

**NEWS RELEASE**  
**Tuesday, July 6, 2010**



For immediate release

**Sunrise Health Region to consolidate food and nutrition services in Canora**

Sunrise Health Region approved a balanced budget of \$186,986,521 for the period of April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011. In order to achieve this balanced budget, adjustments of \$2.86 million were required. The budget includes some changes to programs and services but no facility closures.

One of the initiatives to achieve a balanced budget is to consolidate the food and nutrition services for Canora Gateway Lodge and Canora Hospital. Through this initiative, food and nutrition service production will be centralized to the Canora Gateway Lodge. Canora Gateway Lodge is the best option for this centralization as the bulk of the meals prepared will be consumed by residents in that facility. Past consolidation of food and nutrition services has been successful in the Sunrise Health Region's Yorkton facilities.

The Canora facilities will continue to follow the Sunrise Health Region menu and there will be no change in the method of food preparation or the nutritional content and quality of the food provided. Bulk hot food will be portioned into inserts, held in mobile insulated containers and dispatched to Canora Hospital just prior to each meal service. The kitchen at the Canora Hospital will remain open and continue to operate without any food production on-site, other than preparation of toast and beverages for patients prior to meal times.

By centralizing the food and nutrition services in Canora facilities, Sunrise Health Region is able to reduce costs while continuing to provide quality meal options for patients and residents. The centralization will result in some staffing reductions, the equivalent of two full-time positions. The centralized kitchen in Canora Gateway Lodge is intended only to provide services to Canora facilities and does not include any further centralization in the health region. Savings from this consolidation will be approximately \$100,000 each year.

“In recent years, we have trimmed all non-salary areas, and it is increasingly difficult to initiate budget reductions without affecting staffing,” said Suann Laurent, Senior Vice President of Health Services for the Sunrise Health Region. “Our main focus in this difficult budget year is to maintain our primary goal of providing core health services to our residents.”

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