

Board Meeting Highlights September 2021

Deep River and District Hospital Four Seasons Lodge North Renfrew Family Health Team

Education Session

- Janna Hotson, CEO and Dave Cox, Chair of the Long-Term Care Development Committee delivered a presentation on the Long-Term Care Development Project that will be delivered to County and local Municipal Councils over the coming weeks.
 - Project details, background and timelines were shared. The project is expected to be a \$29 million dollar development onsite over a period of three years.
 - The significant community impacts of this expansion were highlighted, given the 30 year bed licenses. Specifically, once the new Home is operational, the number of staff will double from approximately 175 to 350, and there will be an increase in direct wages of over \$4.4 million dollars annually.

COVID-19

- Environmental Supports – Staff Safety
 - Work continues to redevelop our staff break room to allow for social distancing. The previous break room has been turned into a locker room, as increased locker capacity was needed to meet infection prevention and control (IPAC) requirements.
- COVID-19 Vaccination Requirements – Staff, Visitors and Contractors
 - Mandatory vaccination requirements will come into effect October 15th for staff, physicians, volunteers and contractors at all hospitals in the region. As of that date, we will have 100% of our staff and physicians fully vaccinated, and therefore expect no impacts to day to day operations. Delays in construction are anticipated due to lack of vaccinated contractors to continue with current projects – delays still being determined.
 - Hospitals in Renfrew County will be aligning with others in the Champlain region to implement a mandatory vaccination policy for hospital visitors, essential caregivers and/or care partners effective October 15th. This does not apply to patients, and there are exclusions to the policy, such as parents of a child seeking care, etc.
- COVID-19 Pandemic Response Survey Results
 - A Briefing Note was presented in conjunction with the survey results from the second COVID-19 Emergency Operations Stakeholder Survey. Overall, results continued to reflect levels of satisfaction, trust and perceptions of safety amongst staff, physicians and the community throughout the last 6 months of the pandemic. Communication was highlighted again as a strength in the organization's emergency response to COVID.
 - The Board provided their compliments on the improvement of 'leadership effectiveness' on the survey from 47% to 71%, as this is a significant improvement to have been made, even without the ongoing pandemic environment.

Board

- Several Board sub-committees have re-started in the month of September, for the first time since the pandemic began. Reports were received from the Resource & Audit Committee, the Quality, Risk and Safety Committee and the newly formed Long-Term Care Development Committee.

Auxiliary

- The Auxiliary volunteers have resumed providing support in the Four Seasons Lodge, including the evening nutrition cart.

Foundation

- The Catch the Ace lottery concluded on Week 41 with the winner receiving \$41,639. The Foundation had net revenues of just over \$50,000. A new CTA lottery license was received and after 10 weeks, net revenues are not as robust as fewer tickets are being purchased on a

week-to-week basis. At this point the online lottery has brought in just over \$4100 in net revenues.

- The Foundation has two other fundraising programs in play, “Healthcare Heroes”, which recognizes the valuable contributions of Hospital staff to the excellent healthcare to patients; and a silent auction for a donated painting that may be viewed at the Deep River Library for the next month where bids may be dropped off as an alternative to placing a bid online. The Healthcare Heroes ongoing fundraiser has brought in around \$4250 to date.

Health Campus Updates

Building Services

- Sideway repairs
 - Repair to the sideways out front of the Emergency Department and the side entrance to the Family Health Team have been completed. Repairs have improved safety and accessibility with appropriate sidewalk sloping and removal of all crumbling sections of the walkways.
- Sprinkler Repairs
 - Repairs on the sprinkler system were completed on June 18th to address a deficiency noted in our annual fire inspection by the Town of Deep River Fire Department.

Capital Planning

- A summary of projected capital needs over the next 5 years was presented, in relation to both equipment and building. In 2021, anticipated costs total approximately \$2.1 million, and a breakdown of individual line items was provided.

Capital Updates

- Electrical Service Upgrades – Two scheduled power outages have been completed, with the third and final outage to transfer the remaining services to the new controllers planned. Directive #6 requiring all contractors to be fully vaccinated to be on-site providing services has created challenges for contractors and resulted in a delayed in the project. Further updates will be provided as available.
- Negative Pressure System - Delays are expected on this project due to Directive #6. This project has multiple trades working through a general contractor, with many trades not having fully vaccinated staff and as such are unable to enter the building. We continue to work with the general contractor to work through these challenges but delays are expected.

Epic - Hospital Information System Transformation:

- Virtual ‘Workflow Walk-Throughs’ were completed over the last few weeks, where staff were given an opportunity to see the system in use. In addition, “Work Groups” have also launched and work is progressing quickly.

Budget 2021-2022

- The Resource and Audit Committee shared that at their meeting, the draft financial statements for the first quarter of the 2021-2022 fiscal year were presented for review. The organization experienced a surplus in Q1, which is a positive variance to our budgeted deficit of \$18,043.

Long-Term Care Development

- The Long-Term Care Development Committee held meetings over the summer and early fall, with the Committee working to identify key stakeholders, project management, licensing and financing needs for the upcoming LTC development.
- Regular meetings with the project management at the Ministry for Long-Term Care are occurring to facilitate the prioritized development moving ahead, with an aim to have a signed development agreement in place prior to calendar year end, and ongoing active engagement with the organization and the Assistant Deputy Minister until this occurs.
- Presentations to Municipal and County Councils begin next week, and will be completed at all neighboring Councils by November. At this time, we expect Public Consultation to begin, as

well as the soft launch of the fundraising campaign to support the Long-Term Care Development.

Health Human Resources

- We have been successful in recruiting staff members for two roles that have historically been challenging to fill:
 - A Community Mental Health Worker began in the Family Health Team over the summer.
 - A Physiotherapist will be welcomed into the organization in November after the roll has been vacant for about 18 months.

Ontario Health Team (OHT)

- Approval of our OHT application, with the temporarily named “Network 24”, has been received and was released publically on September 17th. Due for submission to the Ministry by the end of September is the OHT’s identified Collaborative Decision Making Agreement (CDMA) signed by as many partners as possible, as well as an identified fundholder for receipt of initial year one support funding. The OHT ‘post-application working group’ continues to work towards these goals and has engaged a facilitator from the RISE program for support.

Integrated Identity - Communication

- A temporary position has been posted for a Project Manager for an Organizational Integrated Identity initiative. This position will support a number of activities, including facilitation of Board renaming identification sessions and stakeholder input, and coordinate activities to identify and approve a unified operating name, with activities tentatively scheduled to begin mid-November.