

August 18, 2023

Executive leadership announcement – Deb Gordon

Dear senior leaders,

I'm writing to share news that Deb Gordon is leaving Alberta Health Services after serving patients, families, staff and physicians for more than 35 years. Her last day will be August 25, 2023. Deb has been a competent and compassionate leader within AHS and former legacy health regions who through her mentorship and leadership has built strong teams and community across the province.

Deb has always focused on the patient, and has put the needs of patients and families front and centre in all her work. She received the Queens Jubilee Medal in 2022, and in 2021, she received the National Nursing Leadership Award from the Canadian College of Health Leaders. Those awards publicly recognized Deb's decades of service and leadership and acknowledged what we all know — that Deb is an exceptionally skilled health care leader who is a systems thinker with an incredible work ethic and a caring heart.

Deb has served in many roles at AHS and the former regions, including most recently serving as Vice President and Chief Operating Officer. She has excelled as a Registered Nurse, patient care manager, senior director, senior operating officer, chief nursing and allied health professions officer and more, and she has held senior roles working with clinical and professional teams across urban and rural communities in Alberta, EMS, as well as our continuing care and primary care teams. For the past several years at AHS, she has been responsible for all clinical operations, something she has capably done in partnership with her strong dyad physician partners. Deb has always been a strong relationship builder, and has worked to establish collegial, productive and respectful relationships with staff, physicians, foundations, unions, advisory groups, and our Wisdom Council, associations and post-secondary institutions.

Many of you will have worked closely with Deb on disaster responses, such as the southern Alberta floods, the Slave Lake, Fort McMurray and northern Alberta wildfires, the pandemic response, and this year's ongoing wildfire response. Through every role and every challenge, Deb has led with compassion, loyalty, drive, and kindness. She always willingly shared her advice, experience and skills with all of us, and focused on improving health outcomes for all.

I wish Deb the best. I will announce interim leadership in the days ahead. Please join me in thanking Deb for her many years of service, and her endless commitment to health care and to all Albertans.

Sincerely,

Mauro Chies

AHS President and CEO

