:	[] Ahead of plan	[] On track	[] Behind schedule				
4.2 In	formation and	Technology						
•	Planned target	s for 2006/07:						
•	• Quarterly Update:							
,	Action Taken:							
	Outcomes:							
	Explanation:							
	Status:	[] Ahead of plan	[] On track	[] Behind schedule				

3.7 Workforce

November 2005 4