

Board Highlights

March 2013



Introduction

The following are highlights from the Northern Regional Health Authority (NRHA) Board of Directors meetings held on March 27, 2013 in Thompson. 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.

Meetings with Minister and Deputy Minister of Health

The Chair reported on the most recent meetings with the Minister and Deputy Minister. While the meetings are an excellent opportunity to promote dialogue and share the challenges the Region faces, both the Minister and her Deputy continue to be very supportive and continue to indicate they are encouraged by the progress the Region continues to make.

Community Connections

This is now a standing agenda item where individual Board members are invited to discuss local issues and dialogue with community members to ensure the Board is made aware of local health issues. Recent meetings included a presentation to the LUD of Cranberry Portage earlier in March and a public forum attended by 200 area residents in Snow Lake to discuss the issues related to physician services, clinic matters and alternate strategies for pharmacy services. Board members were provided with some resources to assist and support them in carrying out their responsibilities for community engagement.

A total of six board members will attend the National Health Leadership Conference in June. It is the largest national gathering of health system decision-makers in Canada including board members, chief executive officers, directors, managers and department heads. Participants represent health regions, authorities and alliances, hospitals, long-term care organizations, public health agencies, community care and mental health services and social services.

Board Committees

The Board appointed Cal Huntley as Chair of the Audit Committee and Edie Turner as Chair of the Patient Safety and Quality Committee. In addition, the Board populated the Executive Committee with Doug Lauvstad, Lloyd Flett, Blaine Winters, Anne Thompson, Cal Huntley, and Edie Turner.

Board Education

The Board received an operational briefing from Rusty Beardy, Vice President of Aboriginal Health Services regarding his extensive portfolio, responsibilities and an overview of current issues, activities, and opportunities within his area.

A discussion was held on suggestions and ideas for future Board education sessions. The Governance Committee will create a schedule for presentation to the Board at an upcoming meeting.

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.

The report highlighted leadership training underway in the Region utilizing the MANSIS (Management System) educational program with the goal of implementing a Performance Suite that includes people management competencies such as coaching, addressing issues with staff, discipline and performance evaluation. Over the months of April and May all Directors and Managers will participate in the 3 day educational offering provided by Dr. Bob Kent. This system will greatly support the management role of leadership staff as they are champions in creating a safe, respectful work environment in which all staff work to full potential and expectations.

An informative verbal update was provided by Marion Ellis, Executive Director of Clinical Services, Thompson and area regarding the Region's Acute Stroke Care Strategy and Implementation and the Region's implementation of the province-wide Cancer Patient Journey Initiative. Following the presentation of information, Board members engaged in a discussion and question and answer session.

Finance Committee Report & Borrowing Resolutions

The latest financial projections for the fiscal year indicate we expect to end the year with a balanced budget. The latest financial statements were approved as presented.

The Board approved three Borrowing Resolutions for Capital Projects within the Region. They included:

1. Northern Youth Crisis Stabilization Unit: increase in line of credit from \$250,000 to \$500,000.
2. Three bay EMS Facility in Flin Flon: \$1,230,220.00.
3. Fuel Tank Upgrades in Flin Flon and The Pas: \$167,724.68.

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 test 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:

Apr. 24, 2013 (Wed.)	1:00 – 5:00 pm	Flin Flon – Hospital 4 th Floor Boardroom	Regular Board Meeting
May 29, 2013 (Wed.)	1:00 – 5:00 pm	The Pas – Health Complex 1 st Floor Boardroom	Regular Board Meeting
June 19, 2013 (Wed.)	1:00 – 5:00 pm	Snow Lake	Regular Board Meeting