

Board Highlights

November 2012



**NORTHERN
HEALTH REGION**

Introduction

The following are highlights from the Northern Regional Health Authority (NRHA) Board of Directors meetings held on November 28, 2012 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.

Health Minister Meeting

The Chair and CEO recently met with the Minister of Health and Deputy Minister to exchange information and raise a number of issues of concern regarding physician recruitment, the need to reduce wait time to see a primary health provider and other resource related issues. The Minister reaffirmed her commitment to work with the Board and the Health Region to address these issues.

Governance Committee

The Board has appointed a Governance Committee consisting of: Anne Thompson as Chair, along with Doug Lauvstad, Lloyd Flett, Donna Champagne, Jasper Robinson, Dale Seddon, and Cristo Spiess. The committee is in the process of developing Terms of Reference which will be brought to the Board for approval. The committee has begun reviewing policies requiring action which will come to the Board as they are ready.

Finance Committee

The Board has appointed a Finance Committee consisting of: Blaine Winters as Chair and Treasurer, along with Doug Lauvstad, Lloyd Flett, Marc Jackson and Cal Huntley. The committee has developed Terms of Reference which were adopted by the Board. Following its first meeting, the Finance Committee presented a finance report to the Board to October 2012, which was approved. The committee is also reviewing financially related policies requiring action which will come to the Board as they are ready.

Snow Lake Plane Crash

The CEO provided a briefing to the Board on the Snow Lake plane crash and the Health Region's response to it. Overall, all reports were very positive indicating that the Region's Emergency Plan was activated and worked very well in ensuring a timely and efficient response. It was noted that the Region really came together in a seamless way. The tremendous community outpouring and response were broadly commended. Following the report, the Board determined that a recognition event be organized and held in Snow Lake to commend and honor all those involved with the rescue operation.

Use of Technology

Three Board members (from Cranberry Portage, Flin Flon and Denare Beach) attended this meeting utilizing TeleHealth out of the Flin Flon General Hospital. It is anticipated that this technology tools will be a great help during the winter when travel by road is challenging.

The Board received an update on how technology in the form of laptops or iPads can reduce the tremendous amount of paper produced to provide Board members information and speed the delivery of material. Work will continue on moving this forward and arranging for a hands-on training session for the Board early in the New Year.

Local Health Involvement Groups

The CEO reported on the meetings underway designed to engage communities and stakeholder involvement in developing a strong and effective dialogue on local health issues and service delivery throughout the region. Meetings began in late November and will continue into December. The outcome will be guidelines which the Minister will approve that will assist the Region in establishing the Local Health Involvement Groups in 2013 in keeping with recent legislative changes approved by the legislature.

Board Education

Feedback from the Board’s education session at the beginning of November was very positive. The Board will continue its work in developing its Vision, Mission and Values at another workshop on Feb 1 & 2 in Flin Flon.

The Board began receiving operational briefings from two Vice-Presidents to better understand their structure, staff and operational outputs. The first two sessions were the Corporate Services/Chief Financial Officer portfolio of Raj Therhy and Human Resources portfolio of Wanda Reader. Following each presentation, the Board engaged in a question and answer period.

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. Specific dates will be confirmed once arrangements are finalized. Here are the upcoming meeting dates:

Feb 1/13 (Fri.)	Flin Flon – Hospital 4 th Floor Boardroom	Regular Board Meeting
Feb. 27/13 (Wed.)	The Pas – Health Complex 1 st Floor Boardroom	Regular Board Meeting
Mar. 27/13 (Wed.)	Thompson – Room # 141/143 Health Services Bldg.	Regular Board Meeting
Apr. 24/13 (Wed.)	Flin Flon – Hospital 4 th Floor Boardroom	Regular Board Meeting
May 29/13 (Wed.)	The Pas – Health Complex 1 st Floor Boardroom	Regular Board Meeting