



MINUTES of the **BOARD OF DIRECTORS** meeting held on **Thursday, January 5, 2023**, 17:00 hours, via ZOOM, live streamed on YouTube.

PRESENT VIA ZOOM:

Anthony Paniccia, Chair

Laura Copat

Paul Lachance

Cynthia Bissonnette

Ian McLeod

Mary Dawson

Linda Staudt

David Malian

Dr. Laurie Freeman

Genevieve Isshak

Penny Allen

Patricia France

Michael Lavoie

Dr. Wassim Saad (ex-officio, non-voting)

David Musyj (ex-officio, non-voting)

Karen Riddell (ex-officio, non-voting)

Dr. Danielle Soulliere (ex-officio, non-voting)

STAFF VIA ZOOM:

Executive Committee

GUEST: Mayor Drew Dilkens

REGRETS:

Dr. Maher Sabalbal (ex-officio, non-voting)

Dr. Larry Jacobs (ex-officio, non-voting)

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 1700 hours with Mr. Paniccia presiding as Chair and Ms. Sutherland recording the minutes.

2. AWARD PRESENTATION

Mayor Dilkens presented the Windsor Regional Hospital team with an award in recognition of the outstanding service provided to the Windsor community during the COVID-19 pandemic. The City of Windsor has handed out a number of 'COVID Community Champion' awards over the past few months.

Mayor Dilkens recognized Ms. Karen Riddell, Dr. Wassim Saad and Mr. David Musyj, all key individuals who dedicated countless hours during the pandemic for the safety and health of the community.

Ms. Riddell, Dr. Saad and Mr. Musyj provided a few remarks and thanked Mayor Dilkens and the City of Windsor for this award. The Chair congratulated the team at WRH and thanked Mayor Dilkens for taking the time to present this award.

3. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST:

None declared.

4. PREVIOUS MINUTES:

The minutes of the December 8, 2022 Board meeting had been previously circulated.

MOVED by Mr. P. Lachance, **SECONDED** by Mr. I. McLeod and **CARRIED THAT** the minutes of the December 8, 2022 Board of Directors meeting be approved.

The Chair provided a couple of updates:

- WRH 50/50 draw is tomorrow at noon. Go to the website to purchase your tickets: <https://www.wrhlotttery.ca>
- Congratulations and thank you to the Windsor Cancer Centre Foundation for raising \$450,000 during the Grow On Windsor campaign.
- Reminder of the upcoming Transition to Betterness 25th Annual Gala being held on January 28, 2023. T2B have donated \$15 million dollars to the community over the last 25 years. Thank you to T2B.

5. REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO:

Mr. Musyj reported. Highlights are as follows.

The first slide of the presentation showed a snapshot of influenza rates in Canada at week 49. The graph also shows the historical trend. Similar to Australia, this year's flu season started earlier, with a dramatic increase in cases. Mr. Musyj explained the issue will be the impact following the holiday season. Influenza cases started to descend in December.

Mr. Musyj reported on ED visits and referred to the graph which is broken down by respiratory and non-respiratory visits. The graph also shows the ED volumes for October, November and December 2022.

The next slide provided a snapshot of the COVID/RSV/Influenza inpatient admissions for October, November and December, 2022. Mr. Musyj noted that pediatric admissions escalated again following Christmas.

With respect to occupancy, both campuses are sitting at 92%. Mr. Musyj also addressed ALCs to LTC. As of 11:00 a.m. today, there are a total of 19 ALC for LTC. Flashback to September 2022, when we had 33 ALCs for LTC. Bill 7 has allowed for greater discussions between families and Home & Community Care. WRH has not had to issue a letter regarding the \$400/day fee.

The COVID wastewater surveillance has increased in W/E as projected. Influenza and RSV has peaked a bit however Mr. Musyj warned that we are still in this pandemic with infections expected to climb.

Dr. Saad spoke to the new and highly infectious sub-variant of Omicron, the most contagious variant of the virus that causes COVID. Dr. Saad explained that XBB.1.5, which has been nicknamed the "Kracken" variant, is a recombinant variant, meaning it was created by the combination of genetic material from two different variants. This new sub-variant makes up the majority of recent cases in Michigan. As Windsor is a border city we are going to be one of the first areas in Canada to see this sub-variant. In fact, it is most likely already in our community.

Dr. Saad explained that one study has shown that the bivalent COVID vaccine does have good effect against the sub-variant, along with therapeutic measures, namely the antiviral treatments Remdesivir or Paxlovid. However, with simple vaccination and mask use, we still have great mitigation strategies for the spread of the virus. Dr. Saad indicated that we will be hearing a lot about this new sub-variant in the weeks to come.

