

Board Highlights

January 2014



NORTHERN
HEALTH REGION

Introduction

The following are highlights from the Northern Regional Health Authority (NRHA) Board of Directors meeting held on January 29, 2014 in The Pas. 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 Chair welcomed Gerard Jennissen to his first meeting since being recently appointed to the Board. The Chair provided an update on his recent meeting with the other four RHA chairs to discuss common issues and challenges all the regions are dealing with. These include patient flow and bed management, recruitment and retention for a sustainable workforce, and financial constraints being experienced province-wide. These three issues will be raised by the Chairs in their next meeting with the Minister of Health in February.

The CEO provided an update on the Local Health Involvement Groups process. The Minister has approved our proposal on LHIGs and a working group is underway on processes and practices to facilitate the LHIGs formation and operations moving forward.

Saskatchewan's Mamowetan Churchill River Health District has requested a joint Board meeting with the Northern Health Region which will take place February 26, 2014 in Flin Flon.

Board Education

Joy Tetlock, VP of Planning and Innovation presented to the Board of Directors on her portfolio. Dr. Brenda Mishak Beckman, RN, NP, PhD is VP of Clinical Services and Chief Nursing Officer presented to the Board of Directors on her portfolio. Following the presentations, the Board engaged in a question and answer period with Joy and Brenda.

Dr. Shelly Rhyno, Director of Mental Health Services presented to the Board of Directors on the New Directions initiative. The vision for mental health represents a fundamental shift in the provision of mental health services and is in keeping with national and provincial mental health strategies. Following the presentation, the Board engaged in a question and answer session with Shelley.

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.

Governance Manual

The Board approved a Governance Manual which will support them in their governance role, on behalf of the citizens of the Region.

Quality Improvement/Accreditation

The Quality and Patient Safety Committee will take 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:

- Assessment for EMR readiness in northern communities; a partnership with the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs and KTC.
- H1N1 Update; this year's flu season was a typical one, despite increased media coverage of the flu and the H1N1 flu strain in Manitoba. Provincial and Regional statistics were provided to the Board.
- City of Thompson Wellness partnership is progressing and we expect to create an agreement based on the model we are currently using in The Pas.
- An inquest will begin in February in Thompson regarding a 2011 pediatric death within the Region.

Northern Health Forum Working Group

Objectives for the forum have been established which will inform the program for the Forum planned for October 28, 2014 in Thompson. The interactive day will both 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.

Finance Committee Report

Following a recommendation for approval by the Finance Committee, the Board accepted EL-4 Financial Condition Monitoring Report as well as the financial statements. The Board also approved the following borrowing resolutions:

- \$1,322,833 for Capital Expenditures for 2013-14 Basic Equipment; and
- \$650,000 for Capital Project #3175: Flin Flon General Hospital Emergency Department Redevelopment.

Foundations, Auxiliaries and Donation Funds

The Board approved the Bylaws of the Flin Flon, Snow Lake, The Pas and Thompson Auxiliaries and The Pas Health Complex Foundation Inc.

Patient Safety and Quality Committee

The Committee gave the Board an update on their work to date which included statistics in occurrences, near misses and critical incidents.

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:

Feb. 26, 2014	1:00 – 5:00 pm	4 th Floor Boardroom, Flin Flon General Hospital,	Regular Board Meeting
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