

Regional Health Authority B

Minutes of Meeting

Board of Directors

Minutes of a meeting of the Board of Directors of Regional Health Authority B, held on Thursday, February 26, 2009, beginning at 6:00 p.m. in Shediac A, Delta Beauséjour, Moncton.

Present: John Laidlaw (Chair), Rod Borden, Karen Branscombe, Richard Breault, Leo Burns, Natasha Campbell, Cathy Carnahan, Harry Doyle, Bryana Ganong, Mavis Hurley, Jim Lutes, Bruce McCubbin, Barbara Quigley, Wayne Roach, Roxanne Sappier, Donald Peters, Dr. Tom Barry, Kristen Pinsent-Close, Jeff Carter, Dr. Peter Feero, Geri Geldart, Gary Foley, Dr. Edouard Hendriks, Janet Hogan, Fonda Kazi, Nancy Savage, Vicki Squires, Norma MaGee (Recording)

Regrets: Jean-Eudes Levesque, Michael Chisholm, Nancy Roberts

The Chair called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 p.m. He extended a welcome to Sue Ness, Executive Director, The Moncton Hospital.

1. Minutes of the last meeting

MOTION:

MOVED BY MR. ROACH, SECONDED BY MR. BURNS

THAT THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 28, 2009 MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS BE APPROVED AS CIRCULATED.

MOTION CARRIED.

2. Alternate level of care patients

Nancy Savage, Vice President Clinical Services, and Eileen MacGibbon, Regional Director Health Services Planning, Decision Support and e-Health provided information on Alternate level of care patients -- those patients who no longer require acute care services in hospitals but are unable to be discharged due to their requirements for an alternate setting of care, e.g., nursing home, special care home, supportive care, etc. This issue exists in all hospitals across the country. Most of these patients are admitted to hospital through the Emergency Department, and because they are unable to be discharged following their treatment, the affects are felt in a number of other departments in the hospitals. These affects include the

potential for surgery cancellations, increased stays in the recovery rooms, inability to transfer patients to other services within the hospitals in a timely manner.

A number of initiatives have been created in an attempt to reduce the numbers, including regular meetings with the Department of Social Development and Nursing Home Services.

3. Update from Chief Executive Officer

Mr. Peters provided an update on the move to new offices on the Miramichi by senior staff, and the hiring of support staff at headquarters. His report also provided information on the capital infrastructure projects, and a briefing note on Research Ethics Board.

4. Update on Foundations

Janet Hogan, Vice President Communications and Community Development, provided the members with the first quarterly report on Foundations which exist in RHA B. A similar report for Hospital Auxiliaries will be available at the next meeting.

5. Correspondence

(a) Roberte O'Regan, Department of Health re Pediatric Oncology Patient Navigator positions: A letter was circulated regarding the funding made available for hiring two pediatric patient navigators for the province – one in each of the regional health authorities. These positions will help pediatric oncology patients and their families navigate the health system and improve timely access to services and resources. RHA B's position will be based at the Saint John Regional Hospital; however responsibilities will have a provincial scope.

(b) Hon. Michael Murphy, Minister of Health: This letter advised the board of the appointment of Lise Drisdelle-Cormier to the board to fill the vacancy created with the resignation of Guy Léger last fall.

6. Committee Reports

Board of Directors' Committees

(a) Governance and Nominating Committee: Chair, Barbara Quigley, reported from the committee's February meeting at which time there was a lengthy discussion on the education needs of the board members related to carrying out fiduciary responsibilities. Overall it was felt that the orientation to RHA B session held in January was very well received, however, only scratched the surface on information on the New Brunswick health care system, and RHA B specifically. It was suggested that mini education sessions be incorporated into monthly board meetings to include current topics of interest, and Ms. Quigley asked for suggestions from directors as to topics for sessions.

(b) Finance and Audit Committee: Chair, Harry Doyle, reported from the Finance and Audit Committee's February meeting, at which time the investment advisor provided a quarterly review and market update on RHA B investments at December 31, 2008. It was suggested that the organization stay the course for now unless the circumstances change. It was also suggested that now is the time to review the investment policy and decide whether it is appropriate for the new organization.

The financial team is working on the 2009-2010 budget, and hopes to have detail brought to the April Finance and Audit Committee meeting.

(c) Health Planning and Delivery: Chair Mavis Hurley reported that the Health Planning and Delivery Committee met on February 18, 2009 with a number of presentations received. These included an update on the services at the Tobique Valley Hospital, an update on the HSMR data, cancer care services in RHA B, and surgery wait time data.

Board of Directors' Advisory Committees

(d) Medical Advisory Committee: Dr. Barry reported that the MAC is refining the process for granting privileges in the RHA, and a common application form for the entire region has been approved by the Board.

(e) Professional Advisory Committee: Kristen Pinsent-Close reported that the Regional Professional Advisory Committee met on February 5 at the new offices in Miramichi. She explained that the annual credentialing process for allied health professionals was again discussed. The Committee received a presentation on a Health Profile which was carried out for the former Miramichi Regional Health Authority. This profile outlined eleven 'determinants of health' – those factors or conditions that determine the level of health of a person. Members also received an update on the Accreditation Canada 2010 survey.

7. For information

(a) Corporate summary: Circulated with the agenda materials was a copy of a 'corporate summary' – an overview of current activities in Regional Health Authority B.

8. Other business

Nil

9. Questions from the public

Nil

10. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

MOTION:

MOVED BY MR. BREault, SECONDED BY MS. HURLEY

**THAT THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS BE
ADJOURNED.**

MOTION CARRIED.

John D. Laidlaw, Chair

Donald J. Peters, Secretary