



## Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, September 15, 2022  
7:00 p.m.  
Via Zoom

### MINUTES

- Present: Steve Hearn, Chair  
Gary Austin, Dr. Alex Chun, Joani Gerber, Barry Hutton, Ron Lavoie, Joe Looby, Kerri Ann O'Rourke, Dr. Nadine Potvin, Kim Ross Jones, Dr. Alistair Smith, Greg Stewart, Tricia Wilkerson, John Wilkinson, Andrew Williams, Deborah Wiseman, Mary Cardinal, Ken Haworth, Sue Davey, Francesco Sabatini
- Guests: Rebecca Gonser, Lena Williams, Marg Van-Herk Paradis  
Howard Shubert, Laura Dent, Mary Walton  
Julie Houben
- Regrets: Dr. Chuck Gatfield, Kathy Lewis, Dr. Kevin Lefebvre, Dr. Heather Percival
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**1. Welcome & Call to Order**

Steve Hearn, Board Chair called the meeting to order, welcomed guests and quorum was confirmed. He provided the Land Acknowledgement.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

It was moved by John Wilkinson, seconded by Barry Hutton:

**THAT the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance Board of Directors approve the meeting agenda as circulated.**

**CARRIED**

**3. Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

There was no conflict of interest declared by any members.

**4. Patient Story**

Joani Gerber introduced Rebecca Gonser, Manager of the Surgical Inpatient Unit and welcomed Lena Williams, the patient, and Marg Van-Herk Paradis, Lena's caregiver and friend. Rebecca shared an overview of Lena's journey while in hospital where she was very sick with a complicated stay and numerous setbacks, including a COVID-19 outbreak that occurred on the unit during her admission restricting the attendance of her caregivers and visitors. Rebecca and Marg shared a story of transformative relationships that developed between Lena's caregivers and the entire hospital team who worked together to ensure Lena received the care and support she needed while in hospital, and bridging the gap from her home to being in an unfamiliar place. Although Lena's health prevented her from returning to her home when discharged she was very well supported as she transitioned to living at a long-term care home where she is enjoying it. Marg

thanked Rebecca for her leadership and extended her appreciation to the exceptional and amazing staff that made Lena feel safe and supported during her hospital stay.

On behalf of the Board, Steve Hearn recognized and thanked Rebecca, Lena and Marg for attending and sharing their very touching story. They departed the meeting at 7:16 p.m.

## 5. Delegation to the Board

- Save Avon Crest!

Howard Shubert attended the meeting as a delegation and representative of the Save Avon Crest group. This group consists of executive members of the Stratford/Perth Branch of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario, Stratford & District Historical Society and Heritage Stratford. Howard noted that the group came together when Avon Crest was denied heritage designation by the City of Stratford Council. Their mission is to educate the public about Avon Crest and the threat to its heritage and the environment with demolition of the building. They also promote the preservation and repurposing of the building, and are looking to work with the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance to come to a mutually agreeable solution that includes a restored Avon Crest. Howard shared a detailed presentation that will be circulated to the Board.

The Save Avon Crest group's ask is for the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance to pause demolition plans and maintain services to the building. This will give them three months to identify possible stakeholders in a future restored and repurposed Avon Crest. They also need time to apply for grants to fund a feasibility study, identify federal and provincial grants to subsidize refurbishment.

Howard was thanked for his delegation. Laura Dent, Howard Shubert, Mary Walton and Francesco Sabatini left the meeting at 7:32 p.m.

## 6. Minutes of Previous Meetings

### 6.1. August 11, 2022

It was moved by Joe Looby, seconded by Gary Austin:

**THAT the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance Board of Directors approves the minutes from the meeting held August 11, 2022.**

**CARRIED**

## 7. Board Education/Focused Discussion

- Accreditation Update

Julie Houben, Director Quality, Patient Safety and Interprofessional Practice provided an overview of the upcoming collaborative accreditation survey planned for 14 partners of the Huron Perth & Area Ontario Health Team. She outlined the accreditation process leading up to the onsite survey that is to take place in October 2023. A new platform for accreditation will be rolled out in October 2022 and the plan for the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance (HPHA) is to approach this with a continuous improvement mindset. Julie outlined the shared standards that will be measured across all organizations, and noted that there are also sector specific standards to be evaluated. Classifications of criteria were highlighted and she shared the activities that have taken place for this fiscal year as well as next steps. This will continue to be reported quarterly through the HPHA's 2022/2023 Commitments to Our Communities.

