



Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, February 4, 2021
7:00 p.m.
Via Zoom

MINUTES

Present: Ron Lavoie, Chair
Jack Alblas, Gary Austin, Dick Burgess, Dr. Chuck Gatfield, Joani Gerber, Steve Hearn, Barry Hutton, Dr. Kevin Lefebvre, Joe Looby, Kerri Ann O'Rourke, Dr. Nadine Potvin, Kim Ross Jones, Rena Spevack, Andrew Williams, Deborah Wiseman, John Wolfe
Mary Cardinal
Ken Haworth
Sue Davey, Recorder

Regrets: Dr. Candi Flynn, Dr. Heather Percival, Dr. Tyler Rouse

1. Welcome & Call to Order

Board Chair Ron Lavoie called the meeting to order and acknowledged and welcomed our guests present for the Patient Story. Quorum was confirmed.

2. Approval of Agenda

It was moved by Gary Austin, seconded by Steve Hearn:

THAT the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance Board of Directors approves the meeting agenda circulated.

CARRIED

3. Patient Story

Kailyn Pasma, Manager at the Seaforth Site introduced the patient who joined us to share their story. She also acknowledged the team members in attendance to include Jody Brooks, Pharmacist and Elizabeth Callaghan, Nurse Practitioner (NP). Kailyn provided an overview of the NP program that supports frail elderly with complex needs and no family physician that has been expanded with one-time funding received to support individuals who are homeless or at risk for homelessness. This initiative has been successful in providing primary care through the partnership of a NP and Pharmacist team, along with community supports to include paramedics, social services and community outreach in both Huron and Perth Counties. Our patient shared an impactful story about being so fortunate to have been linked to this program when she had nowhere else to turn and how the team took a holistic approach to her care, providing ongoing assessment and monitoring, improving her well-being immensely. The patient reinforced the importance of this program that supports those in our community that need it most and she was thanked for sharing her experience with the Board.

4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

There was no conflict of interest declared by any members.

5. Approval of Minutes**5.1 December 3, 2020**

It was moved by Dick Burgess, seconded by Jack Alblas:

THAT the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance Board of Directors approves the minutes from the meeting held December 3, 2020.

CARRIED

6. COVID-19 Update

Andrew Williams provided an update and reported that an outbreak has been declared on the Inpatient Unit at the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance (HPHA) St. Marys Site. The team is providing ongoing communication updates and support to physicians, staff, patients and families, directed by Public Health. All safety measures are in place and prevalence swabbing is being done. Patient and family caregiver presence is now restricted on the unit with exceptions for compassionate reasons and the unit is closed to new admissions. Andrew acknowledged Deborah Wiseman for her leadership and thanked the physicians for their support during this outbreak.

Due to limited supply of the COVID-19 vaccine, vaccination is currently targeting long-term care home and high risk retirement home residents, as well as seconded doses for those that were initially identified to get and receive their first dose. This included staff and physicians at HPHA that were identified with this first round of vaccination. No further specific direction has been received and HPHA will continue to follow guidance from Huron Perth Public Health.

The Primary Care group of the Huron Perth & Area Ontario Health Team Physician Advisory Council were acknowledged for developing an educational tool and Q&A to address vaccine hesitancy. The importance of vaccination was noted to stop the disease from circulating and protect our community.

There was discussion about priority setting for vaccine roll out to the community as well as the workplace policies to be considered related to sick time and working during an outbreak for those that choose not to be immunized since the vaccine is not mandatory.

7. Consent Agenda

It was moved by Barry Hutton, seconded by Kerri Ann O'Rourke:

THAT the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance Board of Directors approves the February 4, 2021 Consent Agenda that included reports from the:

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

CARRIED

Dr. Lefebvre highlighted the success, impact and importance of ensuring that the Nurse Practitioner Program expansion continues to be funded. This program, and the mental health ride-along program with the police are priority areas where dollars need to be

invested as they strengthen the health and wellness in the community, reducing demand on the acute care system.

8. Governance

8.1 Board Committee Reports

8.1.1 Governance & Stakeholder Relations Committee

John Wolfe provided highlights from the Governance & Stakeholder Relations Committee meeting held on January 26, 2021. The Board Self- Assessment results were included in the package and succession planning for the President & CEO and Alliance Chief of Staff were flagged along with Meetings without Management. The President & CEO Management Policy was circulated for review, and Meetings without Management are always an option and will be reinstated. The Board Advance will be held on two half-days on February 19th and 26th. Guest speaker Ross Baker will join the first session to provide an update on Ontario Health Teams and system areas of focus, while the second day will focus on the refresh of Commitments to our Communities. The Annual General Meeting will be held on June 17th.

