



Board

- The Board reviewed results of its individual director as well as overall governance self-assessments through the Ontario Hospital Association. The Board identified areas of improvement as well as education for the upcoming Board year, including construction, governance, physician recruitment/compensation models, and long-term-care operations.
- Guest: Tiffany Cecchetto, Partner, KPMG LLP
 - Tiffany presented the draft audited financial statements for the 2023-2024 fiscal year, as well as a summary of audit findings and comparator data. For the year ended March 31, 2024 the organization finished in a surplus position. In the opinion of KPMG as external auditors, the statements are presented fairly in all material aspects, and in accordance with the Canadian Public Sector Accounting Standards.

Annual Meeting

- The Board of Directors held its 50th Annual Meeting for the 2023-2024 year on June 26th, 2024. David Cox, Board Chair, highlighted this was the first Annual Meeting under the organization's consolidated name of Deep River and District Health, and of the significance of the corporation entering the next 50 years with a new name, identify and a strong sense of direction under its strategic plan.
 - During the Annual Meeting, the Board of Directors elected officers, directors and patient/community representatives to serve for the upcoming 2024-25 Board year.
 - Appointed as the Board Executive are:
 - Board Chair: David Cox
 - Vice Chair: Christian Kaiser
 - Vice Chair: John Osborne
 - Douglas Tenant
 - Two existing Directors, Ted Chiasson and John Osborne, were renewed for three year terms, and the Board welcomed three new Directors for three-year terms: Desiree Quenneville, Johnathan Siery and Kyliia Smith.
 - Patient / Resident Representatives were appointed to serve on Board Committees for the 2024-2025 Board Year. Appointed as representatives are:
 - Rachel Ozer
 - Maxime Charette
 - Laura Obrutsky
 - Tracy Gendron
 - Recognition was provided for retiring Board Members, Doug Champ (Executive Committee), Tracy Gendron (Vice-Chair) and Michelle Ferderbar, as well as retiring Patient / Resident Representatives Sasha Boulanger (Quality Risk and Safety Committee) and Angie Chaput (Resource and Audit Committee). Their significant dedication and guidance during their terms were recognized by the Board, with thanks for their time as volunteers in service to DRDH.
 - The Board approved KPMG's re-appointment as auditor for 2024-2025 fiscal year, continuing the current audit contract.
- Annual Reports were received from the Board Chair, the Chief Executive Officer, the Chief of Staff and LTC Medical Director, highlighting the organization's achievements, successes and struggles over the last year.
- The Annual Report, which highlights achievements and general information about the organization's activities over the 2023-2024 year, was approved.

Capital Development Updates

- The Board received an update on the Primary Care Building Construction:
 - Construction activity is well underway and progressing on schedule and within budget.
 - The organization has experienced a decrease in parking capacity due to ongoing construction which is anticipated to continue for 2-3 weeks. Communication has been sent to DRDH staff, and the Executive Team has regularly engaged in communication with the Food Bank to ensure continuity of their operations for the community.
 - Partnering with the Horticultural Society, DRDH will coordinate the purchase of trees this fall for planting in and around the new Primary Care building in the spring. Advice and direction from the Horticultural Society has been working to develop landscaping plans for spring 2025 when the building is completed. A focus in planning will be on using more naturalized species which will grow and thrive in our growing zone, and blend in with the natural environment surrounding the health campus.

- The Board received an update on the Long Term Care Development:
 - Construction of the new Four Seasons Lodge LTC Home was awarded to Frecon Construction LTD, and mobilization has begun on-site. Fencing around the construction zone is currently being erected, and early site preparation work has begun. A news release was shared earlier in the week to celebrate progress on the project, and notification was shared with the Residents' and Family Council.
 - Planning for an official groundbreaking ceremony for later in the summer is underway, in coordination with MPP and Ministry of Long-Term Care.

Auxiliary

- The Whistle Stop has had an extremely successful year. From April 2023 to March 2024 the Whistle Stop has raised over \$100,000. A new partnership with Diabetes Canada was formed to donate excess clothing and shoes received with, Diabetes Canada taking the donations to Ottawa and paying the Whistle Stop based on weight. This partnership so far has raised \$6,000. The Whistle Stop has also begun posting eligible items on Facebook, which has increased sales by \$12,000.
- The Whistle Stop has supported ongoing requests from North Renfrew Family Services for support and items, which have been provided free of charge. The Whistle Stop is also providing clothing, including winter clothing, to three local schools to support students in need, as well as outdoor toys. Ongoing donations to the Mackenzie School Free Store also help to ensure students have necessary clothes and supplies.
- At the Auxiliary Annual Meeting in April 2024, the Whistle Stop donated \$17,000 to fund the DRDH Pediatric Speech Program, \$30,000 to for mattresses and beds, and \$130,000 towards the Long Term Care Development Project. The donation to the Long Term Care project will cover the cost of the three bathing and spa areas for each Resident Home Area, including all equipment and furnishings.

