

Board Meeting Highlights April 2023

Deep River and District Hospital
Four Seasons Lodge Long-Term Care Home
North Renfrew Family Health Team

Board

- The Board's Community Health Partner Group met in April, and received a presentation on Ontario Health Team activities from the Ottawa Valley Ontario Health Team's Strategic Implementation Lead.
- Through the Governance Committee, the Board has undertaken a legal review of the organization's by-laws in relation to the Ontario Not-for-profit Corporations Act (ONCA). Proposed amendments to modernize the by-laws are being drafted, with the goal to approve amendments in June at the Annual Meeting.
- Articles of Amendment were approved by the Board to change the name of the corporation to Deep River and District Health. A special meeting of the Members of the corporation will be called in May to seek additional approval for the Articles of Amendment before filing.
- The Board approved the achievement of Strategic Goals for 2022-2023 for the Executive Leadership Team, and approved the following Strategic Goals for the 2023-2024 year:
 - Long Term Care Development Approval to Construct Received
 - Primary Care Development Approval to Construct Received
 - DRDH's Employee Value Proposition Defined, in alignment with the LTC HHR Plan
 - Accredited Status Achieved

Strategic Planning 2023-2027

- Through the Strategic Planning and Relationships Committee of the Board, activities to launch the organization's strategic planning process this spring are well underway. A Stakeholder Engagement Work Plan was presented for information, highlighting the broad range of stakeholders to be offered opportunities to engage in the strategic planning process. Stakeholders will be offered engagement through immersive online surveys, a microsite, facilitator led focus groups, and other focus groups.
- Plans are underway for a community open house event to share summative engagement findings as well as provide an additional opportunity for engagement on the evening of Friday, June 2, 2023 with the facilitated Board Retreat to take place the following day on Saturday, June 3, 2023.

Auxiliary

- The Whistle Stop had a great year, thanks to the tremendous efforts of volunteers, and raised a substantial amount of money for the organization!
- The yearly inventory of the Gift Shop has been completed, with spring inventory now in stock and on sale!
- Preparations are underway for the Auxiliary's Annual Meeting, which will take place on May 11.

Foundation

- The *Run for Home* event is coming up on June 24, with registration to participate by donation. All community members are encouraged to join in by sponsoring, running or walking the 2K, 5K, 10K, or half-marathon to support the *Closer to Home* campaign.

Health Campus Updates

Budget 2022-2023

- The finance team is working diligently towards close out of the fiscal year and preparation for the annual audit.

- The external audit firm (KPMG) will be auditing the organization during the second week of May, with a hybrid approach between remote and in-person participation.

Emergency Department

- The newly launched virtual Emergency Department Peer-to-Peer Program has been valuable for emergency department physicians to have additional peer resources to consult with virtually when needed. The program will support DRDH ED Physicians with virtual access to 24/7 on-demand, real-time support and coaching with an ED Peer Physician to aid in the care of patients of any acuity level and all ages.
- The ED Team successfully launched the Virtual Critical Care Program on April 3, 2023, through The Ottawa Hospital, which will provide expertise in managing critical cases in our Emergency Department or on the Medical Floor with video consult through Epic to an ICU physician and ICU nurse.

Emergency Preparedness & Response

- The organization held a Mock Code White/Silver drill in April, in coordination with the Deep River Police Service. Debriefing following the drill identified several actions to improve response and knowledge of response teams, as well as organizational procedures to respond in violent situations.

Epic – Hospital Electronic Health Record Launch

- The first Epic update since Go Live in November will occur in early May. Preparatory education and adjustments to workflow are underway to support the minor update to the system, affecting most nursing and medical records.

Family Health Team

- The Family Health Team hosted an Indigenous Education Day, provided by the Mashkiwizzi Manido Foundation and Indigenous Wellness Hub in Pembroke. The day focused on sharing information, skills and tools for health care staff to support the provision of culturally safe care, and enhance knowledge of health care services available to the Indigenous population of this area.

Four Seasons Lodge Long-Term Care

- The Home was honoured to support the presentation of a Quilt of Valour to a resident who is an 18 year veteran of the Canadian Armed Forces on April 13, 2023. The Home hosted the Quilt of Valour volunteers, as well as the resident and family to celebrate the recognition of service.

Human Resources & Organizational Development

- The Ottawa Valley Ontario Health Team hosted a Change Management Certification Course in March. Clinical Managers from DRDH attended, representing acute, primary and long-term care, and obtained Prosci Change Management Certifications.
- Quarterly Leadership Development was held in March with leaders from across the organization participating. Topics focused on communication skill development, specifically related to courageous and challenging conversations. Leaders also participated in forward planning related to short and long term goals for departments and the organization.

Long-Term Care (LTC) Development

- Project Working Drawings were submitted to the Ministry of Long-Term Care on March 31, 2023 with feedback expected from the Ministry by the end of April.
- The updated Development Agreement for the LTC Development project, with the adjusted funding policy released in November 2022, has been signed and provided back to the Ministry of Long-Term Care. We are now awaiting a fully executed version of the agreement back from the Ministry.

- An in-person meeting took place over the last week with the Assistant Deputy Minister of Long-Term Care, and it is anticipated that the project will remain on track with Ministry support.

Occupational Health & Infection Control

- Updated COVID-19 Guidance and Pandemic Measures for Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) in Hospitals was received providing guidance related to physical distance, testing of symptomatic healthcare workers, and recommendations for masking. In conjunction with updated direction from the Ministry of Long-Term Care, adjustments to current IPAC measures across the organization were made to remove mandatory masking in non-patient facing areas, stop asymptomatic testing in LTC, and remove physical distancing and barrier requirements in staff areas.
- A COVID-19 outbreak was declared by Public Health on the medical floor on April 21 and in the Four Seasons Lodge on April 25. At this time, it is anticipated that the outbreaks will be able to be cleared within a short time-frame. It was noted that there are a small number of patients, residents, and staff impacted by the outbreak and that coordination of the response is well underway in collaboration with Public Health.

Primary Care Development

- Work towards finalization of designs for the Family Health Team development continue, with an onsite design meeting occurring with the Project Team and Family Health Team staff in April. Plans continue to prepare for submission the Ministry of Health for approval to tender over the coming months.

Quality

- Preparations for our organization's Accreditation survey in November have begun, with the official countdown launched and the Worklife Pulse staff survey underway. Working Groups are continuing to meet and finalize the Action Plan across all standards.
- A data accuracy, quality improvement initiative has been identified in long-term care. Work is currently underway to review documentation and data accuracy in the electronic documentation system, with improvement initiatives being identified and a multi-disciplinary Action Plan being developed. A Briefing Note will be provided to the Board of Directors in May, following advancement of data accuracy initiatives and development of sustainable plans for data accuracy into the future.