



What is a Regional Wellness Council?

Regional Wellness Councils (RWCs) are composed of a group of residents within one of the geographic regions of the Northwest Territories. Their purpose is to serve as an advisory body to the Territorial Health and Social Services Authority.

RWCs provide advice to the Northwest Territories Health and Social Services Leadership Council respecting health and social services, the priorities under the territorial plan, and the promotion of health and wellness. In addition, RWC's may also seek out opinions and information from the public about health and social services.

Who can serve on a RWC?

We encourage all residents who meet the eligibility criteria to consider participating. You can self-nominate or someone else can nominate you. The criteria are:

- Residents of the geographic area served by the RWC for at least six months immediately preceding the appointment;
- A Canadian citizen or permanent resident as defined by the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act*;
- At least 19 years of age;
- Knowledgeable regarding the purpose, roles and responsibilities of the RWC;
- Experienced with a proven track record for participation in regional and territorial organizations or committees;
- Available for and committed to full participation as a council member;
- Prepared to sign a statement of ethics and confidentiality related to their duties;
- Able to demonstrate that they are not in a position of conflict with respect to their role as a council member.

Who can serve as a Chairperson on a RWC?

In addition to the above criteria for serving on a RWC, the Chairperson of a RWC should:

- Be respected within the region for their skills, knowledge and ability;
- Have effective leadership skills, including skills required for the effective facilitation and management of meetings;
- Have the ability to understand complex issues and the ability to discuss them with a wide range of interested groups; and
- Understand the legislative framework.

Who cannot serve on an RWC?

Residents who meet the above criteria are ineligible to serve if:

- they or their spouse work for or provide services for the health and social services system within the region;
- they are a Member of the Legislative Assembly or a Member of the Parliament of Canada;
- they have, within the last three years, been convicted of an offence under the *Criminal Code* and were sentenced to a term of imprisonment.



What are the time commitments for participating?

Members and Chairs of RWCs will serve up to a 3 year term. RWCs can meet up to a maximum of 12 times per year, but may meet less if the council determines that is sufficient. RWCs must meet within the region they serve but if members can't attend in person they may join via teleconference or video conference.

Will I get paid to be a member of a RWC?

Yes, members of RWCs will receive an honorarium in accordance with the rates set out in the Financial Administration Manual for an Advisory Board. RWC members will only be paid for days they meet:

- up to \$300 per day for the chairperson
- up to \$250 per day for members
- 50% of the above amounts for half days (i.e.: 3.5 hours or less)

What are some typical issues members might deal with?

A regional council may provide advice to the Territorial Leadership Council on health services and social services matters, including:

- Bringing to the regional Chief Operating Officer and Chairperson concerns brought forward from the public. If appropriate for discussion within the RWC, members may discuss a concern and help to formulate a response.
- Developing a regional plan that aligns with the Territorial Strategic Plan.
- Providing input into the Strategic Plan and developing regional plans that will help achieve Authority goals.
- Discussing and recommending service delivery methods and designs that meet both the standards established by the NTHSSA, and responds to the needs or preferences of the region and communities.

What is the role of the Chairperson vs. regular members?

The key difference between the Chair and regular members is that the Chair will also sit on the Territorial Leadership Council. The Chairperson of each RWC brings a regional perspective to the territorial level and is directly involved in decision making on the Territorial Leadership Council.

Why aren't there any nominations in the Tlicho area?

The Tlicho Community Services Agency is responsible for management of Health and Social Services delivery in the Tlicho region. The chairperson of the Tlicho Community Services Agency sits on the Territorial Leadership Council.

If you would like this information in another official language, contact us at 1-855-846-9601.
Si vous voulez ces informations dans une autre langue officielle, téléphonez-nous au 1-855-846-9601.