Ms. Riddell provided an update on the Adult and Paediatric Respiratory Clinic. The clinic sees between 40 and 70 patients per day and there has been a slight uptick following the holidays. The majority of those patients require COVID testing only per the eligibility criteria. One to five patients per day are eligible for and treated with Remdesivir or Paxlovid. Approximately 20 patients per day are seeking clinical assessment under the updated criteria and of those 20, **5-6** on average are children (note: when we last reported it was 14 children out of the 20 so this is positive news).

Again, the recommendation is to see care at your primary care provider first or the Emergency Department for symptoms such as shortness of breath, chest pain and broken bones.

Question: how long will the clinic run?

The clinic is guaranteed to remain open until at least March 31, 2023. Mr. Musyj added that these clinics have been very successful across the Province and considering the number of patients it continues to divert from emergency departments, we are hoping the Ministry will announce keeping it open indefinitely.

6. REPORT FROM SCHULICH:

Dr. Jacobs was absent but had submitted a report as FYI.

7. FINANCIAL PRESENTATION (October 2022 Results):

Mr. McLeod reported.

Slide 2 – Funding Update:

- NEW funding just announced and not included in the November 2022 statement:
 - \$2,207,300 one-time funding for Pandemic Prevention and Containment July 2022 - March 2023

Slide 3 – Financial Results – YTD November 2022:

- \$4,789,000 surplus for hospital operations year to date which is \$90,000 better than budget
- The net surplus after building amortization is \$3,960,000 which is \$372,000 better than budget

Slide 4 – COVID-19 Impact on Expenses:

- This slide shows the breakdown of \$16.6 million in COVID-19 expenses
- Unfunded COVID-19 expenses total \$4,490,000 due to
 - The wage differential for the Nursing Externs & S-PEP
 - Expenses no longer funded via incremental expense reimbursement (after June 2022)

- Sick and isolation costs and additional staffing in the perioperative program
- Incremental PPE
- Additional shuttle costs, storage of equipment
- We expect the \$342,000 gap in medical remuneration to be funded

Revenue shortfalls in the three categories below are not funded:

- Volume-based for Quality-Based Procedures (QBP), Neuro, Cardiac and Wait Time. When compared to the budgeted volumes there is a \$7.5 million shortfall
- \$2.2 million revenue loss in Patient Services
- \$495,000 revenue loss in Other Recoveries

Slide 5 – Significant Variances:

- Salaries & Wage \$3,949,000 deficit
 - Includes the 2nd TRIN (Temporary Retention Incentive for Nurses) payment of \$3,254,000 which is fully funded
 - Includes \$6,500,000 in funded expenses for Nursing Externs, S-PEP and COVID-19 incremental costs
- Medical Staff Fees \$6,174,000 deficit
 - \$3,773,000 is funded through COVID-19 Temporary Physician Funding
 - \$3,050,000 offsetting favourable Patient Services Revenue variance
- Medical/Surgical Supplies \$1,776,000 deficit
 - 65% of this deficit relates to incremental PPE
- Drugs \$2,409,000 deficit
 - Offset by favourable revenue in retail pharmacies

Slide 6 – Significant Variances continued:

- Other Supplies \$2,108,000 deficit
 - \$717,000 building and grounds maintenance and service contracts
 - \$328,000 patient transportation cost – patient transports to Hotel Dieu, nursing and retirement homes in order to free up beds
 - \$344,000 physician recruitment
 - \$192,000 minor equipment purchases
- Other Supplies surpluses in other categories offset some of the deficits above

MOVED by Mr. I. McLeod, **SECONDED** by Dr. L. Freeman and **CARRIED**

THAT the January 5, 2023 Financial Presentation (as of November 30, 2022) be accepted.

8. CONSENT AGENDA:

MOVED by Mr. I. McLeod, **SECONDED** by Ms. G. Isshak and **CARRIED**

THAT the report from the December 19, 2022 Finance/Audit & Resources Committee meetings be accepted.

9. CORRESPONDENCE/PRINTED MATTER:

- a) Media Report – FYI only.

10. BOARD MEMBER QUESTIONS, COMMENTS OR NOTICES OF MOTIONS:

None

11. NEW BUSINESS:

None

12. DATE OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

Thursday, February 2, 2023, 1700 hrs VIA: ZOOM

13. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to discuss, it was

MOVED by Ms. P. France, **SECONDED** by Ms. L. Copat and **CARRIED**

THAT the January 5, 2023 Board of Directors meeting be adjourned at 1745 hours.

Anthony Paniccia, Chair
Board of Directors

Dawn Sutherland
Recording Secretary/ds