

PUBLIC BOARD MEETING

Minutes of the meeting of the Alberta Health Services (“AHS”) Board (the “Board”) held by teleconference, on July 22, 2021.

Attendees:

Board Members: Mr. David Weyant, QC, Chair
Dr. Sayeh Zielke, Vice-Chair
Ms. Deborah Apps
Mr. Tony Dagnone, CM
Ms. Sherri Fountain
Mr. Jack Mintz, CM
Ms. Heidi Overguard
Ms. Natalia Reiman
Mr. Brian Vaasjo
Ms. Vicki Yellow Old Woman

Management: Dr. Verna Yiu, President & Chief Executive Officer
Ms. Tina Giesbrecht, General Counsel
Ms. Colleen Turner, Vice President, Community Engagement & Communications
Mr. Michael Lam, Chief Program Officer, Financial Operations
Ms. Catherine MacNeill, Corporate Secretary & Legal Counsel

Regrets: Mr. Stephen Mandel

Mr. Weyant acted as Chair of the meeting and Ms. MacNeill acted as Recording Secretary.

Mr. Weyant called the meeting to order at approximately 4:15 p.m. Notice of the meeting had been properly given and quorum was met.

❖ **Welcome & Comments from the Chair**

The following is an abstract of Mr. David Weyant’s, Board Chair, remarks at the meeting. It is not an official transcript:

Good afternoon, everyone. I am David Weyant, Chair of the AHS Board, and I would like to welcome you to this AHS Public Board meeting. Thank you for taking the time to join us.

This is a special meeting of the Board to consider two motions.

To start, in the spirit of recognizing the harms of the past, promoting reconciliation and gratitude, and in keeping with the calls to action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, on behalf of the Board, I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge that the work of AHS takes place on historical and contemporary Indigenous lands, including the territories of Treaties 6, 7 & 8 and the

homeland of the Metis. I would also like to acknowledge the 46 First Nations communities within what we call Alberta, as well as the Metis and Inuit Peoples who form an important part of our healthcare system.

Our Board members are joining us from across the country and we acknowledge the Indigenous peoples' territories in which they live and work. We are grateful to those who have come before us and mindful of those who will follow us as we steward and protect these lands.

I want to take a moment to thank Albertans for continuing to turn out in great numbers to get their first and second doses of the COVID-19 vaccines, as well as the AHS teams that are helping Albertans get immunized.

More than 5 million doses have been delivered to date in Alberta. We can go higher. The most senior public health physicians and experts have repeatedly emphasized the importance of being fully vaccinated so we encourage everyone to get fully immunized.

We are participating by teleconference today. When I ask for a vote on the motion, I will ask for those opposed or abstaining. For those who neither oppose nor abstain, I will take that you are in favour of the motion. If there are none, or a minority, who either oppose or abstain, I will declare the motion carried.

❖ **Review of Agenda**

UPON MOTION duly moved, seconded and unanimously carried, the Board approved the agenda for the meeting of the Board held on July 22, 2021, which was provided to the Board in advance of the meeting.

❖ **Declaration of Conflicts of Interest**

Mr. Weyant requested that any conflicts of interest relevant to the meeting or items noted on the agenda be declared.

Mr. Weyant declared a conflict of interest with respect to item 1.b) Resident Physician Services Compensation Grant Amending Agreement. Mr. Weyant indicated he would not participate in the discussion and as Chair he would only vote in the event that there was a tie but that he would not be voting in any event.

Mr. Brian Vaasjo declared a conflict of interest with respect to item 1.b) Resident Physician Services Compensation Grant Amending Agreement. Mr. Vaasjo indicated that he is on the University of Alberta Advisory Committee to the Dean of Medicine and Dentistry and would not be participating in the discussion and would be abstaining from the vote.

❖ **Approval of Minutes – June 1 and June 28, 2021**

UPON MOTION duly moved, seconded and unanimously carried, the minutes of the AHS Board meetings held on June 1, 2021 and June 28, 2021 were approved and the Chair of the Board and Corporate Secretary were authorized and directed to sign the minutes in the form so approved; and the Corporate Secretary was directed to file them, together with all ancillary documents attached thereto, in the corporate records of AHS and to deliver a copy of these to the Minister of Health.

