

Board Highlights

May 2013



Introduction

The following are highlights from the Northern Regional Health Authority (NRHA) Board of Directors meeting held on May 29, 2013 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.

Deputy Minister of Health

Milton Sussman, Deputy Minister of Health addressed the Board on a range of topics including Manitoba Health's provincial priorities, role of the Directors as a conduit between the community and the governance of the health region. The Deputy took questions from the Board and discussed a number of issues including: congratulations on the success of the amalgamation to date, fiscal challenges provincially, the Northern Patient Transportation Program and the importance of achieving seamless care between jurisdictions within the Region.

Community Connections

Lloyd Flett and Jasper Robinson provided an update on the recent Keewatin Tribal Council (KTC) Semi-Annual Assembly which they attended along with Helga Bryant. Doug Lauvstad, along with a number of Vice-Presidents attended a consultation meeting in Thompson with Dr. David Barnard, President and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Manitoba. Dr. Barnard spoke about opportunities for research and his support for the concept of a Northern Health Forum.

Northern Health Region 2013-16 Strategic Plan

Following a presentation and discussion, the Board approved the Northern Health Region's 2013-16 Strategic Plan. The plan will be posted on the website in early June.

Board Education

The Board's Coach, Steve Viewig from the Asper School of Business at the University of Manitoba provided an information session on effective meetings. The session included information regarding communication styles, teamwork and conducting effective meetings.

Northern Patient Transportation Program (NPTP)

Raj Thethy and Helga Bryant joined the Board in an informative discussion about NPTP which included presentation of a new Frequently Asked Question document which has been prepared for public distribution. In addition, the document will be shared with stakeholders to better inform and educate them about this important and often misunderstood provincial program which the Region administers on behalf of Manitoba Health.

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 and services delivered in the Region. In addition, these directions also incorporate the priorities developed by Manitoba Health and the provincial priorities as committed to by the Manitoba government. In addition to her written report, a verbal update was provided which included:

- An update on the success of recent physician recruitment efforts in Thompson, The Pas and most recently Snow Lake;
- An update on efforts to recruit an additional sonographer in Thompson to decrease the waiting list;
- An update on additional colonoscopy procedures being done in Flin Flon to reduce wait times;
- An update on the Workplace Audit Report which was recently posted on the website; and
- An update on a Performance Management System adopted by the Region.

Finance Committee Report

Following a Recommendation for approval by the Finance Committee, the Board approved a Borrowing Resolution for \$8,900,000 for a Working Operating Line of Credit for the Region.

Governance Committee Report

Following a Recommendation for approval by the Governance Committee, the Board approved: GP-6 Board Committee Principles, GP-7 Board Committee Structure, GP-12 Board Linkage with Other Organizations and BC-2 Delegation to the Chief Executive Officer.

In addition, the Governance Committee will spearhead a project to develop an enhanced Governance Framework for the Board which will tie together the Board's policies, key planning documents, a complete monitoring matrix tool and other key informational items to assist the Board in the performance of its work.

Upcoming Meeting Dates

Board meetings are open to the public (except in camera portions) and will rotate between the major centres of the Region. The Board has agreed to utilize the Telehealth system as a way to reduce travel during the winter months and support Board members by making it easier to attend Board meetings in a venue closer to their home community. Here are the upcoming meeting dates:

June 19, 2013 (Wed.)	1:00 – 5:00 pm	Snow Lake Legion Hall	Regular Board Meeting
August 28, 2013 (Wed.)	1:00 – 5:00 pm	Thompson – Room 141/143 Thompson Regional Office	Regular Board Meeting
September 25, 2013	1:00 – 5:00 pm	Flin Flon	Regular Board Meeting