

**Board of Directors Meeting (Open Session)**

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

March 28, 2023

Offsite

	Sept 27/2022	Nov 29/2022	Jan 31/2023	Mar 28/2023			
Bunny Alexander, Chair	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Ray Archer	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Gervan Fearon	✓	✓*	✓*	R			
Lynn Guerriero (ex-officio)	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Marti Jurmain	✓	✓*	✓	✓			
Alison MacTavish	-	✓	✓*	✓			
Shane Malcolm	✓*	✓	✓*	✓			
Stephen Murdoch	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Catherine Novick	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Marylee O'Neill	✓	✓*	✓	R			
Heather Paterson (ex-officio)	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Murray Paton	R	✓*	✓	✓			
Carmen Rossiter	R	✓	✓*	✓			
Cathy Sutherland	R	✓	R	✓*			
Robert Tiffin	✓	✓	✓	R			
Johan Viljoen (ex-officio)	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Barry Wright	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Elisabeth Zimmermann	✓	✓	R	R			
<b>Staff and Guests in Attendance:</b>							
Harpreet Bassi	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Linda Boich	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Sonali Kohli	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Fiona Peacefull	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Angela Zangari	✓	✓	✓	✓			

\*Virtual Attendance

**Guests:**

- Andrea Scott – Niagara Health Foundation
- Albert Iannatuono – Niagara Health Foundation
- Charity Beland – Manager Indigenous Health Services and Reconciliation
- Tracy Fazzari – Director, Oncology & Palliative Care

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Board Chair Bunny Alexander welcomed fellow Directors, staff and guests and called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m. In person attendees were reminded of the housekeeping matters related to the hybrid meeting environment.

### 1.1 Land Acknowledgement

Linda Boich acknowledged the lands that the Board was gathered on. Charity Beland attended virtually to provide Directors with a teaching of the Dish with One Spoon Treaty.

### 1.2 Quorum

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

### 1.3 Approval of the Agenda

#### **MOTION B23-014:**

**It was MOVED by C. Rossiter and SECONDED by M. Paton that the Niagara Health System Board of Directors approves the Open Session Agenda for the March 28, 2023 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 congratulated the team on receiving Choosing Wisely honours and being recognized as one of Canada's best Diversity Employers for 2023. Fiona Peacefull was also congratulated on her appointment to the Executive Vice President of Human Resources position.

The Chair acknowledged feedback received at the previous meeting with respect agenda structure. Directors were asked for their understanding on occasions where meetings run long due to items that benefit from or require additional discussion.

Murray Paton thanked the Board for their thoughtfulness during a recent health issue. He noted that his experience throughout his journey was positive and commended all of the Niagara Health staff and physicians who cared for him.

### 1.6 Patient Story

Tracy Fazzari provided the Board with the story of two patients who were involved in the Walker Family Cancer Centre Arts in Medicine program and played a significant role in it's growth. The program is one of the noteworthy examples of how the patient experience is a priority at the Walker Family Cancer Centre.

## 2. EDUCATION

2.1 The education item originally planned was deferred to the Annual Meeting in June.

## 3. CONSENT AGENDA

#### **MOTION B23-015:**

**It was MOVED by C. Novick and SECONDED by S. Murdoch that the Niagara Health System Board of Directors approves the Consent Agenda for the March 28, 2023 Open Session meeting as presented, including the motions listed below:**

- **That the Minutes of the January 21, 2023 Open Session Meeting of the Niagara Health System Board of Directors be approved as presented.**
- **That, on the recommendation of the Governance Committee, the Niagara Health System Board of Directors approves the Principles of Governance, Roles and Responsibilities of the Board, Community Engagement, Open and Closed Session Meetings of the Board of Directors and Consent Agenda Policies as amended and the Board Quality, Confidentiality and Forum Without Management Policies as presented.**

- **That, on the recommendation of the Governance Committee, Stephen Murdoch be appointed to serve as the Board Representative on the Selection Committee for the recruitment of the Chief of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Niagara Health.**
- **That, on the recommendation of the Medical Advisory Committee, the Niagara Health System Board of Directors, approve the appointment of Dr. Gavin Mazzetti as the Welland Site Head of Service for the department of Medicine effective April 1st, 2023**  
**CARRIED.**

#### **4. REPORTS**

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

Lynn Guerriero provided highlights from the March 2023 President and CEO's report including the recent federal budget, the progress of the Emergency Department Assessment underway to improve the quality of care for Indigenous patients and the implementation of the surgical services transition which went live on February 27<sup>th</sup>. The transition has been successful and a process to collect patient experience data has been implemented.

##### **4.2 Report of the Niagara Health Foundation**

The Board Chair congratulated the Foundation team on the success of the Gala held on March 25, 2023.

