

PUBLIC BOARD MEETING

Minutes of the meeting of the Alberta Health Services (“AHS”) Board (the “Board”) held at Boardroom A, Main Floor, Seventh Street Plaza, 10030-107 Street NW, Edmonton, on October 27, 2016.

Attendees

Board Members: Ms. Linda Hughes (Chair)
Dr. Brenda Hemmelgarn (Vice-Chair)
Mr. David Carpenter
Mr. Hugh Sommerville
Ms. Marliss Taylor

Management: Dr. Verna Yiu, President & Chief Executive Officer
Ms. Deborah Rhodes, Vice President, Corporate Services & Chief Financial Officer
Ms. Colleen Turner, Vice President, Community Engagement & Communications
Ms. Catherine MacNeill, Corporate Secretary & General Counsel

Regrets: Mr. Richard Dicerri
Ms. Glenda Yeates

Ms. Hughes acted as Chair of the meeting and Ms. MacNeill acted as Corporate Secretary.

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

❖ **Review of Agenda**

UPON MOTION duly moved, seconded and unanimously carried, the Board approved the agenda for the meeting of the Board held on October 27, 2016, which was provided to the Board in advance of the meeting.

❖ **Declaration of Conflicts of Interest**

Ms. Hughes requested that any conflicts of interest relevant to the meeting or items noted on the agenda be declared. None were declared.

1. Approval of Minutes – September 30, 2016 & October 17, 2016

UPON MOTION duly moved, seconded and unanimously carried, the minutes of the AHS Board meeting held on September 30, 2016 and October 17, 2016 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.

2. **Comments**

a) **Comments from the Chair**

The following is an abstract of Ms. Linda Hughes', Board Chair, remarks at the meeting. It is not an official transcript:

Thank you all for joining us today. I want to welcome you to our October public board meeting.

Today we will approve a new agreement with the Alberta Medical Association. We are very pleased that physicians ratified the tentative agreement as the AHS Board believes this deal is good for doctors and good for patients. It will help Alberta Health and AHS slow the growth of health spending. Alberta currently spends more per capita on physicians than any other province in Canada. The agreement is expected to result in about \$500 million in savings by the end of 2018, while protecting services. It will also support doctors in providing better quality services to their patients in a fiscally sustainable framework. Alberta Health Services values physicians, and we are grateful to the AMA for its willingness to partner with us in looking for ways to slow the rate of growth in health spending and improve health services for patients over the long term. This is certainly good news for all Albertans.

We have several other items on the agenda, including approvals for the Board and Quality & Safety terms of reference and for restricted Alberta Health grant agreements to fund physicians on call.

Before we start the rest of the meeting, I would like to spend a few minutes talking about influenza immunization. Our public clinics are now open and I would like to thank those who have already received their influenza immunization. I myself have and several members of the Board have already. It really is the best way to protect yourself and your loved ones from influenza, which hospitalized more than 1,600 Albertans in a six-month period last season.

In a few minutes, you will hear more about our public influenza immunization campaign from our President and CEO, Dr. Verna Yiu. However, as we are already seeing influenza in Alberta, and know its potential impact on our health system, it is important for me to address this as well. Influenza has a significant impact on our health system every winter. This impact can be reduced by the actions of Albertans — and that includes our staff. Last season, 61 per cent of our staff were immunized against influenza. We can do better, and we hope that this season, we do. By getting immunized, our staff not only reduce their own risk of getting influenza, they reduce the risk of passing it on to patients. Also, immunized staff can work through outbreaks, ensuring we have the staff in place to take care of patients safely. Safety and accountability are two of AHS' values. As health care workers, everyone at AHS is accountable for the safety of our patients, and the wellness of our communities. We have made it clear to our staff that no patient should get influenza while in our care. Immunization enables us to uphold that commitment. With immunization — and information on immunization — easily accessible and highly visible, we are prepared to fight influenza head on. Please join us in the battle and help get the word out.

Now I would like to invite Dr. Yiu to say a few words.

b) Comments from the President & Chief Executive Officer

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

Thank you Linda and good afternoon everyone. Thank you for being here with us. I am very proud to say that I have received my influenza shot and I hope that all of you are going to plan to receive it yourself. There are a lot of reasons to get it. We know that it is very serious. As Linda has said, there were over 1,600 Albertans who were hospitalized last season. It causes more emergency visits than heart attacks and strokes. It puts more kids into hospitals than poisonings. Quite simply, it just greatly reduces your risks of getting influenza if you receive immunization.

My reason to get a flu shot? I want to protect myself, my loved ones and the people I meet every day. That may seem like a generic statement but it is not. Influenza is something you do not want to get or share. Just ask Jill McPhee-Burton, an Alberta mother of three who celebrated her 39th birthday in the hospital. Her birthday dinner consisted of Jell-o. For her it tasted great because it was the first solid food she had eaten in months. You see, Jill was not just celebrating a birthday, she was celebrating the fact that she actually made it to the age of 39. Last January, this otherwise healthy Grade 5 teacher came down with influenza. Her condition quickly deteriorated, putting her first in the emergency department, then admitted to the hospital, and then into the critical care unit. She developed pneumonia which is a very common complication of influenza – and very quickly went into failure. As her family stood by, helpless, Jill slipped into a coma. Her care team worked hard to help her: performing six surgeries, and tended to her round the clock. She woke up from that coma, and found she could move only her eyes. In the months since her final surgery, she has had to re-learn how to talk, move and walk. She was nice enough to share her thoughts with us in this short video.

