



Summary of Board Minutes
Thursday, February 18, 2010

Selkirk & District General Hospital Redevelopment

Jim Rodger, Board Chair, advised that the submission is still moving forward and he remains hopeful that we will hear something shortly.

EMS Proposed Rate Adjustments

Kevin Beresford stated that with inter-facility transfer charges covered by Manitoba Health, a rate adjustment has limited the impact who it actually affects. The Board asked for information regarding EMS revenue and what amount the region has to write off as 'bad debt' annually. Kevin Beresford will follow up on these questions and report back at the next Board meeting.

The Interlake RHA base rate has not changed significantly in 10 years and as a result, we are not keeping pace with the increased cost of operations. Rates are under review and the Board will be kept informed.

Manitoba Strategic Planning Model

Kevin Beresford reviewed the information circulated and noted that this model that will be used by RHA's for strategic planning and reporting purposes. He noted that the model was developed to provide consistency with RHA's and is pretty close to what the Interlake RHA is currently using so it will not be a change in the way we do business.

Finance Committee

The Board passed a motion to accept the recommendation of the Finance Committee to approve the borrowings for the Eriksdale Wellness Centre - Cancer Care Program in the amount of \$521,447.00.

Financial Position

It is anticipated that the Interlake RHA will have \$2.0 million deficit at year end. To put this in perspective, this is approximately 1.8% of our budget. Some of the factors that have negatively impacted our financial position include acute care occupancy rates over the past year, the H1N1 Flu campaign, consistently high service utilization, overtime and contract agency staffing required due to staffing shortages. A scan of other RHA's in Manitoba indicates that others are expected to be in a similar deficit position for 2009/10.

Planning Committee Accreditation Process

The Planning committee spent a fair bit of time reviewing this. The committee is recommending that the Board focus on the following 3 priorities:

1. Benchmark our performance against other similar organizations and/or national standards.
2. The Interlake RHA Board has a set of values that guides its work.
3. The strategic plan includes measurable targets.

A draft Action Plan for Accreditation has been developed and was circulated to the Board for information.

Strategic Planning Process 2011-2016

With the current financial situation, the committee reviewed the strategic planning process and looked at ways and means to make this process affordable and yet ensure appropriate stakeholder consultation.

Dave Cain presented the proposed Strategic Planning Discussion paper for Board approval. The 2011-2016 (five year) Strategic Plan is due to Manitoba Health in December, 2010. The Strategic Plan would be developed based on extensive information received through a significant number of public and health care provider consultations across the region during our community health assessment process. It was noted that it will be importance to ensure there is opportunity for community and health partner input and opinion in respect to the developed plan through various mediums.

The Board moved and approved a motion to accept the recommendation of the Planning Committee to approve the Health Plan 2009-2010 December 2009 update as presented.

Council of Chairs

Jim Rodger and Kevin Beresford provided report on February 11th meeting:

- The 2010 National Healthcare Conference will be held in June in Winnipeg. Given the estimated cost of \$1,500 per attendee, the Board consensus was to take a pass on the conference this year.
- Proposed Health Authority Board Member Education Event. This education session will be held in either the spring or in the fall. Board members are asked to review the draft subject matter and provide any comments to Jim.
- Presentations: Diagnostic Services Manitoba (DSM) and eHealth both made presentations and copies of the presentations are available from Donna Stevens.
- March 2010 meeting: the Minister of Health will attend the next meeting.

Northwest Services

To clarify last month's report, we have two nurses with active job offers, as one of three offered had declined. The three recent nurse arrivals to Ashern wrote their Manitoba licensing exam on February 4th. It will be approximately six (6) weeks before their results are known. We currently have significant full time RN vacancies, so we will be reviewing CVs and making offers to additional nurses. In the interim we have booked agency nurses, so we should be able to maintain services, albeit at an added cost. Lack of housing accommodations have been a significant area of concern in the Ashern area, and have been a significant barrier to recruitment.

Eriksdale Service Disruption

Due to phase 2 of the renovation project, we are installing medical gas and suction to the X-ray area. This will result in about a one week shutdown in this area in early to mid February. When the walls are open, provincial Radiation Protection will be examining the lead shielding and renovation work to determine and confirm that it meets standards. During the period that X-ray is shut down, we will also be curtailing emergency services, as we cannot meet care standards. Appropriate advertising and communications will be made.

Riverton EMS

The meeting between Manitoba Health, Riverton officials and Interlake RHA occurred in late January. After discussion, it was confirmed that the pilot would be extended an additional year, in order to assess the volume requirement, as part of the assessment criteria. We are very confident that the required call threshold will be met and are supportive of maintaining the service in Riverton as it is a cost effective service model.

Cultural Awareness Training

Robert Maytwayashing, our Aboriginal Human Resources Development Officer, has done a great job of developing and delivering cultural awareness training across the region, which has been well received by staff. Ongoing training sessions are scheduled. As this program was grant funded (Aboriginal & Northern Affairs / Employment Manitoba) for a one year period, we have applied for a further one year funding extension, which we are optimistic of being successful.

“Grow Your Own” Education Bursary Program

In 2009/10, the Interlake RHA has funded 9 Interlake staff and residents for bursary awards of \$1,000 to \$2,000 each as an ongoing recruitment and retention program. This year there were:

- 7 recipients taking diploma and Bachelor of nursing programs
- 1 recipient taking Health Care Aid course
- 1 recipient taking a Master’s degree - Patient Safety

All recipients sign a return of service agreement with the Interlake RHA.

Next Meeting

The next Regular Board Meeting will be held at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 18, 2010, in Stonewall. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.