



Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, February 5, 2026

7:00 p.m.

Meeting Room #2 – HPHA St. Marys Memorial Hospital

MINUTES

Present: John Wilkinson, Chair
Jim Battle, Franklin Famme, Dr. Chuck Gatfield, Dr. Gregg Hancock, Steve Hearn, Ron Lavoie (virtual), Dr. Kevin Lefebvre, Kathy Lewis, Lynanne Mason, Kerri Ann O'Rourke, Kim Ross Jones, Tricia Wilkerson, Andrew Williams, Mary Cardinal, Iris Michaels, Sue Davey

Regrets: Barry Hutton, Greg Stewart, Bill Whetstone, Dr. Heather Percival

1. Welcome & Call to Order

John Wilkinson, Board Chair called the meeting to order and quorum was confirmed.

2. Land Acknowledgement

Kim Ross Jones shared the Land Acknowledgement.

3. Approval of Agenda

It was moved by Ron Lavoie, seconded by Franklin Famme:

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

CARRIED

4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

5. Patient & Caregiver Partner Program Update

- Cancer & Medical Care Clinic Volunteers

Jim Battle introduced and welcomed Mark Gibson, Corporate Lead of Volunteers and Student Engagement and Volunteers Carolyn Yundt and Claire Robinson to the meeting.

Jim provided an overview of the redeveloped Cancer & Medical Care Clinic, made possible through the generous support of numerous donors to the Stratford General Hospital Foundation, including the Van Nes family. He recognized the \$85K contribution from the Volunteers of Stratford General Hospital to create a private and welcoming patient registration area. The Clinic, a satellite of the South West Regional Cancer Program, delivers high-quality care close to home, supported by dedicated volunteers who provide comfort, amenities, and a patient-centred environment for patients and caregivers. Volunteers in attendance shared their experiences with volunteering in the Clinic, and expressed pride in their contributions and in being part of the care team.

Mark Gibson presented details of an in-progress video showcasing the Cancer & Medical Care Clinic, intended to support newly diagnosed patients, those with treatment plans, and patients who are being repatriated to HPHA from London. The video features quality care close to home, the dedicated care team, and the modern facility, with the goal of reducing patient anxiety and building confidence in the care provided.

Mark, Carolyn and Claire were acknowledged and thanked for attending the meeting, sharing their volunteer experiences, and for their ongoing contributions to enhancing the patient experience.

6. Minutes of Previous Meetings

6.1. December 4, 2025

It was moved by Kathy Lewis, seconded by Steve Hearn:

THAT the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance Board of Directors approves the minutes from the meeting held December 4, 2025.

CARRIED

7. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

8. In-Camera Session

8.1. Motion to Move to In-Camera Session

It was moved by Kim Ross Jones, seconded by Steve Hearn:

THAT the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance move in-camera at 7:22 p.m.

CARRIED

8.2. Report from In-Camera Session

The Board received reports from the Governance, Community Relations & System Transformation, Medical Advisory and Resources, Audit & Digital Innovation Committees, and also received an update on Huron Perth Regional Clinical Service Planning.

9. Consent Agenda

It was moved by Tricia Wilkerson, seconded by Kathy Lewis:

THAT the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance Board of Directors approve the February 5, 2026 Consent Agenda that included the following:

- **Leadership Reports:**
 - Chief Nursing Executive
 - President & Chief Executive Officer
- **HPHA Commitments to Our Communities Status Updates – 2025/2026 (Quarter 3)**
- **Patient Experience & Engagement Report**

CARRIED

10. Board Education/Focussed Discussion

- **Hospital Funding Overview**

Iris Michaels provided a detailed presentation with an overview about hospital funding. The slides are attached and highlights included:

- Hospital funding flows primarily through the Ministry of Health and Ontario Health, with a mix of patient-based funding and global budgets.
- Funding has shifted from historical global funding to patient-based models tied to volume, case mix, quality, and cost efficiency.
- The Growth and Efficiency Model (GEM) determines a significant portion of funding based on demand growth and efficient pricing.
- Quality-Based Procedures (QBPs) promote best practices but have not been repriced to reflect rising costs, creating financial pressure.
- Capital projects require Ministry approval and include significant local share obligations for hospitals.
- Ontario hospitals face an ongoing sector-wide funding gap, with hospital spending per capita below the national average and a material shortfall remaining despite recent budget increases.

11. Governance

11.1. Fiscal Advisory Committee

The Fiscal Advisory Committee met on December 16, 2025 where Quarter 2 updates were provided to union leadership.

11.2. Governance, Community Relations & System Transformation Committee

Steve Hearn presented the detailed report from the meeting held January 27, 2026 for information. He noted and discussed the results of the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance Board Self-Assessment Survey that identified areas of strength and opportunities which was included in the package.

11.3. Medical Advisory Committee

Dr. Lefebvre presented the report from the Medical Advisory Committee meeting held on January 22, 2026 for information.

11.4. Quality & Social Accountability Committee

Kim Ross Jones presented the report from the meetings held January 14 & 26, 2026 for information and highlights included:

- 2025/2026 Change Plan reviewed; all targets on track.
- Quality Improvement Plan:
 - Draft Change Plans presented and will be brought to the Board for consideration in March.
- Patient Story:
 - Multi-disciplinary quality improvement initiative shared that focused on improving the safety and accuracy of diet orders and medication administration through standardized processes and enhanced communication for patients on Nothing by Mouth orders.

11.5. Resources, Audit & Digital Innovation Committee

Franklin Famme presented the detailed report from the meeting held January 29, 2026 that highlights Workplace Health.

12. Directors Comments/Roundtable

None.

13. Next Meeting

- Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance Board of Directors Meeting
 - *March 5, 2026 at HPHA Seaforth Community Hospital*

14. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by MOTION by Tricia Wilkerson at 9:33 p.m.