northern health

Board Meeting

Date: June 9, 2014

Location: Aspen Room, Fort Nelson

Chair: Dr. Charles Jago

Recorder: Desa Chipman

Board:

- Sharon Hartwell
- Gary Townsend
- Carol Leclerc
- Ben Sander
- Maurice Squires
- Edward Stanford
- Rosemary Landry
- Gaurav Parmar
- Louise Burgart

Executive:

- Cathy Ulrich
- Michael Leisinger
- Fraser Bell
- Mark De Croos
- Dr. Jaco Fourie
- Jane Lindstrom
- Dr. Suzanne Johnston
- Dr. Ronald Chapman
- Betty Morris
- Steve Raper

Public Minutes

1. **Call to Order Open Board Session**
   The Open Board session was called to order at 1:17pm

2. **Opening Remarks**
   Chairman Jago expressed appreciation to the representatives from the Regional Municipality who joined the Northern Health Board and Executive for lunch and commented that the board is delighted to be back in Fort Nelson.

3. **Conflict of Interest Declaration**
   Chairman Jago asked if any Director present had a conflict of interest they wish to declare regarding any business before the Northern Health Board at this meeting.
   - There were no conflict of interest declarations made related to the April 13, 2014 Public agenda.

4. **Approval of Agenda**
   Moved By G Townsend seconded by S Hartwell
   The Northern Health Board approves the public agenda as presented

5. **Approval of Board Minutes**
   Moved by L Burgart seconded by S Hartwell
   The Northern Health Board approves the April 14, 2014 public minutes as presented

6. Business Arising from Previous Minutes

7. CEO Report

C Ulrich provided an overview of the CEO report and highlighted the following:

- Northern Health staff have been recently recognized with several awards by the following organizations:
  - HEABC - Excellence in BC Health Care Awards
  - College of Registered Nurses of British Columbia Awards
  - College of Licensed Practical Nurses of British Columbia Awards
  - The Canadian Public Relation Society Awards
  - International Association of Business Communicators (IABC) Awards
  - 2014 Order of British Columbia
- **Integration Work in Fort Nelson** - Community services and acute care staff from Fort Nelson came together on May 30, 2014 to learn more about the implementation of integrated health services in primary and community care. Staff discussed the story of Mary which illustrates the fragmented journey of a young woman who is experiencing mental health challenges.
- **Fort St John Physician Recruitment and Unattached Patient Clinic** - focused work continues in partnership with the Division of Family Practice and the City of Fort St John to recruit physicians to the community of Fort St John.
- **Vanderhoof St John Hospital Renovations Completed** - Almost $5 million in renovations at the St John Hospital to improve patient flow in and out of the emergency room, and an independent ambulance bay are now complete.
- **Pertussis outbreak in the Northwest**
  - 61 Confirmed pertussis cases (50 lab confirmed; 11 epi-linked confirmed)
  - 114 Probable (based upon BCCDC definition); all in the NW HSDA
  - Outbreak measures focusses on
    - Treating cases early
    - Protecting high risk groups: those under 1 year of age and pregnant women in 3rd trimester (chemoprophylaxis & vaccinations).
- **Norovirus Outbreak at the Kitimat Modernization Camp**
  - Workers presenting with diarrhea, vomiting or both (since February 3rd) = 185
  - Total number of workers in camp = approx. 1750 plus daily personnel
    - Northern Health was notified of increase in suspect GI cases on March 25th, 2014.

7.1. Human Resources Report

J Lindstrom provided an overview of the June Human Resources Report and highlighted the following;

- **The Provincial Respiratory Protection Program** will be launched within the next few months. A partnership with British Columbia Emergency Health Services is available for sites that choose to engage for fit testing services.
- **The WorkSafeBC eBook "Managing Safety in health Care: A Guide for Leaders"** content has been converted to an e-learning module and will be included in the provincial healthcare management education program.
- **Seasonal increases in vacancies** are emerging as families relocate and retirements are initiated. Excluded vacancies are up slightly from 10-12 and there continues to be activity at all levels, administrative to senior executive. Recruitment is building external ads in the new "Now this is Living" campaign to target our most difficult to fill vacancies.
- A diversity statement was included in the new Healthy Workplace Policy for review by NH executive and final amendments are being incorporated. This policy replaces our previous Respect in the Workplace policy.

8. Audit and Finance Committee

8.1. Fiscal year end 2013/14

- Northern Health ended fiscal year 2013-14 on March 31, 2014. The year-end financial statements are currently being audited by KPMG. Northern Health awaits the outcome of the audit, but is confident that it will end the year in a surplus position.
- Once Ministry approval is received, Northern Health's 2013-14 audited financial statements will be posted on the Northern Health website.