Julie Houben departed the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

## 8. Consent Agenda

It was moved by John Wilkinson, seconded by Greg Stewart:

**THAT the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance Board of Directors approve the September 15, 2022 Consent Agenda that included reports from the:**

- **Chief Nursing Executive**
- **President & Chief Executive Officer**
- **Alliance Chief of Staff**

**CARRIED**

### Discussion:

- The tremendous team effort around discharge planning was recognized as up to 17 patients are discharged in a day.
- Regional and sub-regional hospitals continue to work together for capacity planning.
- As staffing challenges for nursing and physicians in the Emergency Departments across the region continue, the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance (HPHA) attempts to mobilize nursing staff across the sites although not all want to be redeployed and have the option of not going to another site.
- South West leaders are working together for Emergency Department transformation planning as all are experiencing staffing challenges (nurses, physicians).
- HPHA may not see the benefit of expediting the licenses for internationally educated nurses who are not attracted to rural areas due to culture.
- HPHA continues to expand initiatives for recruitment to include presence at job fairs across the province, working with colleges and universities, and working with local communities to promote the area as a place to work and live.

Deborah Wiseman was recognized and wished every success in the future as she leaves the organization in October.

Kerri Ann O'Rourke joined the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

## 9. Governance

### 9.1. Board Committee Reports

#### 9.1.1. Fiscal Advisory Committee

The Fiscal Advisory Committee met on August 29, 2022 and Barry Hutton provided highlights. Updates were provided by leadership to the hospital's union leaders on the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance's fiscal health, Commitments to Our Communities and the Huron Perth & Area Ontario Health Team priorities. The Terms of Reference were updated and approved by the Committee to include the addition of a Board Member to the membership. Barry and Tricia Wilkerson have stepped forward to sit on this committee.

#### 9.1.2. Local Advisory Committees

##### Clinton Public Hospital

The Clinton Local Advisory Committee met on August 24<sup>th</sup> and Greg Stewart presented the report for informational purposes.

St. Marys Memorial Hospital

Kim Ross Jones presented the report of the St. Marys Local Advisory Committee that met on August 23, 2022. She highlighted the successful Golf Tournament hosted by the St. Marys Healthcare Foundation in August at River Valley, and reported that the Foundation will benefit from the Tim Hortons Smile Cookie Campaign next week.

Seaforth Community Hospital

The Seaforth Local Advisory Committee met on August 24<sup>th</sup> and highlights from the meeting were pre-circulated and presented by Kerri Ann O'Rourke for informational purposes.

Stratford General Hospital

The Stratford Local Advisory Committee met on August 23<sup>rd</sup> and Tricia Wilkerson presented the detailed report from meeting that was included in the agenda package. She highlighted that Mark Gibson was welcomed as the new Corporate Lead for Volunteer Services and Student Engagement and the In Our Hands Campaign is at approximately \$22m.

**10. In-Camera Session**

**10.1. Motion to Move to In-Camera Session**

It was moved by Kim Ross Jones, seconded by Tricia Wilkerson:

**THAT the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance move in-camera at 8:15 p.m.**

**CARRIED**

**10.2. Motion to Move out of In-Camera Session**

It was moved by Kim Ross Jones, seconded by John Wilkinson:

**THAT the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance move out of the in-camera session at 8:58 p.m.**

**CARRIED**

**10.3. Report from In-Camera Session**

During the In-Camera Session the Board received an Avon Crest property report and an update on Bill 7, More Beds, Better Care Act, 2022.

**11. Directors Comments/Roundtable**

None.

**12. Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance Board of Directors will be held on Thursday, November 3, 2022.

**13. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned on a MOTION by Gary Austin at 9:00 p.m.