



## Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, September 5, 2024

7:00 p.m.

Conference Room – HPHA Seaforth Community Hospital

### MINUTES

Present: John Wilkinson, Chair  
Jim Battle, Franklin Famme, Steve Hearn, Barry Hutton, Ron Lavoie, Dr. Kevin Lefebvre, Lynanne Mason, Kerri Ann O'Rourke, Kim Ross Jones, Greg Stewart, Bill Whetstone, Tricia Wilkerson, Andrew Williams  
Mary Cardinal, Iris Michaels, Sue Davey

Regrets: Kathy Lewis, Dr. Chuck Gatfield, Dr. Ali Kara, Dr. Heather Percival

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**1. Welcome & Call to Order**

John Wilkinson, Board Chair called the meeting to order and quorum was confirmed. He welcomed guests in attendance.

**2. Land Acknowledgement**

Greg Stewart shared the Land Acknowledgement.

**3. Approval of Agenda**

It was moved by Steve Hearn, seconded by Tricia Wilkerson:

**THAT the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance Board of Directors approve the meeting agenda as circulated.**

**CARRIED**

**4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

Tricia Wilkerson identified a potential conflict of interest as a member of the Board of ONECARE.

**5. Patient & Caregiver Partners Program**

***Shannon McGavin, Huron Perth & Area Ontario Health Team Patient, Family and Caregiver Advisory Council***

Jim Battle introduced Shannon McGavin, a member of the Huron Perth & Area Ontario Health Team (HPA-OHT) Patient, Family, and Caregiver Advisory Council (PFAC) and the provincial PFAC. Shannon, the Founder of The Well Community Collaborative, shared her experiences in creating patient-centered healthcare systems. She highlighted the importance of collaboration, engagement, partnerships, and better ways for the Patient and Family Advisory Councils across the HPA-OHT to work together to share resources.

Shannon left the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

**6. Delegation to the Board*****Long-Term Care: Putting “old wine in new bottles”***

-Paul Brown, Madelyn Campbell

Paul presented recommendations for a better model of long-term care, moving away from institutional-centric service towards the emerging shift demanding aging in place. He expressed his concerns with long-term care facility development, their cost for taxpayers, and housing older adults in expensive institutions. His vision for a new model includes primary care, community care and home care partnerships in an inclusive long-term care ecosystem.

There was discussion and it was noted that the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance supports aging at home and currently has a partnerships with ONECARE to support discharge home (Let’s Go Home”) and with the Alzheimer Society to provide supports and avert admissions in the Emergency Department.

Paul and Madelyn left the meeting at 8:07 p.m.

**7. Minutes of Previous Meetings****7.1. June 6, 2024****7.2. June 13, 2024 – Organizational Meeting**

It was moved by Tricia Wilkerson, seconded by Kim Ross Jones:

**THAT the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance Board of Directors approves the minutes from the meeting held June 6, 2024.**

**CARRIED**

It was moved by Greg Stewart, seconded by Kerri Ann O’Rourke:

**THAT the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance Board of Directors approves the minutes from the Organizational Meeting held June 13, 2024.**

**CARRIED**

**8. Business Arising from the Minutes**

There was no business arising from the minutes.

**9. In-Camera Session****9.1. Motion to Move to In-Camera Session**

It was moved by Steve Hearn, seconded by Franklin Famme:

**THAT the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance move in-camera at 7:55 p.m.**

**CARRIED**

**9.2. Report from In-Camera Session**

During the In-Camera Session the Board received reports from the Governance, Community Relations & System Transformation, Medical Advisory and Resources, Audit & Digital Innovation Committees.

**10. Consent Agenda**

It was moved by Greg Stewart, seconded by Steve Hearn:

**THAT the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance Board of Directors approve the September 5, 2024 Consent Agenda that included reports from the:**

- **President & Chief Executive Officer**
- **Chief of Staff**
- **Patient & Caregiver Partners Program**

**CARRIED**

Chief Nursing Executive Verbal Report:

- The HPHA has put the needed resources in place to support nursing staff, and onboard new nursing grads and this includes Clinical Scholars and Educators.
- The Extern Program is a good recruitment tool; 7 temporary casual Clinical Externs have stayed on staff while they return to school.
- As nursing stabilizes, extending the hours to 8:00 p.m. at the Clinton Public Hospital Emergency Department is being considered. Discussions with the union are taking place. Physician challenges for coverage are ongoing.
- Perth County Paramedic Services received dedicated offload funding for nursing to assist with patient offload at the Stratford General Hospital Emergency Department for 2024/2025.

**11. Governance****11.1. Governance, Community Relations & System Transformation Committee**

Steve Hearn presented the report of the meeting held August 20<sup>th</sup> for informational purposes. Community Town Halls are scheduled in November, an opportunity to recognize staff and celebrate our hospitals. The Board Work Plan was presented.

It was moved by Steve Hearn, seconded by Tricia Wilkerson:

**THAT the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance Board of Directors approves the Board Work Plan for 2024/2025.**

**CARRIED**

**11.2. Medical Advisory Committee**

Dr. Lefebvre presented the report from the Medical Advisory Committee meeting held on June 27<sup>th</sup>. He noted that due to significant challenges in filling physician shifts in the Emergency Departments at the Clinton, Seaforth and infrequently the St. Marys hospital sites, the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance is applying premiums, on top of the base rate and top up rates funded by the provincial government. Dr. Lefebvre also reported on a potential opportunity to host a distributed clerkship model for the Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry, with up to 8 student cohorts completing their core electives at our organization.

It was moved by Kerri Ann O'Rourke, seconded by Kim Ross Jones:

**THAT the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance support, in principle, the exploration of a distributed clerkship model where appropriate and appropriately supported.**

**CARRIED**

**11.3. Quality & Social Accountability Committee**

Kim Ross Jones presented highlights from the meeting held August 21. The committee reviewed key issues for unmet targets in quarter 1 that are primarily a result of staffing shortages, increased referrals and delays. The quarter 1 critical incident report was received.

**11.4. Resources, Audit & Digital Innovation Committee**

The Committee met on August 22<sup>nd</sup> and Franklin Famme presented the report included in the package that highlights hospital sector fiscal pressures. He noted that Ontario Health funding is embargoed and despite the deficits in the hospital sector with poor cash positions and negative capital working funds, direction from Ontario Health is not to reduce services. Quarter 1 updates related to recruitment and retention and physician resources were positive.

**12. HPHA Commitments to Our Communities – 2024/2025**

- **Corporate Quarter 1 Review**

The detailed Quarter 1 status update was pre-circulated and presented for informational purposes.

**13. Directors Comments/Roundtable**

None.

**14. Next Meeting**

- Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance Board of Directors Meeting  
– November 7, 2024.

**15. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned by MOTION by Steve Hearn at 9:35 p.m.