8.2. Major Capital

- The Project Summary Report for Period 10 was presented to the Board for information with details provided on projects that are experiencing delays or budget issues.

9. Performance Planning and Priorities Committee

9.1. Programs

9.1.1. Chronic Disease

- Over the past years Northern Health leadership has planned an integrated, effective and efficient approach to caring for patients with multiple co-morbidities. In November 2013, the first steps towards this approach were implemented through the start of an umbrella program, chronic disease, which includes Cardiac/Stroke, Renal, Blood Borne Pathogens, Oncology and Diabetes.
- An outline was provided to create awareness of the current direction for the chronic disease program.
- The Board was informed that LaDonna Fehr, Executive Lead for Chronic Disease, who has contributed to the work that has occurred in chronic diseases is retiring. The leadership, expertise and knowledge that LaDonna has shared with Northern Health will be greatly missed.

9.2. Emergency Preparedness

- In 2013, the health emergency preparedness function transferred out of Northern Health as a result of the provincial consolidation of all health emergency management, as recommended by the BC Collaboration Council (BCCC).
- Through a memorandum of understanding, signed by Health Authority CEOs, it was agreed that the Health Authorities and the Ministry of Health would pool resources currently devoted to health emergency management under new management and governance structure, known as Health Emergency Management (HEMBC), housed in the Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA).

10. Care in the Right Place - Presentation

Chris Morey, Health Service Administrator attended the meeting to present on Care in the Right Place which included information on the following areas:

- Fort Nelson Flow Team
- Current State in Acute Care:
  - High Number of admissions and re-admissions for medical withdrawal management
  - High number of ALC admissions; long lengths of stay
  - Highest percentage of re-admissions in the Northeast
  - Inappropriate utilization of ED
  - Multi -level care unit 100% occupancy
  - Acute Care occupancy - 60%
  - No Maternity Services
- Current State in community services:

- Limited community services (assisted living, social work, Meals on Wheels)
- Re-building Home Care Services; limited resources
- Part-time service (home nursing and home support)
- Tracking activities - especially unmet need
- LTC assessments not readily available locally
- Key to reducing use of acute care resources
- Potential for resourcing through integration and re-deployment of existing resources in acute care

- Broad Goals / Broad Action Plans
  - Reduce the number of admissions & re-admissions for medical withdrawal management
  - Understand the utilization of ED for patients with CTAS scores of 4&5
  - Increase capacity in Home Care Services
  - Reduce reliance on acute care resources
  - Utilize quality improvement methods to ensure what we are doing is efficient for patient care and patient flow

11. Governance and Management Relations Committee

11.1. Policy Manual BRD 200 Series

C Leclerc presented the BRD 200 Series for approval which have been reviewed and edited at the GMR Committee level.

Moved by C Leclerc seconded by R Landry
The Northern Health Board approves the revised BRD 200 Series

11.2. 2015 Board meeting Calendar

- The proposed 2015 Board meeting calendar was presented to the Board for approval with the following communities have been identified for the meeting locations in 2015:
  - February - Chetwynd BC
  - April - Prince Rupert BC
  - June - Burns Lake BC
  - October - Prince George BC
  - December - Prince George BC

Moved by C Leclerc seconded by G Townsend
The Northern Health Board approves the revised 2015 Board Calendar.

11.3. Regulatory Framework: Emergency Health Services Act

- M Leisinger presented the Regulatory Framework - Legislative Compliance - Emergency Health Services Act to the Board for information.
- The Act has changed to allow for the realignment of BC Emergency Health Services (BCEHS) under the Provincial Health Services Authority to better coordinate the delivery of emergency services and urgent health services across the province. BCEHS operates the BC Ambulance Services (BCAS) and the BC Patient Transfer Network (PTN).

Chairman Jago took the opportunity to thank Betty Morris, Northeast Chief Operating Officer, for her leadership and dedication to Northern Health over the last five years, in particular the build of the new Fort St John Hospital. Betty will be retiring from Northern Health at the end of June 2014 and will be greatly missed by colleagues, staff and local community partners.

Chairman Jago thanked Suzanne Johnston, VP Clinical Programs and Chief Nursing Officer, for her role on the Executive team, her effective administration and acknowledged her talent and ability of bringing people together to work through issues with effective resolution. Suzanne will be leaving Northern Health in the middle of July and will be missed for her sense of humour and engaging personality.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:40pm
Moved by C Leclerc seconded by R Landry

Dr Charles Jago, Chair

Desa Chipman, Recording Secretary