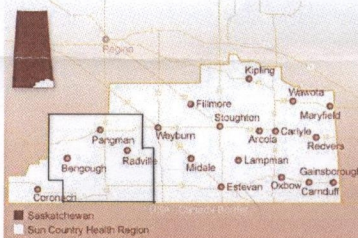




**Rural West Community Consultations  
November 23, 25, 30, December 2, 2010**

Primary Health Care is about *staying healthy, preventing illness and injury, managing chronic conditions, treating acute medical illness, promoting healthier living and accessing the best health provider for the job.*

Rural West Service Area



The Rural West Primary Health Care (PHC) team has taken up the challenge to bring Primary Health Care to this area and their goal is to provide **Quality client focused health care in an accessible and timely manner by a coordinated multi-disciplinary team tailored to the client's needs.**

To help meet the goal of providing quality client focused health care, the Rural West Team hosted community meetings during November and December. The community consultations were held in Bengough, Gladmar, Ogema, and Radville. The purpose of these consultations was to:

- ❖ introduce the communities to Primary Health Care and to the Rural West Team.
- ❖ learn more about the communities in the area in regards to their strengths, challenges, needs and opportunities to work together.
- ❖ incorporate the information about needs and opportunities in Rural West PHC Team planning.



The Rural West PHC Team met with 141 community members in the 4 communities. Information was presented on primary health care and the current initiatives of the Rural West Team. This was followed by group discussion to gather information about community strengths, challenges and needs. Opportunities for the Rural West PHC Team to work together with communities were also identified.

The responses to these discussions were recorded on flip chart paper and shared with all in attendance. This information has been compiled and is attached to this meeting summary in a table entitled **Summary of Community Consultations: Rural West PHC.**

The responses have been organized under common



themes. The Team will use this valuable information for planning programs and services for the Rural West area..

### **Next Steps:**

The Rural West Team meets on a monthly basis in Bengough at the Health Centre. These team meetings and other information is posted on the communication boards in Bengough and Pangman Health Centre. The projects that the team is presently focusing on are:

- Implementation of the Electronic Health Record
- Interprofessional Collaborative Practice and Learning Environment Research Project – funded by Health Canada
- Client Focused Planning for the area.

We heard from you through the community consultations and this information will be incorporated in our planning for 2011. Some of the opportunities that we heard from you are:

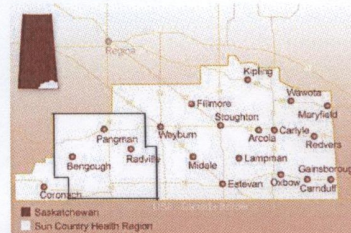
- Who are the team members and what are their roles?
- People need to know where to find information about programs and services
- People need to know how to access programs and services
- People are concerned about maintaining emergency medical services
- Addressing gaps in services and service delivery

We look forward to a long standing partnership with you as we work together. This opportunity to consult with communities has been very enjoyable and informative and we look forward to future opportunities to work toward promoting healthy communities in Rural West.



## Rural West Primary Health Care Team

Sun Country Health Region is pleased to celebrate the accomplishments of the Rural West Primary Health Care Team. The accomplishments include: implementing an electronic health record; participating in a research project on collaborative practice; and client focused planning. This will provide the people who receive services in the Rural West area better access to a team of health care professionals that will help them to meet their health needs.



### What is Primary Health Care?

Primary Health Care refers to basic, everyday health care delivered by teams of health care providers. Primary health care ranges from visiting the family doctor, the nurse practitioner, talking to a dietitian or a pharmacist, or calling the toll-free health advice line to talk to a health professional. A primary health care team involves professionals working together and delivering care within the broader determinants of health (education, housing, income, family/ community supports) that affect the health of individuals, families and communities.

### Why have Primary Health Care Teams?

The primary health care team works together to continuously improve the quality of the care they provide; they help people take responsibility for their own health by setting goals to make small changes to improve their health; they provide information and education to help people make healthier choices. Primary health care has the potential to help keep waiting lists down, lessen the pressure on emergency rooms, and make the health system more sustainable.

### Who is part of the Rural West Primary Health Care Team?

- Patients
- Family Physicians
- Nurse Practitioner
- Office Staff
- Public Health Nurses
- Health Centre Staff
- Home Care staff
- Dietitian
- Occupational Therapist
- Physiotherapists
- Pharmacists
- Mental Health/ Addictions staff
- Laboratory

### If I have any questions, who should I contact?

For more information about this initiative, you can talk to one of the Rural West healthcare providers or you can call Leila McClarty Team Lead at 442-2044; or Dr Werner Oberholzer at 869-3111; or Heather Tant Regional Director Primary Health & Rehab at 842-8741.