

# NORTHUMBERLAND HILLS HOSPITAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

October 5, 2023  
NHH Boardroom  
**MINUTES (Revised)**

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Present: B. Selby, Chair; C. Gilmer, VC, S. Anderson, M. McAllister, M. Cassaday, D. Morrison, B. Nixon, R. Stevenson (phone), P. Went, L. Savoy, K. Simmons, M. Bhargava, J. Obomighie, G. Ivory, K. Zimmerman, S. Walsh

M. Noel, L. Andrews, L. Orpana, R. Freeborn

Regrets: S. Olsen, L. Sellar, S. Forsyth, C. Bell-Smith, M. Cocchetto

Staff: C. Gyorfi, L. Obomighie, J. Fleming, J. Gillard

Guest: C. Nesmith (Media)

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## 1. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

B. Selby provided the territorial acknowledgement.

## 2. CALL TO ORDER

B. Selby called the meeting to order 5:00p.m.

## 3. EDUCATION SESSION: INTEGRATED STROKE UNIT

Kate Zimmerman, VP Integrated Care/CNE presented on the topic of the newly opened Integrated Stroke Unit, explaining the background into what an integrated stroke unit is and the care provided, timelines and implementation plan as well as program highlights.

## 4. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None declared.

## 5. Approval of Previous Minutes

It was Moved by L. Savoy and Seconded by M. McAllister to approve the minutes of June 22, 2023, as presented. Carried.

## 6. CONSENT AGENDA

It was Moved by D. Morrison and Seconded by P. Went to approve the Consent Agenda matters as pre-circulated. Carried.

## 7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION / INFORMATION

### 7.1 Report from the Board Chair

B. Selby welcomed everyone to the first in-person Board meeting of 2023 and introduced new participants on the Board, M. Cassaday, Director, G. Ivory NHHF Chair, R. Freeborn and L. Andrews, new Community members of the Board.

B. Selby thanked K. Zimmerman for her presentation related to the opening of the new Integrated Stroke Unit (ISU) and commented on what a great addition this unit is to NHH. The NHH Foundation was also thanked for their contributions to the creation of this important unit.

B. Selby noted in her report the recent Ministry announcement to increase base funding and the commitment to fund a permanent ten-bed unit. It was noted that NHH will be celebrating its 20-year anniversary. B. Selby reflected, D. Morrison was the Board Chair at the time and took great pride in managing the project of the new hospital building on time and on budget. On October 18<sup>th</sup> an open house will be held at the hospital and B. Selby invited everyone to attend.

It was shared that the OHA has created a special committee to focus on priority initiatives as they relate to hospital leadership recruitment and retention. P. Went has put her name forward to participate on this committee.

## **7.2 Report from the Senior Staff**

S. Walsh welcomed all attendees to the in-person Board meeting and provided the Senior Leadership report. In mid-September NHH resumed bronchoscopy services which will allow patients to remain in the area for these services. We were thrilled to open the Rose and Bob Avery Integrated Stroke Unit Sept. 19. The ISU is one of the key projects identified within the Foundation's \$25 million Exceptional Community, Exceptional Care campaign.

NHH 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations will include an open house and tours within specific departments, and we are very much looking forward to welcoming the community next week.

There have been several announcements recently regarding OHTs with a recent notification that ongoing funding will flow to support OHTs going forward. An initial twelve OHTs across the province have been selected to advance specific initiatives.

The Ministry has also announced plans to further modernize home care and advance OHTs through the creation of a single, integrated service organization. The new entity will work closely with Ontario Health through the consolidation of the province's 14 regional Home and Community Support Services organization gradually transferring responsibility for providing home care to individual OHTs.

There has been reinvestment in public health and emergency services by the Ontario government with the goal to connect people to emergency care faster and increase the availability of paramedics and ambulances in the community. The province is also investing an additional \$51 million into the Dedicated Offload Nurses Program over the next three years to help reduce delays paramedics encounter dropping off patients at hospitals. NHH has had excellent performance in terms of ambulance offload times and ranks third best overall in the province as of July 2023.

NHH interim patient experience survey was launched for all staff, physicians and midwives to provide feedback on their experience as a member of NHH. NHH has also become a member of the Beryl Institute which will support developing the first experience framework.

In September NHH held the first in-person/hybrid Town Hall which is a regular touch point for staff, physician and midwives. There was terrific turnout and a great deal of fun. Town Halls have been held virtually over the past two years.

Several EDIAC initiatives have been held over the month of September including recognition of the National Day and Truth and Reconciliation. There is also a trip planned to visit the Black Oak Savanna in October. S. Walsh noted she has been fostering a new relationship with Chief Taynor Simpson who is very keen on engaging.

NHH's Caring for the Carers Committee (C4C) hosted the second annual staff and family appreciation BBQ which was well attended.

