

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC BOARD MEETING, MAY 2009

The Alberta Health Services Board met on May 28, 2009 at the Alberta Health Services – Peace Country offices in Grande Prairie. The following is an account of the motions that were passed at the meeting. A summary is released following each Board meeting and posted on the AHS external and internal websites, and bulletin boards. The meeting can also be viewed in its entirety from a link on the www.albertahealthservices.ca website. If you have any questions regarding these reports, please do not hesitate to contact the Board Office at ahsb.admin@albertahealthservices.ca or at 1-866-943-1120.

MAIN ITEMS OF DISCUSSION

Sale of Northtown Seniors Housing Condominiums, Wetaskiwin, Alberta

- The Alberta Health Services Board approved the sale of the Northtown Seniors Housing Condominiums in Wetaskiwin to the Good Samaritan Society for the offering price of \$2,080,400. The sale will relieve Alberta Health Services from management responsibilities which are beyond the scope of normal service responsibilities. Further, the sale permits an improved level of service and support to low-income seniors living in the complex, and ensures that the future sale of these units to seniors will be at an affordable price. This sale will require the final approval of the Minister of Health and Wellness.

Internally Restricted Funds

- Board-approved internally restricted funds are only permissible if Alberta Health Services has a cumulative surplus. Alberta Health Services currently has an accumulated deficit. The predecessor Boards internally restricted \$100.8 million as at March 31, 2008. \$44.0 million was for operating initiatives and \$56.8 million was for capital initiatives. During 08/09 a large number of the initiatives were completed, but not all of them. Alberta Health Services will start with an accumulated deficit as at April 1, 2009. Whereas one region may have had a surplus as at March 31, 2009 and technically have been able to restrict their funds, collectively Alberta Health Services does not have sufficient funds for any Board restrictions. The Alberta Health Services Board approved the release of all internal restrictions on funds made by the predecessor Boards.

Selection of Financial Institute for Banking Services

- In March 2009, Alberta Health Services issued a Banking Services Request for Proposal (RFP) seeking proposals from financial institutions to provide a full range of financial services and to establish a single vendor to provide province-wide banking services. Core banking services as well as credit facilities were requested, including an operating line of credit and a letter of credit guarantee. The requested term was for an initial three years with the option of two additional two-year negotiated extensions. Following

conclusion of the RFP process, the Evaluation and Selection Committee recommended the Royal Bank of Canada (RBC) as the preferred vendor. The Alberta Health Services Board approved the selection and delegated the President and Chief Executive Officer (or designate) the authority to sign the contract with the Royal Bank of Canada as Alberta Health Services financial institution for core banking services.

Capital Project Screening Framework

- The Alberta Health Services Board approved the Capital Project Screening Framework. Creation of a single merged organization means that we need to develop a new, integrated priority setting process for the whole organization to replace the processes used by the predecessor organizations. The new process incorporates consolidation of projects into four streams: Acute Care, Continuing Care, Primary Care/Continuing Care and Support Services. It will also evaluate projects against the three Alberta Health Services goals of Access, Quality and Sustainability. The framework will be presented to Alberta Health and Wellness following Board approval.

Proposed Policy on Trans Fats Reduction for Alberta Health Services' Facilities

- The Alberta Health Services Board approved a policy on Trans Fats reduction for Alberta Health Services facilities. AHS is committed to reducing the levels of trans fats contained in food products offered to staff, patients/clients, and visitors at AHS-operated food service facilities. The former health regions throughout the province had taken proactive but differing measures to reduce trans fats in patient and retail food service operations. A province-wide approach is required as one part of a set of public policies to support healthy eating environments. The policy requires that oils and spreads have two per cent or less trans fat content, and that all food products newly introduced by AHS to be served at AHS facilities shall contain five percent or less industrially produced trans fat content as a proportion of total fat. New contracts for provision of food products at AHS facilities shall be subject to the trans fats requirements. AHS will work with food suppliers and contractors to help them comply with the policy, which is effective immediately.

OTHER BOARD ACTIVITIES IN GRANDE PRAIRIE

In addition to the public meeting, the Board met as a Committee of the Whole. The Committee of the Whole spent the majority of the meeting time reviewing the 2009-2010 Preliminary Financial Plan.

The Board also held positive, productive meetings with representatives of the Treaty 8 First Nations and the Grande Prairie Chamber of Commerce.

During the two-day visit to Grande Prairie, the Board also enjoyed an informative tour of Community Village, a multi-partner health facility located near downtown Grande Prairie. Community Village is an innovative facility in which Alberta Health Services staff, along with

partner agencies such as HIV North and Street Outreach, work to improve access to care and services for a vulnerable population.

The next Public Board Meeting is scheduled to be held in Calgary on June 28, 2009. For confirmation, please check the Alberta Health Services website.

ALBERTA HEALTH SERVICES BOARD