



Board

- The Board reviewed an opportunity to participate in the fall offering of the Ontario Hospital Association Board Self-Assessment, and will proceed with both the fall and spring board self-assessment. The goal is to measure the overall effectiveness of the governance structure, identified areas of improvement as well as education for the upcoming Board year.
- Through the Governance Committee, the Board reviewed its current governance and committee structure. A suggestion was made to transition the current Long-Term Care (LTC) Capital Development Committee to a Capital Development Committee with oversight of both Primary Care and LTC Capital Development projects. Given DRDH has two major capital development projects currently underway, the adjustment of committee structure would enhance Board monitoring and awareness of both projects. A draft terms of reference for the adjusted committee focus will be presented at the next LTC Development Committee meeting in October.
- An overview of the Finance and Resource Briefing Report for Q1 was shared, highlighting that DRDH is ahead of budget by approximately \$100,000 in Q1. This is largely attributed to the switch to provincial benefits and cost savings realized from this adjustment. It is anticipated that overall expenses will continue to rise with staff sick time as well as increases in overall utilization. In particular, the acute care occupancy rate is expected to increase as the organization navigates the anticipated seasonal respiratory surge.

Capital Development Updates

- The Board received an update on the Primary Care Building Construction:
 - The project remains on schedule, with work to finalize the membrane for the roof and complete internal framing currently underway. Paving for the remainder of the parking lot area will occur in the coming weeks, and clarity is being sought on the drainage system ponding.
 - During the Board Orientation, Directors received a tour of the new Primary Care Building, which supported Directors to place perspective on the size of the building, and how construction is progressing in real time.
 - Operationalization planning with the Family Health Team (FHT) staff has begun, to enable procurement of equipment and finalization of interior design elements. Members of the FHT team are being engaged with the design team to work on interior finishing and functional programming for the building, with excitement increasing as preparations occur to move in to the new building.
 - In partnership with the Deep River and Area Horticultural Society, a landscaping plan for the new Primary Care Building has been developed. Finalization of the plan is underway, with the aim to pre-purchase needed plants this fall to ensure availability in the spring as well as to secure native plants for relocation into the managed gardens surrounding the new building.
- The Board received an update on the Long Term Care Development:
 - An official groundbreaking ceremony was held in August, with both the MPP and Ministry of Long-Term Care in attendance. Staff, residents, family members, and community partners celebrated the official launch of construction for the new home together. The Minister of Long-Term Care participated in a tour of the organization and met with residents, staff and family members.
 - Site preparation work for the new Four Seasons Lodge Long-Term Care Home continues, with slight delays in progress due to difficulties experienced during bedrock removal. The

timeline for bedrock removal was discussed and it was shared that Frecon is hopeful to have bedrock removal completed, however continues to experience challenges with removal. Despite the shift in work to prioritize completion of bedrock removal, overall the project remains on schedule.

Foundation

- The Foundation's financial statements have been received for the 2023/2024 year. It was reported that 2023/2024 was a fantastic year for the Foundation overall, with total fundraising reaching approximately \$750,000. A thank you was provided to all staff involved, as well as volunteers and the Board for their contributions in achieving this goal.
- The Foundation has recently expanded its capacity to continue to build success with fundraising with the addition of the Megan Jones, who is the new DRDHF Events and Fundraising Coordinator. The addition of this role has been of value and has allowed James Thompson to focus on high priority items such as donor engagement.

Health Campus Updates

Family Health Team

- The Family Health Team is very busy given the increasing respiratory illnesses this time of year, with some currently prolonged wait times for access to practitioners.
- The organization will be sending a delegation to Association of Family Health Teams of Ontario (AFHTO) Annual Conference, which is an opportunity for team members to engage with other family health teams across the province and bring back new knowledge and best practices.
- The FHT is welcoming Bachelor of Nursing students from Algonquin College for a Community Placement. Students will work on preventative care programming with the Family Health Team, supporting review and implementation of updated and best practices across specified clinical areas.

Finance

- Based on review of current functioning and capacity of the finance department, implementation of an electronic Budget Management software was approved. The software will replace the current manual process of budget development, provide better tracking and budget analysis, with systems to enhance responsiveness, accuracy and ability to track revenue and expenses more efficiently.

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 DRDH currently retains capabilities, however this shortage will likely have an effect on patient wait times.

Human Resources

- The organization welcomed its new Vice President of Clinical Services & Chief Nursing Executive, Meagen Boisvenue, to the role in September. Meagen joins the organization with extensive clinical and leadership experience across a variety of settings and organizations, and will be focusing on learning the organization and teams over the coming weeks.

Information Technology

- An upgrade of the CCTV equipment at DRDH went live in July, offering increased staff, patient and resident safety. The upgraded equipment is expandable and will be installed at the new buildings to coordinated oversight and safety for all on the campus.

Long-Term Care

- Four Seasons Lodge residents participated in ground-breaking ceremonies for the new home in August, with the former Residents' Council President representing residents in the home. Project updates have been provided to Residents' Council on project progression and opportunities for engagement in the project.
- Inspectors from the Ministry of Long-Term Care arrived onsite on July 16 for the organization's first Proactive Compliance Inspection (formerly known as an Annual Inspection) since 2018. Two inspectors and an observer spent 4 days onsite, reviewing documentation, policies and observing care and practices in the home. 5 findings of non-compliance with the Fixing Long-Term Care Act were found relating to Residents' and Family Council structure and relations, air temperature monitoring in the home, and weekly skin and wound assessments. No areas of high risk were identified. An action plan and full report will be reviewed at the Quality, Risk and Safety Committee in September.

Medical Recruitment

- The Medical Unit welcomed its first external physician hospitalist for one week in August. The physician provided care on the inpatient unit, and was well received by staff and patients alike.

Medical Inpatient Unit

- The Medical Floor census continues to remain near or at capacity throughout the summer, with ALC numbers ranging from 50-80% of inpatient census.
- Two temporary full-time Personal Support Worker positions were implemented on the medical floor throughout the summer to support patient need and allocation of staffing resources. Due to ongoing capacity challenges, the positions have been extended on a temporary basis until January 2025 when impacts will be evaluated.
- For the first time since 2019, DRDH will welcomed Department of National Defence (DND) Medical Technicians as part of the Bedside Care Program in July and August. The purpose of the program is to expose Med Techs to hospital type settings to support bedside skills and assessments. Med Techs are accompanied by a Nursing Officer, and support day-to-day care for patients on the medical floor.

Privacy

- A request under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA) was received from a member of the public requesting policies related to Disconnecting from Work and Electronic Monitoring of Employees. The request was responded to in the required timeframe, and the requested policies were shared.

Quality

- Based on staff feedback, the Inpatient Satisfaction Survey was adjusted to add a customized question to aid in measuring effectiveness and satisfaction with Physiotherapy services. This feedback will be reviewed and shared with Physiotherapy team members and others as part of regular measurement of patient satisfaction and quality improvement opportunities.