

Summary Fact Sheet of the Integration Agreement

Integration

Integration refers to the creation of a new organization that will govern the current health programs of Weeneebayko Health Ahtuskaywin, James Bay General Hospital, and the federal Nursing Program in Peawanuk, Kashechewan, and the federal public health nursing in Fort Albany and Attawapiskat including its supervision. It does not include programs or services provided directly by any Band.

The Agreement outlines the basic business arrangements among the Communities, Ontario and Health Canada. The Communities have been represented by a Steering Committee and the negotiations have been lead by a sub group of the Steering Committee including Chief of Kashechewan, Chief of Moose Cree, Mayor of Moosonee, CEOs of the two hospitals and a health planning consultant.

The new organization is being called Weeneebayko Area Health Authority and will be governed by a new board comprised of two representatives from each community. The new board will be responsible for selecting the CEO for the new corporation.

Financial

All existing program funding remains in place.

The new organization will be eligible for increased funding and for new program funding in the same manner that the current hospitals and federal nursing program are currently eligible.

Capital projects will be funded 100% by Ontario and Canada. The new board will determine the priority for capital projects.

There will be new funds provided (\$6.0 million annually – phased in over 2 years) for new programs such as traditional healing or to fill gaps in programming such as mental health, telemedicine and others.

There will be new transitional funding provided by Health Canada and Ontario for the first two to three years to support the integrating of the existing organizations into a new one.

Timing for Improvements to Health Services

The new board will be responsible to determine the priorities for how programs and services and facilities are developed.

Aboriginal Values, Beliefs and Culture

The Agreement ensures the new organization will value and incorporate aboriginal culture including traditional healing and traditional ceremonies and foods.

There is strong wording protecting aboriginal and First Nations' Treaty rights.

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