

HURON PERTH HEALTHCARE ALLIANCE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 4, 2017



HPHA Celebrates Successful 2016/17 Year

Members of the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance (HPHA) team attending the HPHA Annual General Meeting on June 22, 2017 were updated on another successful year.

Outgoing Board Chair Mary Atkinson reviewed key highlights of the year, including: the organization's involvement in ground breaking research on the needs of caregivers; the attainment of a \$2.4 million surplus, allowing for much needed capital investments; the ongoing support and success of the HPHA's Foundations, Auxiliaries and Volunteers; and, the continued introduction of "best practice" models of care such as the new Integrated Stroke Unit.

The Board was pleased to welcome two new Members – Jack Alblas representing the City of Stratford, and Kerri Ann O'Rourke, representing the catchment area of the Seaforth Community Hospital. Jack and Kerri Ann replaced long-serving Board Members Bob Gulliford and Dick Burgess respectively.

"We can't say enough about Bob and Dick's leadership throughout the 12 years they were on the Board," said Mary Atkinson. "They defined what a hospital governor should be and will be sorely missed," she said.

Lynne MacDonald, after 12 years as a Member of the Stratford Local Advisory Committee was recognized for her commitment to local healthcare, as was Dr. Graham Heaton, whose term on the Board as Stratford Medical Staff President came to an end.

At the Organizational Meeting immediately following the AGM, John Wolfe was welcomed as the new Board Chair. Other new Board Officers appointed included Ron Lavoie, Vice Chair and Jack Alblas, Treasurer. Dr. Shawn Edwards was also welcomed as the new President of the Stratford General Hospital Medical Staff.

For further information on the year's activities, readers are referred to the HPHA's Annual Report at a Glance, which provides an assessment of the year past and a glimpse of the year ahead. This report is available on HPHA's website at www.hpha.ca and can be accessed via the Quick Links menu. The full Annual Report can also be accessed at www.hpha.ca under the About Us section – Transparency & Accountability - Reports & Presentations – Annual Reports.



Photo Cutline: New Board Members were welcomed at HPHA's Annual General Meeting held on June 22, 2017 at the Mitchell Golf & Country Club. L to R: Jack Alblas, New Board Member; Kerri Ann O'Rourke, New Board Member; Mary Atkinson, Outgoing Board Chair; and John Wolfe, New Board Chair.

New Board Member Bios

Jack Alblas

Jack is an Information Technology / Management Professional with over 35 years IT and business experience in the financial and manufacturing industries. He has proven experience in management of large strategic initiatives and working in complex environments. Jack worked 10 years with IBM Canada's Business Consulting Services and Strategic Outsourcing groups, including: directing and managing mergers and acquisition; managing a team of IBM professionals in the design, development and implementation of new technology solutions for Financial Institutions and Canadian Insurance companies.

From 2008 - 2013 Jack worked at Scotiabank as Director, IT&S, directing and managing several technology departments. Upon retiring from Scotiabank, Jack established his IT Consulting Company,

providing leadership for IT professionals in the design, development and implementation of technology solutions / services for a large Canadian Insurance company.

Jack has a strong commitment to our community signified by his many years of volunteer support in organizations such as: Board member of the United Way Perth Huron for 4 years, including Chair of the Board for two years; Board member of Family Services Perth Huron for 5 years; and, member of Stratford General Hospital Local Advisory Committee for 5 years, including Chair for the last two years.

Kerri Ann O'Rourke

Kerri Ann was born and raised in the Ottawa Valley. Together with her husband they operate a trucking company north of Dublin, shipping agricultural commodities and large equipment throughout Southwestern Ontario.

Kerri Ann had an over 20 year career in municipal administration, working as the Municipal Clerk for the Township of Perth East and County of Perth. She continues to do short contracts and projects for local municipalities.

She is a proud volunteer for the Seaforth Junior Broomball League, supporting and encouraging a resurgence of interest in a local heritage sport. Kerri Ann became a member of the Ausable Bayfield Maitland Valley Source Protection Committee in the spring of 2015.

Kerri Ann has been a member of the Seaforth Local Advisory Committee since 2009 and is currently the Chair. She has found being a member of the HPHA Board Governance & Stakeholder Relations and Quality Committees a rewarding and educational experience.

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