Foundation

- The Foundation was pleased to share that the *Closer to Home* Campaign has now reached 73% of the total fundraising goal. The Run for Home was successfully held on June 22nd with over 300 participants.
- Recruitment is ongoing for an Administrative Assistant/Events Coordinator as part of the Foundation's new Strategic Plan
- A donor celebration to share the refreshed donor wall, fully funded by grants, is planned for July 5th.

Health Campus Updates

Family Health Team

- The Annual Operating Plan for the Family Health Team has been submitted to Ontario Health. Deliverables for the upcoming year and being built into operational plans for action and tracking.

Finance

- The 2023/24 year-end audit fieldwork is completed, with financial statement acceptance by Board of Directors completing the audit. Draft financial statements were presented to the Resource and Audit Committee on June 13, with statements approved at the Board on June 26. The organization finished the year with a surplus, attributable to the timing difference in revenue and expenses related to wage adjustments related to Bill 124.

Diagnostic Imaging

- Ultrasound capabilities have experienced a temporary reduction in capacity due to an anticipated, prolonged leave. Recruitment efforts for an ultrasonographer to fill the anticipated leave continue, however have not yet been successful. It was highlighted that currently DRDH retains capabilities, however this shortage will likely have an effect on patient wait times.

Human Resources

- DRDH transitioned its Employee and Family Assistance Program provider to Homewood Health on June 1, 2024. As part of a regional contract, this transition will reduce cost while providing comparable services available to employees and their family members. Additionally, the contract includes services for DRDH and other fee-for-service benefits to DRDH to utilize. Communication for staff and support during the transition is underway.
- Enhancements to the staff break area have now been completed as new outdoor furniture is being procured to provide seating for staff to enjoy outdoor areas during their breaks.
- A Leadership Development session was held at the end of May, focusing on the Employee Value Proposition launch, planning and sustainability. Input from the session is being used to revise the launch and sustainability plan for the EVP before implementation.
- The search for a Chief Nursing Executive continues, coordinated by an external search firm. An active posting is available online, and a review of candidates is ongoing.

Information Technology

- Work has continued to upgrade the CCTV equipment at DRDH as the existing system had reached end of life. The upgraded equipment is expandable and will be installed at the new buildings to support increased staff, patient and resident safety.

Laboratory

- As part of the regional EORLA Accreditation, an onsite visit with surveyors from the accrediting body for laboratories, the Institute of Quality Management in Healthcare (IQMH), occurred onsite on July 17. Surveyors from IQMH attended and reviewed laboratory practices regionally and at the DRDH site, met with staff and team members, as well as focused on standardization and safety of laboratory services and practices. The report is outstanding, and is expected over the next few weeks. Follow up actions, and resulting improvements will be coordinated through the Laboratory Liaison Committee.

Long-Term Care

- The organization celebrated the first national Long-Term Care day on June 13, with residents and staff members recognizing that this day highlights the important work and care occurring across the county in long-term care homes.
- Seniors month was celebrated in the organization and home throughout June, with events and education for residents planned to recognize the occasion.

Medical Recruitment

- Ontario Health has provided notice that the temporary surge ED funding for additional physician hours has been extended until March 31, 2025. This will support ED shift coverage with additional funds.

Medical Inpatient Unit

- The Medical Floor census continues to remain at or above capacity. The need for inpatient acute care services continues to remain high with no immediate opportunity for respite anticipated.

Public Relations

- Two representatives from DRDH attended the first Renfrew County Leadership Exchange Event, in coordination with Community Living Renfrew County and other major employers in the area.

Regional Partners

- An affiliation agreement between DRDH and Queens University for clinical education and training for health sciences students, including medicine, nursing and rehabilitation therapy programs has been executed. The agreement highlights how DRDH and the University will work together to support clinical student teaching placements by program

Quality

- The organization has launched the refresh of its internal quality performance dashboards, in alignment with the new strategic plan pillars and priorities. All departmental as well as corporate performance dashboards have gone live.