RURAL HEALTH PROFESSIONS ACTION PLAN
2018/19 HIGHLIGHTS

Rural Community Development & Engagement
• 48 active rural Attraction and Retention (A&R) committees representing 146 hamlets, villages, towns, and municipalities across rural Alberta.
• Supported over 150 A&R committee meetings.
• Attended three Stollery Awasisak Indigenous Health Talking Circles.
• Five A&R committee grants were distributed.
• Updated the Rural Community A&R Toolkit, a guide with 150 pages of hands-on, practical information.
• Developed a rural community building webinar series.

Rural Education Outreach & Skills Days
• 13 Skills Events held for high school students (six) and post-secondary students (seven).

Events & Presentations
• 41 events and presentations to partners, stakeholders, and communities.
• Rural Alberta Community A&R Conference offered in Brooks, with 97 participants from across Alberta.

Health Professional Development
• Delivered two Comprehensive Approaches to Rural Emergencies (CARE) Courses and three Emergency Department Echocardiogram (EDE) courses to rural health professionals.
• Sponsored 26 rural nurses to attend the Banff Endoscopy Skills Conference.
• Supported seven participants in RhPAP’s Rural Physician Enrichment programs and 27 participants in RhPAP’s General Emergency Medical Skills (GEMS) program.
• Aided two rural physicians to advance their competencies in ultrasound and anesthesiology.

Housing Program
Offers students and residents accommodations when they are in rural Alberta.
• 133 leases in 52 communities

Rural Locum Program
Provides funding that allows AMA Physician Locum Services® to offer short-term locum service for physicians in rural areas.

Weekend Program
877/890 days of requests filled

Seniors’ Weekend Program
875/891 days of requests filled

98% of all locum requests filled
RURAL HEALTH PROFESSIONS ACTION PLAN
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RhPAP Rhapsody Awards
- Revitalized Rhapsody Awards package to include Rural Community Award, Rural Physician Award, and Rural Health-care Heroes Award.

Rural Health Research
- Conducted research on the strategies that rural Alberta communities use to attract and retain physicians and other health professionals, in partnership with the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta (CPSA) and the DLRI Cumming School of Medicine, University of Calgary.
- Collaborated with the University of Alberta to research how rural settings foster interprofessional teamwork in rural nursing and medicine students.

Tell the Rural Health-care Story
- Developed and launched new RhPAP website.
- Regular media coverage in rural weeklies.
- Developed at least 19 different partnerships for cross-communication and promotion of rural issues.

Partnerships & Committees
- RhPAP is a member of Alberta Health Services (AHS) Workforce Strategy Steering Committee.
- RhPAP serves on the Ministry of Health’s Physician Resource Planning Advisory Committee.
- Developing a Rural Voice Information Panel (Rural VIP), a provincial platform for rural communities to provide perspective and input on health-related matters.
- Supporting the Canadian Mental Health Association on a three-year Rural Mental Health project.

Mentorship Program
- 52 mentors
- 186 total mentorship opportunities fulfilled