Albert Iannatuono and Andrea Scott provided highlights from the March 2023 Foundation report with a focus on the Gala which was the most successful event to date raising more than double than previous years. It is anticipated that the forecasted fundraising goals will be surpassed with several large gifts received. A recognition event will be planned to celebrate these donors. It was also noted that the Foundation is current recruiting three new Board Members for the fall

#### **5. BUSINESS ARISING/NEW BUSINESS**

##### **5.1 Service Accountability Agreements**

This item was deferred as the Agreements had not been received from Ontario Health.

##### **5.2 Strategic Plan Dashboard**

Lynn Guerriero provided the Board with an overview of the proposed scorecard to monitor Strategic Plan Initiatives. The majority of the initiatives will impact multiple pillars and focus on how the goals will be achieved. The measures have been organized to align with the Quintuple Aim framework for monitoring quality. Progress will be regularly reported to the Board with deep dives on relevant indicators as appropriate. Underpinning the Strategic Plan scorecard, are more detailed scorecards by team, program and/or project.

#### **6. MATTERS FOR DECISION/DISCUSSION**

##### **6.1 Report of the Quality Committee**

Barry Wright, Quality Committee Member, provided highlights from the Committee's March meeting as outlined in the Committee report to the Board.

###### **6.1.1 Quality Improvement Plan**

Hospitals have a legislative requirement to submit and publicly post Quality Improvement Plans annually. The Committee reviewed the Narrative and Workplans for 2022/23 which were developed based on the initiatives and targets previously endorsed. The Committee also reviewed the progress reports which relate to the 2022/23 QIP indicators and serves as an opportunity to share results and lessons learned.

**MOTION B23-016:**

**It was MOVED by B. Wright and SECONDED by M. Jurmain that on the recommendation of the Quality Committee, the Niagara Health System Board of Directors approves the 2023/24 Quality Improvement Plan (QIP) and 2022/23 QIP Progress Reports for the Hospital and Extended Care Unit for submission to Ontario Health. CARRIED.**

The Committee discussed the outreach with respect to the increase in number of Asylum Seekers in the Niagara Region. NH has initiated conversations surrounding access to care through Ontario Health and the Region, and has also participated in discussions with other boarder communities to share knowledge. NH will continue to participate in discussions and collaborations for a coordinated response from a hospital perspective.

**6.2 Report of the Governance Committee**

Barry Wright, Governance Committee Chair, provided highlights from the Committee's March meeting contained in the Committee report to the Board as outlined below.

**6.2.1 Nominating Committee Recommendations**

The Nominating Committee has completed the recruitment process which was successful in generating an impressive slate of candidates. The Governance Committee reviewed the recommended candidates skills and experience and endorsed them for appointment to the Niagara Health Board of Directors. Thanks were extended to Flo Paladino for supporting the recruitment process and to the Nominating Committee for their time and effort. A comprehensive onboarding and orientation plan will be developed.

**MOTION B23-017:**

**It was MOVED by B. Wright and SECONDED by S. Malcolm that, on the recommendation of the Governance and Nominating Committees, the Niagara Health System Board of Directors approves the appointment of Susanne Flett to the Niagara Health System Board of Directors, effective April 1, 2023 to fill the current mid-term vacancy (as per Article 4.10 of the Corporate By-Law); and**

**That, Susanne Flett be appointed as a Resources and Audit Committee Member; and**

**That the following individuals be appointed to the Niagara Health System Board of Directors effective June 27, 2023 for the terms set opposite their names:**

**Jennifer Li, 1 year term**

**Bill Maurin, 2 year term**

**John McKinley, 2 year term**

**Charlie Rate, 3 year term**

**Anthony Reitboeck, 2 year term; and**

**Janice Thomson, 3 year term.**

**CARRIED.**

**6.3 Report of the Resources and Audit Committee**

Catherine Novick, Resources and Audit Committee Vice-Chair, provided highlights from the Committee's March meeting contained in the Committee report which included discussion on the Chief Financial Officer's report and Capital Plan budget process. The Committee also reviewed the Human Resources report which provided updates on many of the HR Plan initiatives previously reported. It was noted that the number of volunteers has reduced during COVID, however a recruitment campaign is planned to engage more volunteers.

**6.4 Report of the Medical Advisory Committee**

Dr. Johan Viljoen, Chief of Staff, provided highlights from the Committee's March meeting as outlined in the report to the Board.

**7. MATTERS FOR INFORMATION**

**7.1 Report of the Quality Committee**

The March report was provided to the Board for information.

**7.2 Report of the Governance Committee**

The March report was provided to the Board for information.

**7.3 Report of the Resources and Audit Committee**

The March report was provided to the Board for information.

**8. MOTION TO ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION**

There being no further business, the Open Session adjourned at 5:35p.m.

**MOTION B23-018:**

**It was MOVED by C. Novick and SECONDED by R. Archer that the Niagara Health System Board of Directors Open Session Meeting of March 28, 2023 be adjourned, and moved to a Members Meeting. CARRIED.**

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Bunny Alexander, Chair

Recording Secretary: D. Dube