8.1.2 Medical Advisory Committee

The Medical Advisory Committee met on January 28th and Dr. Lefebvre presented the meeting highlights that were pre-circulated for informational purposes. A question was raised regarding progress with the adoption of front-end dictation and Dr. Lefebvre reported that this or typing into the system are now the only method of entering notes into the patient record.

8.1.3 Quality Committee

Rena Spevack presented the report of the Quality Committee meeting held January 25, 2021. No direction has been received from Health Quality Ontario regarding the development of the 2021/2022 Quality Improvement Plan. Andrew Williams added that a collaborative Quality Improvement Plan has been identified as a deliverable in the Huron Perth & Area Ontario Health Team Transfer Payment Agreement. Mary Cardinal presented the Patient Safety Plan, a leadership standard flagged from our last Accreditation Survey that has been developed and outlines the structures in place to support patient safety and continuous improvement opportunities.

It was moved by Rena Spevack, seconded by Gary Austin:

THAT the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance Board of Directors approve the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance Patient Safety Plan.

CARRIED

8.1.4 Resources & Audit Committee

The Resources & Audit Committee met on January 28th and Joe Looby presented the highlights from the report that were pre-circulated with the agenda package. He noted that results are better than expected and the operating line of credit has not been used since September. Incremental COVID-19 expenses are being reimbursed with about \$2M of the \$7M submitted that is outstanding at this time. Pandemic pay for specific staffing groups is about \$2.5M, \$500-600K is for capital expenses related to COVID-19.

It was moved by Joe Looby, seconded by Jack Alblas:

THAT the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance Board of Directors approves the Quarter 3, December 30, 2020 financial statements and associated reports.

CARRIED

The Committee received an update on the wellness initiative and operating indicators. Recruitment challenges were highlighted along with the number of postings for qualified staff members across our region.

9. HPHA Commitments to Our Communities

➤ HPHA Commitments to Our Communities – Quarter 3 Review

Andrew Williams provided the Quarter 3 status update on the objectives linked to the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance's Commitments to our Communities. The detailed report was included in the agenda package and highlights were provided.

With the pandemic, wellness and initiatives to support our physicians, staff and their families have been elevated to include:

- Introduction of a Wellness Newsletter.
- Strengthened resources (i.e. virtual support groups).
- Promoting the Employee and Family Assistance Program which has seen increased usage.
- Frontline Fridays – Treats for staff compliments of physician groups.

Andrew gave a "shout out" to Lyndsay Baetz, Wellness Specialist and Paul Vandenberg, Director of Human Resources and the team for their hard work with this initiative and supporting staff.

Recommendations previously identified for the right patient, right location, right care objective continue to be rolled out with an emphasis on improving transitions and patient flow through the system. Challenges identified include patient choice that inhibits patient flow.

The Ontario Health Team (OHT) continues to move forward with implementation. Mady Smith will be re-joining the Team as the Integration and Accountability Lead. Additional OHT staffing has been identified to support the work of the OHT. An Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) lead has been hired to audit and develop consistent standards across the system and will participate in regional funded initiatives for the development of a framework to support congregate settings. The sector leads for the OHT have been involved with mass vaccination planning with Public Health. Feedback has been received from OHT partners for the Agreement and Terms of Reference to be incorporated into the final documents that will come back to the Board.

10. Huron Perth & Area Ontario Health Team Update

The Huron Perth & Area Ontario Health Team continues to move forward with implementation and an update was provided under Agenda Item #9.

11. In-Camera Session

11.1 Motion to Move to In-Camera Session

It was moved by Dick Burgess, seconded by Kim Ross Jones:

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

CARRIED

11.2 Motion to Move out of In-Camera Session

It was moved by Dick Burgess, seconded by Kerri Ann O'Rourke:

THAT the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance move out of the in-camera session at 9:05 p.m.

CARRIED

11.3 Report from In-Camera Session

During the In-Camera Session, the Board received the Governance & Stakeholder Relations, Medical Advisory and Resources & Audit Committee reports, and discussed community priorities.

12. Directors Comments/Roundtable

- Woodstock General Hospital reached out to the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance as a leader regarding the addition of a Patient Partner to our Board membership structure.
- Patient & Family Advisors are members of a number of Ontario Health committees and Rena Spevack has been contributing to a few of these committees in this capacity.

13. Next Meetings

The next Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance Board of Directors' Meeting will be held on Thursday, March 4, 2021.

14. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned on a MOTION by Steve Hearn at 9:11 p.m.