

# Board of Directors Meeting (Open Session)

## MINUTES OF MEETING

May 27, 2025

Marotta Family Hospital

	Sept 24/2024	Nov 26/2024	Jan 28/2025	Mar 25/2025	May 27/2025	
Simon Akinsulie (ex-officio)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Ray Archer	✓	✓	✓*	✓*	✓	
Kevin Chan (ex-officio)	-	-	-	✓	✓	
Gervan Fearon	✓*	✓	✓*	✓*	✓*	
Susanne Flett	✓*	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Lynn Guerriero (ex-officio)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Jennifer Li	R	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Alison MacTavish (ex-officio)	✓	R	✓*	✓	✓	
Mary Maida	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Bill Maurin	✓	✓*	✓	R	✓	
John McKinley	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Catherine Novick	✓	✓*	✓	✓	✓	
Marylee O'Neill, Chair	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Charlie Rate	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Anthony Reitboeck	✓*	✓	✓	✓*	✓	
Carmen Rossiter	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Janice Thomson	R	✓	R	R	✓	
<b>Staff and Guests in Attendance:</b>						
Harpreet Bassi	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓*	
Linda Boich	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Anthony DiCaita	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Sonali Kohli	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Heather Paterson	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Fiona Peacefull	✓	R	✓	✓	✓	

\*Virtual Attendance

### Guests:

Andrea Scott  
Kevin Wilson

### 1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Board Chair Marylee O'Neill welcomed fellow Directors, staff and guests and called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

#### 1.1 **Land Acknowledgement**

Ray Archer led the Board in a Land Acknowledgement, including a personal reflection.

#### 1.2 **Quorum**

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

### 1.3 Approval of the Agenda

**MOTION B25-020:**

**It was MOVED by S. Flett and SECONDED by J. McKinley that the Niagara Health System Board of Directors approves the Open Session Agenda for the May 27, 2025 Meeting as presented. CARRIED.**

### 1.4 Declaration of Conflicts

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

### 1.5 Chair's Comments

The Chair expressed thanks to the staff for leading the pre-meeting tour of the ED for Directors. The St. Catharines Hospital Auxiliary was congratulated for celebrating their 160<sup>th</sup> anniversary and in light of Volunteer Week, thanks were extended to Directors for their service on the Board.

Directors were provided with an update on the Nominating Committee activities and a reminder of the June Board and Annual Meeting schedule. The Board was also provided with an update on the remediation activities underway as a result of the flooding at the Welland Site.

### 1.6 Patient Story

Dr. Kevin Chan provided stories based on his recent clinical practice at NH, highlighting the process used for reducing the amount of time paediatric patients spend in the emergency department and the strategies he employs to support parents when their children are discharged from hospital.

## 2. EDUCATION

### 2.1 Education to Address Indigenous Specific Racism

The education item was deferred.

## 3. CONSENT AGENDA

**MOTION B25-021:**

**It was MOVED by C. Rossiter and SECONDED by B. Maurin that the Niagara Health System Board of Directors approves the Consent Agenda for the May 27, 2025 Open Session meeting as presented, including the motions listed below:**

- **That the Minutes of the March 25, 2025 Open Session Meeting of the Niagara Health System Board of Directors be approved as presented.**
- **That, on the recommendation of the Governance and People Committee, the Niagara Health System Board of Directors approves the Duties and Expectations of a Director and Code of Conduct, Duties and Expectations of a Community Member and Code of Conduct and Conflict of Interest policies as amended.**
- **That, on the recommendation of the Governance and People Committee, the Niagara Health System Board of Directors approves the reappointment of the following Elected Directors for a three (3) year term:**
  - Ray Archer**
  - John McKinley**
  - Catherine Novick**
  - Marylee O'Neill**
  - Anthony Reitboeck**
- **Whereas the May 28, 2024 Board of Directors Motion appointing Charlie Rate as the incoming Board Chair for 2025/26 is rescinded;**

**That, on the recommendation of the Governance and People Committee, the Niagara Health System Board of Directors approves the appointment of Charlie Rate as the incoming Board Chair for 2026/27.**

- **That, on the recommendation of the Governance and People Committee, the Niagara Health System Board of Directors approves the Officers for June 2025 to June 2026 as set out below:**

