

Board of Directors Meeting (Open Session)

MINUTES OF MEETING

February 23, 2021

Virtual

	Sept 29/2020	Nov 24/2020	Feb23/2021				
Bunny Alexander, Chair	✓	✓	✓				
Ray Archer	✓	✓	✓				
Gervan Fearon	-	-	✓				
Lynn Guerriero (ex-officio)	✓	✓	✓				
Marti Jurmain	✓	✓	✓				
Maynard Luterman (ex-officio)	✓	R	✓				
Derek McNally (ex-officio)	✓	✓	✓*				
Catherine Novick	✓	✓	✓				
Marylee O'Neill	✓	✓	✓				
Murray Paton	✓	✓	✓				
Charles Rate	✓	✓	✓				
Cathy Sutherland	R	✓	✓				
Robert Tiffin	✓	✓	✓				
Johan Viljoen (ex-officio)	✓	✓	✓				
Barry Wright	✓	✓	✓				
Elisabeth Zimmermann	R	✓	✓				
Staff and Guests in Attendance:							
Harpreet Bassi	-	-	✓				
Linda Boich	✓	✓	✓				
Flo Paladino	✓	✓	✓				
Chuck Quigley	-	-	✓				
Caroline Bourque-Wiley	✓	✓	✓				
Angela Zangari	✓	✓	✓				

*Heather Paterson attending as acting Executive Vice-President and Chief Nursing Executive

Guests:

Andrea Scott – Niagara Health Foundation

Vita Gauley – Niagara Health Foundation

1. CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Bunny Alexander welcomed fellow Directors, staff and guests and called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

1.1 Quorum

There was quorum and the meeting was properly constituted for the transaction of business.

1.2 Approval of the Agenda

MOTION B21-014:

It was MOVED by M. Paton and SECONDED by R. Tiffin that the Niagara Health System Board of Directors approves the Open Session Agenda for the February 23, 2021 Meeting as presented. CARRIED.

1.3 Declaration of Conflicts

There were no conflicts declared with the subject matter contained within the agenda.

1.4 Chair's Comments

The Chair welcomed new Director Gervan Fearon to his first meeting of the Niagara Health Board. The Chair also welcomed Heather Paterson who will be attending the Board in an Ex-Officio capacity on an interim basis. Directors participated in round table introductions.

1.5 Patient Story

The patient story was deferred for the month of February. It is anticipated that this agenda item will resume in March.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION B21-015:

It was MOVED by R. Tiffin and SECONDED by M. Jurmain that the Niagara Health System Board of Directors approves the Consent Agenda for the February 23, 2021 Open Session meeting as presented, including the motions listed below:

- **That the Minutes of the November 24, 2020 Open Session Meeting of the Niagara Health System Board of Directors be approved as presented.**
- **That, on the recommendation of the Resources and Audit Committee, the Niagara Health System Board of Directors approve and sign the 2020/21 LSAA Schedule E Declaration of Compliance. CARRIED.**

3. REPORTS

3.1 Report of the President and Interim CEO

Lynn Guerriero provided highlights from the February 2021 President's report as outlined below:

- The number of patients being treated for COVID-19 in hospital continues to decline.
- The outbreak at one of the long term care facilities that was being managed by NH has been declared over. Support is being provided on an as needed basis.
- Surgeries continue to ramp up to clear the backlog from closures during the pandemic.
- COVID-19 vaccinations are well underway. The vaccination clinic has been relocated to the Seymour Hannah Arena which will allow for increased capacity as vaccine supply is received. Appointments for healthcare workers and caregivers are scheduled based on the Ministry of Health's prioritization directives. Public Health continues to coordinate vaccinations for the Residents living in the region's congregate care settings.
- Congratulations were extended to the Project Team for the South Niagara Site for the recent announcement of the launch of the request for qualifications process. Congratulations were also extended to the Team for achieving level 2 certification with Choosing Wisely Canada. NH is one of only four healthcare organizations in Canada to receive this designation.
- Stakeholder relations activities continue, most recently related to advocacy around funding.

3.2 Report of the Niagara Health Foundation

Vita Gauley provided an update on Foundation Board activities including the Committee that will be formed for the South Niagara Site Campaign. Representation for NH Board Members to serve on this Committee will be formally requested in the coming months. Thanks were extended to all who attended the joint Hospital and Foundation Board governance session in February. Senior leadership alignment approved by the Foundation Board in December is being implemented.

Andrea Scott provided an update on Foundation activities including recently being awarded Imagine Canada Accreditation Status. To achieve this status, the Foundation was required to meet a number of quality standards in categories such as finance, human resources and volunteer services. Fundraising activities continue with the Champagne and Slippers Gala on February 27th, as well as the MRI campaign and the 50/50 community lottery.

4. BUSINESS ARISING

There was no business arising to discuss at the meeting.

5. EDUCATION

There were no education items presented at the meeting.

6. MATTERS FOR DECISION/DISCUSSION

6.1 Report of the Medical Advisory Committee

Dr. Johan Viljoen, Chief of Staff, provided highlights from the Committee's February meeting as outlined in the report to the Board. The Choosing Wisely Canada certification awarded to Niagara Health is a marriage between utilization and evidence-based care. Congratulations to the team for achieving this status will be offered on behalf of the Board. Physician wellness continues to be a priority, particularly in light of the stress caused by managing the pandemic. Recruitment efforts are also continuing for key positions within the Medical Staff.

7. MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

There were no matters for information provided to the Board.

8. MOTION TO ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

There being no further business, the Open Session adjourned at 4:57p.m.

MOTION B21-016:

It was MOVED by R. Archer and SECONDED by M. Paton that the Niagara Health System Board of Directors Open Session Meeting of February 23, 2021 be adjourned, and moved to a Closed Session. CARRIED.

Bunny Alexander, Chair

Recording Secretary: D. Dube