



Mamawetan Churchill River Health Region

News Release

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For immediate release

Accreditation Canada recognizes health region's achievement of health care standards

The Mamawetan Churchill River Health Region has been recognized by Accreditation Canada for its commitment to meeting national standards for safe, high quality health care. The organization has awarded the region Accreditation status, with a condition to report on action taken to address unmet criteria.

As part of a three-year Accreditation cycle, five surveyors spent the week of May 29 to June 3, 2011 visiting health region facilities in Creighton, La Ronge, Pinehouse and Sandy Bay. The Accreditation process involves a comprehensive review of all services to ensure that the health region is not only meeting the required standards, but has embraced a culture of patient safety, ethics, continuous quality improvement and risk management. The region was evaluated on 1631 applicable criteria. Of those, 1503, or 92%, were met.

"We are pleased with this achievement of national standards of excellence," said Mamawetan Churchill River Regional Health Authority Chairperson, Ron Woytowich. "We would like to thank all of the clients, families, staff, physicians, contractors, volunteers and community partners who participated in the survey."

The surveyors commended the region for a number of successes including its responsible resource allocation, high level of integration with community partners and stakeholders, training and network of First Responders, client centred approach to substance abuse programming, and multi-disciplinary approach to prenatal education.

In addition, the prenatal care flowsheets in the region were identified as a leading practice. These flowsheets outline the best evidence-based care for healthy and diabetic women from preconception to the postpartum period, and can be used to guide prenatal care. Leading practices are innovative practices that are adaptable by other organizations.

"The report also identified a number of challenges that the region faces and areas for improvement," said Chief Executive Officer Kathy Chisholm. "Surveyors observed that our region has dedicated, caring and creative staff. We are confident that they will work with renewed commitment to meet standards, especially those that relate to client safety."

Surveyors noted that the major housing shortage impacts the health and well-being of residents, and also creates a challenge for employees relocating to the region.

The region will provide Accreditation Canada with reports by November 3, 2011 and May 3, 2012 on evidence of action taken to address criteria in required organizational practices and standards.

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