**Officers Elected to June 2026:**

**Chair –Marylee O’Neill**

**Vice-Chair –Charlie Rate**

**President and Chief Executive Officer/Secretary –Lynn Guerriero**

- **That, the Corporate By-law be amended and restated in its entirety, making only the changes highlighted and presented to the Board.**
- **That, on the recommendation of the Governance and People Committee, the Niagara Health System Board of Directors approves the Board and Committee meeting schedule for the 2025/26 Board year.**
- **That, on the recommendation of the Finance and Audit Committee, the Niagara Health System Board of Directors approves and appoints Deloitte LLP as auditors of the Corporation, to hold office until the 2026 Annual General Meeting, or until a successor is appointed, and accepts its remuneration for the year ending March 31, 2026 as presented.**
- **That, on the recommendation of the Finance and Audit Committee, the Niagara Health System Board of Directors approves and executes the 2024-2025 Bill S-211 Fighting Against Forced Labour and Child Labour in Supply Chains Act Report.**
- **That, on the recommendation of the Finance and Audit Committee, the Niagara Health System Board of Directors approves and signs the 2024 LSAA Schedule E Declaration of Compliance. CARRIED.**

#### **4. LEADERSHIP REPORTS**

##### **4.1 Report of the President and CEO**

Lynn Guerriero provided highlights from the May 2025 President and CEO report with a focus on the recent launch of the Health Equity and Reimagining Patient Experience Plans, as well as the Niagara Health Knowledge Institute’s Research Day. An operational readiness kick off event was recently held to prepare for the transition to the South Niagara Hospital.

##### **4.2 Report of the Chief of Staff and Chair of MAC**

Dr. Kevin Chan provided highlights from the May 2025 Chief of Staff and MAC report with a focus on the launch of the Clinical Operations Leadership Table (COLT) focusing on high impact clinical initiatives as well as the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario (CPSO) introduction of new licensing pathways for physicians.

##### **4.3 Niagara Health Foundation**

Andrea Scott and Kevin Wilson provided highlights from the May 2025 report, including the Foundation’s year end activities and planning for 2025/26 budget and revenue targets. The Foundation was pleased to celebrate the Auxiliary’s milestone 160<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Upcoming events such as the Kids Ultimate Challenge we also highlighted. The Board expressed appreciation to the Foundation for their support, particularly with the purchase of equipment from the capital list.

**5. STANDING ITEMS FOR DECISION/DISCUSSION**

**5.1 SAFE AND QUALITY CARE**

**5.1.1 Report of the Quality and Patient Experience Committee**

The Quality and Patient Experience Committee received a detailed report on the surgical program at Niagara Health. An overview of the innovative strategies being implemented to address surgical wait times was provided to the Board. In addition, the Committee focused on a review of the themes, contributing factors and interventions related to reducing falls with harm across the organization. Also received were reports on the Committee Priorities data, the Niagara Health Knowledge Institute activities and the credentialing process for Professional Staff.

**6.1 GOVERNANCE OVERSIGHT**

**6.1.1 Report of the Governance and People Committee**

**i. Chief of Paediatrics Appointment**

The current Chief of Paediatrics second term is coming to an end. In keeping with the Professional Staff By-Law, the Board approved a Selection Committee to lead the recruitment of the incoming Chief. Both the Selection Committee and the Medical Advisory Committee unanimously endorsed the recommendation to appoint Dr. Katelyn MacKenzie. Dr. MacKenzie previously served as the Director of the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, as well as the interim Transition Lead for Paediatrics, and has demonstrated strong proactive leadership.

**MOTION B25-022:**

**It was MOVED by G. Fearon SECONDED by M. Maida, that on the recommendation of the Medical Advisory and Governance and People Committees, having considered the information provided in accordance with the processes set out in the Niagara Health System By-Law Number 2, Professional Staff By-Law and the Public Hospitals Act, the Niagara Health System Board of Directors approves the appointment of Dr. Katelyn MacKenzie as Chief of Paediatrics for a five year term effective June 1, 2025. CARRIED.**

The Committee also reviewed the results of the recent Board Self Assessment Evaluation process which were positive overall. Opportunities for improvement will be discussed and acted upon accordingly.

**7. MOTION TO ADJOURN OPEN SESSION**

There being no further business, the Open Session adjourned at 5:30p.m.

**MOTION B25-023:**

**It was MOVED by B. Maurin that the Niagara Health System Board of Directors Open Session Meeting of May 27, 2025 be adjourned. CARRIED.**

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Marylee O'Neill, Chair

Recording Secretary: D. Dube