



Summary of Board Minutes Thursday, March 18, 2010

Ethics Presentation

Lorne Charbonneau, Vice President Health Services, made a presentation to the Board on the Ethics program within the region. As part of the Accreditation standards, Lorne will arrange a session for the Board to work through an 'Ethical scenario / example'.

Selkirk & District General Hospital Redevelopment

Kevin Beresford advised that the Interlake RHA has received a letter from Manitoba Health approving the project to proceed to the detailed design development stage. The total building area for the hospital project has been approved at 180,753 square feet.

The City of Selkirk had forwarded a letter advising that they will take the lead role in the fundraising efforts for the project. Kevin stated that a meeting is being planned for mid-April and welcomed members of the Board to attend.

EMS Rate Adjustment

Kevin Beresford stated that the EMS rates will be adjusted as per February Board discussion. The Interlake RHA base rate, which has not changed significantly in 10 years, will increase by \$25, from \$250 to \$275. The Interfacility Transfer rate will increase by \$35, from \$300 to \$335. There are no changes proposed for the loaded kilometre rates. These rate changes will be effective April 1, 2010.

Volunteer Nomination Awards for AGM

Jim Rodger advised that this year we will be sending out the letter calling for nominations in April with a June deadline, rather than send out in June with a September deadline. The Interlake RHA annually recognizes our dedicated volunteers and volunteer organizations at the Annual General Meeting each fall.

Naming of the Road Entrance for New Selkirk Hospital

Jim Rodger stated that we have received a letter requesting that the entrance road to the new hospital in Selkirk be named in memory of a local physician who grew up in Selkirk and did much for the community. While the Board was supportive of the request, it is the decision of the City of Selkirk for the naming of streets. It was agreed that a letter of acknowledgement would be sent advising that the Board is supportive; however, that this falls under the authority of the Selkirk City Council.

Youth Health Survey Report

The Youth Health Survey Report 2009 has now been completed and will be released in late March. The report provides a database which will be used for evaluation, planning and decision making.

Interlake RHA Volunteer Teas

Jim Rodger stated that the dates for the Volunteer Teas have been confirmed and Board members are welcome to attend events in their areas.

Eriksdale Petition

Kevin Beresford stated that the community of Eriksdale will be forwarding a petition to retain a female physician in the community, who has been undergoing a training assessment at the Eriksdale Hospital. The physician is an International Medical Graduate (IMG) being sponsored by the Northern Medical Unit (NMU) and is committed to a Return of Service (ROS). The Interlake RHA has forwarded a letter to the Eriksdale community advising that we will follow up with the NMU to ask if they would be prepared to release the physician from her commitment.

It was noted that as Eriksdale currently has a full slate of contract doctors, if this physician were released from NMU then she would have to work under a fee for service model. Dr. Cary Chapnick will be discussing this matter with the NMU.

Fieldstone request for Delegation

Jim Rodger advised that the Interlake RHA Board received a request today from Fieldstone Ventures Education & Training Centre requesting to send a delegation to the April 15th Board meeting in Ashern to discuss LPN Training within the region. The Board is fully supportive of encouraging people to enter the healthcare field and is supportive of local training initiatives. It was noted that the Interlake RHA cannot guarantee employment for graduates of the programs, although currently, there is a shortage of nurses in the region. The Board reviewed the request and it was agreed that the Board would schedule the delegation for the April 15, 2010 Board meeting.

Financial Position

As reported over the past several months, the Interlake RHA is projecting close to a \$2 million deficit and the main cost drivers have been consistent and continue to include high service utilization, acute care occupancy rates, the H1N1 Flu campaign, overtime and contract agency charges related to staffing shortages

Funding

In the recent federal budget announcements, the federal transfer payments for health were not reduced. Overall, the third quarter financials for RHA's improved over the second quarter. The provincial budget announcement is expected on March 23rd.

Joint Board Staff Management Advisory Committee

Muriel Alexander and Kevin Beresford provided update on the March 16, 2010 meeting.

- Workplace Safety and Health: Most of the required elements under the regulation have been substantially completed.
- Regional Emergency Preparedness Plans: The next round of training sessions are being scheduled over the next couple of months.
- CUPE Recruitment, Retention & Education Fund: There is a new educational fund for CUPE staff who are interested in upgrading their education towards other positions in CUPE.

Capital Projects Update

Kevin Beresford advised that the Eriksdale Wellness Centre is expected to be complete in May. It is hoped that the Cancer Care program will be established for June 1st. Eriksdale Hospital Phase 2 will be complete by the end of March and Phase 3 is expected to be complete by the end of June.

Renovations at the Arborg & Districts Health Centre Emergency Department are in progress and it is expected to be complete by the end of March. The Gimli Dialysis project is moving forward however, it is a bit behind schedule at this time. The West St Paul EMS station is completed and staff has now moved in.

Staffing Update

Kevin Beresford advised that the three nurses in Ashern and the one in Fisher Branch who recently wrote their licensure exams have all passed and that there are also two pending job offers outstanding.

Percy E. Moore Dialysis Project

We have had recent discussions with Manitoba Health and other partners involved in the project. It is evident that there are expectations that the Interlake RHA will assume a very prominent role in the operation of this program. There will have to be significant further discussion in relation to roles and expectations. The dialysis unit is expected to become operational by the end of the 2011 calendar year.

Patient Repatriation

A new process map for patient repatriation is being introduced at all sites in the Interlake RHA. It is hoped that this new process will assist in reducing repatriation wait lists.

Deputy Minister of Health

Milton Sussman has been appointed the new Deputy Minister, replacing Arlene Wilgosh who is leaving to accept her new position as the CEO for the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority.

Next Meeting

The next regular Board Meeting will be held at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 15, 2010, in Ashern. The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.