Under Jennifer Gillard's leadership a recruitment campaign was launched to generate interested Auxiliary volunteers. The campaign has resulted in 32 applications to date, with 22 of those already matched with priority areas.

### **7.3 Report from Nominations Committee**

C. Gilmer, Chair provided an update on behalf of the Nominations Committee. The Committee has been focusing on succession planning and sustainability and held a successful recruitment for new community members. An annual task of the Nominations Committee is to have all members update their skills on the skills matrix. This was sent out and has been updated. The terms of reference for this Committee have been reviewed with no changes suggested.

**On a Motion by L. Savoy and Seconded by P. Went the Nominations Committee terms of reference were approved as pre-circulated. Carried.**

### **7.4 Governance Committee Motion – Pandemic Governance Committee**

P. Went on behalf of C. Gilmer, Governance Committee Chair provided background into the intent of the Pandemic Governance Committee. This Committee was established during the pandemic as a decision-making body should there not be a quorum of the Board to make necessary decisions. The terms of reference state the Committee will remain in place until such time as the pandemic is over, or the Committee is no longer required. The WHO (World Health Organization) has formally declared the pandemic over and therefore the Pandemic Governance Committee is no longer necessary. P. Went shared there was never a need to use this Committee over the course of the pandemic.

**On a Motion by P. Went and Seconded by M. McAllister the Board approved the recommendation of the Governance Committee to dissolve the Pandemic Governance Committee. Carried.**

### **7.5 Report from the NHH Auxiliary**

S. Forsyth provided a written report to update the Board on the activities of the NHH Auxiliary. B. Selby shared verbally. The Auxiliary had a very successful Annual meeting that was well attended. At the annual meeting, a vote was held to revert to former position titles of President, Vice President and Directors. Also voted on was to add two Directors-at-large to the Auxiliary Board to make succession planning easier.

Financially, The Little Treasure Shop's annual sales were up by 71% and Petticoat Lane's increased nearly 60% over the previous year. R. Riley, Vice Chair of Business Services has been voted in as the new Vice President of the Auxiliary and a replacement for his former role as Director Business Services has been found. D. Cunningham, who has extensive retail and volunteer experience, will be the successor. M. Hilborn has stepped down as Past President and B. Worsnop was voted in as a Director to replace her.

The Auxiliary has launched with support of NHH Communications and Public Affairs, their own social media presence with a new Facebook page.

A very motivated team of volunteers is busy planning the Auxiliary's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration in November, which will be a splendid affair every one of the amazing volunteers thoroughly deserves.

In the fiscal year 2022-23 the Auxiliary has provided the Hospital with \$191,841 which brings the total donated by the Auxiliary to the Hospital's clinical information system to just over \$1 million which fulfills the Auxiliary's pledge. In the current fiscal year, the Auxiliary has proposed a donation to the Hospital of \$170,000 to be received later this month.

#### **7.6 Report from the NHH Foundation**

G. Ivory, NHH Foundation Chair, provided his first formal report outlining recent Foundation activities. It has been a busy time between the capital campaign and the regular annual programs. Tickets to Galalicious went on sale Sept. 28<sup>th</sup> and the initial response was quite strong. Over 300 tickets have been spoken for. If interested in attending, visit the website Galalicious.ca or stop by the Foundation office. Thank you to those on this Board who have already purchased tickets.

Light Up a Life Campaign planning is underway. The direct mail appeal will be released in mid-November and this year's campaign will aim to raise funds to purchase a high-speed packaging system for unit dose of oral solids. NHH is one of the few hospitals in the region without this more efficient system and the Foundations looks forward to raising funds to change that.

Lemon-aid was held again over the summer with over 18 different stands held during July and August and over \$6,000 was raised. Families who participated were invited to the Hospital over the past week and were able to see what their funds helped to purchase for patients of the Cancer program.

The Exceptional Community, Exceptional Care campaign continues to move forward in meeting its objectives. Cabinet volunteers are continuing to reach out to close gifts to get to the \$25 million goal.

G. Ivory thanked K. Zimmerman for attending the September Foundation Board meeting providing a presentation related to the new Integrated Stroke Unit. The presentation was well received, and it was nice to see funds from the campaign play a role in helping to advance new programs.

Financially, at the end of August, the Foundation had raised \$1.9 million towards its annual goal of \$4.9 million.

<b>It was Moved by M. Cassaday and Seconded by P. Went to receive all reports as presented. Carried.</b>
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#### **8. Other Business/Correspondence**

There was no other business to discuss.

**9. IN CAMERA**

On a Motion by M. McAllister and Seconded by B. Nixon the meeting moved to in-camera. The in-camera meeting addressed matters related to medical human resources and financial matters.

**10. TERMINATION**

On a Motion by D. Morrison the meeting was adjourned.