

Board Highlights

February 2014



**NORTHERN
HEALTH REGION**

Introduction

The following are highlights from the Northern Regional Health Authority (NRHA) Board of Directors meeting held on February 26, 2014 in Flin Flon. Board Highlights are usually produced within a few days of Board meetings as a way to share timely information about the outcomes and decisions of each board meeting.

The highlights are consistent with our commitment to communicate open, transparent and timely information with our stakeholders. The highlights are posted on the Region's website. For more information or clarification on any issue in these highlights, please contact Doug Lauvstad, NRHA Board Chair or Helga Bryant, Chief Executive Officer.

Community Connections

The Board had a joint meeting with members of the Board of Saskatchewan's Mamawetan Churchill River Health District to discuss a number of issues of common concern. A commitment was made at the end of the meeting by both Boards to continue the dialogue and ensure regular meetings happened on a rotating basis in each Region.

Discussions between private business operators are progressing well with the prospects of a pharmacy coming to Snow Lake. The Manitoba Metis Federation is also working with several First Nations Bands to establish pharmacy services in a number of First Nations communities in the North.

Board Education

Wanda Reader, VP of Human Resources and Chief Human Resources Officer, was joined by Ebony Donaghy, Mental Health Clinician and presented to the Board of Directors on the results of the recent workplace audit. Strategies for enhancing the workplace culture were presented. Following the presentations, the Board engaged in a question and answer period with Wanda and Ebony.

Betsy Wrana, Director of Long-Term and Continuing Care, presented to the Board of Directors on the Region's implementation of the province's Aging in Place strategy and how that is being translated in the Northern Health Region. Following the presentation, the Board engaged in a question and answer session with Betsy.

Dr. Hussam Azzam, VP Medical and Chief Medical Officer presented on the Region's activities and progress related to the MB Health priority of a Family Doctor for all by 2015 (Primary Care provider). Following the presentation, the Board engaged in a question and answer session with Dr. Azzam.

Helga Bryant presented the Region's document and process called the Framework for Ethical Decision Making. This framework not only guides decision making within the Region at the administrative and staff level, but also is applicable to the Board's decision making processes.

A Board Education session will be held on March 25, 2014 in Thompson to complete the final module of the Board's planned initial education session facilitated by the Board's Coach, Steve Vieweg.

Quality Improvement/Accreditation

The Quality and Patient Safety Committee asked the Board to consider assisting in seek out potential patient representatives for the Manitoba Institute for Patient Safety. The Quality and Patient Safety Committee takes

the lead on accreditation and make assignments accordingly. A group of 10 surveyors will be in the Region next June as part of the accreditation process.

CEO Report

At each meeting, the CEO presents a report based on the strategic directions as developed by the Board. These strategic directions set the course of action for programs & services delivered in the Region. In addition, these directions also incorporate the priorities developed by Manitoba Health & the provincial priorities as committed to by the Manitoba government. A verbal update was also provided which included:

- An update on a recent Tribal Council and Independent Band Health Directors meeting which our VP Aboriginal Health Services attended.
- An inquest is currently underway involving a pediatric death which occurred in Thompson. That inquest is expected to continue later in the year in Winnipeg.
- We have been invited to present at the upcoming national COACH conference on our EMR implementation partnership with OCN.

Flin Flon Emergency Room Redevelopment Project Report

The Steering Committee continues to meet and move the project forward. The first public and staff Open House sessions were held February 25th at Council Chambers in Flin Flon and were very successful.

Northern Health Summit Working Group

Objectives for the summit have been established which will inform the program for the summit planned for October 28, 2014 in Thompson. The interactive day will inform, educate and seek cooperative solutions which support the Board's Strategic Priorities and ensure our Vision remains relevant and current in meeting the health needs of Northerners. The moderators from the Manitoba Centre for Health Policy have been confirmed.

Finance Committee Report

Following a recommendation for approval by the Finance Committee, the Board accepted the financial statements for the period ending December 31, 2013. The Board accepted the Briefing Note on the Region's current financial condition.

Annual Conflict of Interest Declarations

Each Board member completed and filed a Conflict of Interest Declaration Report.

Generative Discussion

The Board participated in a generative discussion on the potential of staff daycare as a recruitment and retention strategy. Wanda Reader led the discussion and spoke of the potential to reduce overtime, sick time and absenteeism by exploring options in keeping with the Board's strategic priority: Employer of Choice.

Upcoming Meeting Dates

Board meetings are open to the public (except in camera portions) & will rotate between the Region's major centres. The Board will utilize Telehealth to reduce travel during the winter months & support Board members by making it easier to attend Board meetings closer to their home community. Upcoming meeting dates are:

March 26, 2014	1:00 – 5:00 pm	Thompson Regional Office Rm. 141 & 143	Regular Board Meeting
April 30, 2014	1:00 – 5:00 pm	Boardroom, St Anthony's Hospital, The Pas	Regular Board Meeting
May 28, 2014	1:00 – 5:00 pm	4 th Floor Boardroom, Flin Flon General Hospital	Regular Board Meeting