[A video was shown with respect to influenza]

Jill never received the flu shot and like many Albertans, she considered herself healthy and never expected that “just the flu” could cause serious, life-altering health problems. Now she tells us she will do anything she can to get the message out about influenza immunizations. So will we. Jill is currently an outpatient at the Glenrose Rehab Hospital, and is still working hard to regain her strength and balance. We are doing this for Jill, and for all Albertans. We are encouraging Albertans to get immunized for themselves and for their loved ones. The immunization program started on Monday. It is available, free of charge, to all Albertans six-months of age and older. Local clinic dates and times are available online, or by calling Health Link. Our ads are now running, appearing in newspapers and on TV, the web and billboards around Alberta. They focus on telling Albertans the straight-up truth about influenza. We took this direction directly from feedback from Albertans. After last influenza season we reached out to thousands of Albertans by phone, and sat down with dozens more, seeking to understand what Albertans wanted to know about influenza, and what would motivate them to get immunized. Albertans told us they want us to tell them the stats that illustrate the seriousness of influenza, to make it more relatable. You will see that we have done just that. Our hope is that Albertans will respond, and get immunized. Our hope is that there are no more stories like Jill's. Please help us get the message out.

Thank you for your time today and for your interest in AHS and our influenza immunization program.

3. Governance Committee

a) Report to the Board

Mr. Hugh Sommerville, Chair of the Governance Committee (the “Committee”), advised that the Committee met on October 12, 2016. He noted that among other things, the Committee considered draft terms of reference for the Board and the Quality & Safety Committee.

b) [GOV16-35] Board and Quality & Safety Committee Terms of Reference

The Board is to approve the terms of reference in accordance with the AHS Amended General Bylaws. Terms of reference for other Board Committees, the Board Chair and Board Members were recently approved by the Board and posted on the AHS public website. The Governance Committee recommended that the Board approve the draft terms of reference for the Board and Quality & Safety Committee.

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

- (i) approved the draft terms of reference as reviewed by the Board, with such non-substantive changes that management of AHS considers necessary or advisable, for the:**
 - Board
 - Quality & Safety Committee; and
- (ii) authorized and directed management of AHS to make such terms of reference available to the public through the AHS website.**

4. Finance Committee

• [FC16-42] Restricted AH Grant Agreements Over \$90M – Physicians On Call

Mr. David Carpenter, Chair of the Finance Committee (the “Committee”), advised that the Finance Committee reviewed a new Physician On-Call Grant Agreement between Alberta Health and Alberta Health Services with respect to the provision of emergency on-call services. The grant agreement exceeds the approval and signing authority level of the President & CEO and therefore needs to be approved by the Board. The Finance Committee recommended that the Board approve the grant agreement as reviewed by the Committee and delegate authority to sign the agreement on behalf of AHS to the President & CEO.

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

- i) approved the Alberta Health Physician On-Call Grant Agreement for the term April 1, 2016 to March 31, 2017; and**
- ii) delegated authority to execute the Grant Agreement on behalf of Alberta Health Services to the President & Chief Executive Officer.**

- **[AHSB16-04] AH-AMA-AHS Agreements**

Mr. David Carpenter also spoke to the AMA/AH/AHS Agreements.

Representatives from Alberta Health, the Alberta Medical Association and AHS have been meeting to reach agreement on an amendment to the current Alberta Medical Association Agreement between Alberta Health and the Alberta Medical Association which ends March 31, 2018. The AMA ratified the amendment and supporting agreements earlier this month.

As part of that, the parties have completed extensive discussions concerning priority issues including immediate financial viability of the health care system, shared stewardship of limited health care resources, enhanced opportunities for physician participation in health care system decision making and governance. The parties have created, in a strategic agreement with a term until March 31, 2018, a set of initiatives that will foster collaboration between AHS, AH and AMA and leverage core capabilities within each organization. The strategic agreement provides a framework that sets out a process to resolve AHS contract negotiations with its independent contractor physicians who are providing, or wish to provide, insured services. This framework does not apply to employee physicians, medical students, residents or fellows. The AHS Board wishes to approve such strategic agreement and to delegate signing authority to the AHS President & CEO.

The parties acknowledged that attention had to be made to integrated care throughout the health care system including the integration of delivery models and the support mechanisms. The parties have agreed to work towards an integrated care delivery strategy under an AMA/AH/AHS integrated care agreement which will be in force until March 31, 2018. The Board wishes to approve this agreement and delegate signing authority to the AHS President & CEO.

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

- 1. approved the AMA/AH/AHS Strategic Agreement and the AMA/AH/AHS Integrated Care Agreement on substantially the terms and conditions reviewed by the Board; and**
- 2. delegated authority to execute the AMA/AH/AHS Strategic Agreement and the AMA/AH/AHS Integrated Care Agreement on behalf of Alberta Health Services to the President & Chief Executive Officer.**

❖ **Adjournment**

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

/S/
Linda Hughes
Chair

/S/
Catherine MacNeill
Corporate Secretary & Legal Counsel