1. Finance Committee

Ms. Vicki Yellow Old Woman, Finance Committee Vice Chair, reported that the Finance Committee met on July 22, 2021 and considered two items for recommendation for Board approval.

a) [FC21-46] Agreement with K-Bro Linen Systems Inc.

First, the Committee considered terms and conditions for an agreement between AHS and K-Bro Linen Systems Inc. The Committee recommended that the Board approve AHS entering into such agreement. The Board members supported such approval.

UPON MOTION duly moved, seconded and unanimously carried the Alberta Health Services Board:

- 1. approved Alberta Health Services entering into an agreement for the provision of laundry and linen services between Alberta Health Services and K-Bro Linen Systems Inc., effective August 1, 2021, on the terms and conditions reviewed by the Finance Committee and the Board, with such non-substantive changes that the management of Alberta Health Services considers necessary or advisable; and**
- 2. delegated the authority to the Alberta Health Services President and CEO to execute the documents to effect such agreement on behalf of the Alberta Health Services in accordance with the *Delegation of Authority and Establishment of Controls for Commitments Policy*.**

b) [FC21-47] Resident Physician Services Compensation Grant Amending Agreement

Second, the Committee considered amendments to the Grant Agreement for Resident Physicians Services Compensation. The Committee recommended that the Board approve such amendments. The Board reviewed the proposed amendments, and the members supported the approval.

UPON MOTION duly moved, seconded and unanimously carried the Alberta Health Services Board:

- a) **approved amendments to the Alberta Health grant agreement for the training and compensation of postgraduate medical education students who work in Alberta Health Services facilities and provide clinical services as part of their educational training to provide funding for the academic year July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022, on the terms and conditions reviewed by the Finance Committee and the Board, with such non-substantive changes that management of AHS considers necessary or advisable; and**

- b) **delegated the authority to the AHS President and CEO to execute the agreement to effect such amendments on behalf of AHS in accordance with the *Delegation of Authority and Establishment of Controls for Commitments Policy*.**

Mr. Weyant noted that although the end of the business agenda was reached and that the business meeting was adjourned, he asked that everyone stay on as the President & CEO, Dr. Verna Yiu, had a message.

❖ **Comments from the President & CEO**

The following is an abstract of Dr. Verna Yiu's, President & Chief Executive Officer, remarks at the meeting. It is not an official transcript:

Thanks very much David. I am glad to be here with everyone today.

I would like to start off by talking about gratitude. As we all know we have worked tirelessly throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and the efforts have been extraordinary. I want to say thank you again to everyone, and salute all our staff, physicians and volunteers for all they have done.

This week we have announced some changes to our pandemic response due to the low levels of COVID-19 cases and continually increasing immunization coverage.

We are scaling back our contact tracing and case investigation teams to align with the current case counts. I am grateful to all who have served on those teams, who have been a cornerstone in our fight against COVID-19. We are going to maintain a robust team that will continue to actively investigate and contact trace new cases and we will have the ability to scale our efforts back up if needed.

We also announced this week that we will close the rapid flow clinics at the Expo Centre in Edmonton and at the Telus Convention Centre in Calgary by the end of the month. Albertans will still be immunized at multiple locations in both cities, including public health centres, pharmacies and physician offices. Appointments and drop-in opportunities are readily available.

Again, I want to thank all of those that have worked in these clinics and also everyone who has taken part in our immunization campaign. But we do know that more needs to be done and that immunization is the best way for us to return to a normal life and move beyond the pandemic. Definitely we are beginning to see a changed world, which feels really good. This is also true within AHS. As we demobilize parts of our pandemic response we are able to turn our attention to core areas such as surgeries. We are seeing great progress already.

Whether it is during the pandemic or not there is one constant – AHS is there for you, to provide Albertans the healthcare they need. In the bigger picture, redeploying staff from the pandemic will help fill staff vacancies. And we can focus more attention on key areas such as addiction and mental health. We know there is a huge need out there.

On that note, I would like to acknowledge that it has been a difficult year and a half for all Albertans. I hope everyone is able to take some time this summer to recharge. Please take care of yourselves, and each other. Thank you.

❖ **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Signed by
David Weyant, QC
Chair

Signed by
Catherine MacNeill
Corporate Secretary & Legal Counsel