

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 March 1, 2017.

Attendees:

Board Members: Ms. Linda Hughes (Chair)
Dr. Brenda Hemmelgarn (Vice-Chair)
Mr. David Carpenter
Mr. Richard Dicerri
Ms. Heather Hirsch
Mr. Hugh Sommerville
Ms. Marliss Taylor
Ms. Glenda Yeates

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. Ronda White, Chief Audit Executive
Ms. Catherine MacNeill, Corporate Secretary & Legal Counsel

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

Ms. Hughes called the meeting to order at approximately 1:30 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 Ms. Linda Hughes’, Board Chair, remarks at the meeting. It is not an official transcript:

Good afternoon, everybody. My name is Linda Hughes. I am the Chair of the Alberta Health Services Board, and I am happy to welcome you to our second public board meeting of 2017.

A little later Dr. Verna Yiu will share her thoughts on how the organization is working to improve the quality of healthcare delivered every day across the province. For now, I want to say a quick thank you to all of those who are involved in providing care across Alberta. This is a high demand profession, and one of the benefits of being in my position is that I get to see firsthand all of the good work that takes place across the province.

So to our staff, our partners, our advisory council members, and our foundation partners, thank you for being committed to quality and thank you for your contributions every single day.

We have a full agenda today. First we will hear from the Community Engagement Committee, which is seeking Board approval on three matters: advisory council member renewals and appointments, appointment of trustees to health foundations and amendments to Provincial Advisory Council bylaws.

We will also hear from the Finance Committee about two matters. That Committee will recommend that the Board approve a contract for a six-year supply of a product used in the treatment of multiple myeloma and other conditions, and delegate authority to sign that contract to our AHS President and CEO, Dr. Verna Yiu. The Finance Committee will also seek ratification of the AHS investment portfolio and transactions.

We will also hear reports to the Board from the Governance, Audit & Risk, and Human Resources Committees.

Thank you very much.

❖ **Review of Agenda**

UPON MOTION duly moved, seconded and unanimously carried, the Board approved the agenda for the meeting of the Board held on March 1, 2017, 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. Comments

• **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 to everyone.

I would like to share a few words about quality improvement but, today, I would also like to do so in a slightly different context. I have often shared news at our public board meetings about the many projects and programs that are improving the quality of care in a specific area of the healthcare system. But today I would like to talk about the pace of improvement and especially in a provincewide healthcare system like ours.

Many times over the course of a year, processes will be changed and resources shifted in order to make small-scale quality improvements that have an almost immediate effect. However, larger systemic improvements typically take a lot more time. We are talking months and years, not days and weeks. So, it is important we remain committed to courses of action when we know they will deliver the results we seek, even if there is no instant gratification. In other words, some things are worth the wait.

For instance, as an organization, we have taken many actions to improve patient satisfaction rates at our hospitals across the province. This is neither a quick fix nor an easy job for AHS or, in fact, for any healthcare system.

AHS uses the Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems or HCAPS to evaluate patient experiences in Alberta Hospitals. Overall, 82 percent of all patients surveyed in 2015-16 rated their hospital care as an eight, nine or ten out of ten. Although that is three percentage points below our provincial target of 85 percent, the good news is that the upward trend of satisfaction rates at specific sites demonstrates sustained local actions can improve healthcare experiences for patients. For example, patient satisfaction rates at Fort Saskatchewan Community Hospital have increased from 83 per cent to 93 per cent since 2012/13. That is a significant improvement. The Fort Saskatchewan facility is one of 27 AHS hospitals with patient satisfaction rates currently over 90 per cent, which shows that pockets of excellence truly exist. We know that by sharing the best practices of hospitals with excellent patient satisfaction rates, we can finally move the needle in the right direction provincewide.

We are also making tremendous strides in the area of cancer control thanks to years of difficult and co-ordinated work, especially related to early detection and cancer screening. Alberta's cancer incidence rates have declined by about 0.6 per cent annually between 2001 and 2014 and mortality rates have also decreased over the past 20 years, falling on average by 2.1 per cent annually between 2004 and 2014. These are life-saving improvements that are achieved by being committed to a well-conceived long-term strategy over the course of many years.

I believe that AHS efforts to embed the principles of patient- and family-centred care, through our Patient First Strategy, will also require sustained effort over many years. We launched the Patient First Strategy nearly three years ago and since then, we have been hearing more and more stories from patients and families about how — now more than ever — they are at the centre of their care team and involved in all decisions about their care. Their stories confirm that we are on the right track and I would like to share one such story with you.

Patrycja Kujawa is an Edmonton woman who delivered all three of her children at the Royal Alexandra Hospital. Her first child, a boy named Gabriel, was born 13 years ago and her most recent child, a daughter named Helena, arrived last September.

Patryja reached out to AHS because she wanted us to know that she recognized and appreciated the fact that, from her perspective, AHS is now doing a much better job listening to patients and families. She pointed out that was not the case when she gave birth to Gabriel. Patryja said that, back then: there was very little dialogue with her care team; that her care team did not really respect her preference to give birth without pain medications or other interventions; and that she did not feel fully supported during her 14-hour labour.

Patryja told us, quote, "I just wanted to give birth to my baby the way I wanted to give birth to my baby." In the end, she did give birth to a healthy baby boy according to her wishes, but not without undue stress and conflict. But that was then.

Patryja was so happy with her recent labour and delivery experiences in 2014 and 2016 that she decided she wanted to return to the unit and show her appreciation. Our cameras were there, and I would like to give you a sneak preview of a video that we will be sharing with Albertans on our website in the next few days.

[A video was shown with respect to patient and family-centred care]

Patryja shows us how patient and family-centred care enhances patient outcomes, patient and health provider experiences, and overall quality of care. We know we are on the right path with the Patient First Strategy and we are committed to demonstrating patient and family-centred care during every patient encounter, wherever patients access the health system. But this requires a culture change - a systemic change, that takes time. But rest assured, just as we are gradually increasing patient satisfaction rates, and just as we are reducing rates of cancer incidence and mortality, we will work to advance patient and family-centred care in our organization every single day, month to month and year to year.

We will get to where we want to be; and that will mean we have more patients like Patryja — who feel supported by a health team and a health system that is respectful and responsive to Albertan’s needs, preferences and values. This will be time well spent.

Thank you for your time today, and for your interest in Alberta Health Services.

2. Community Engagement Committee

a) Report to the Board

Dr. Brenda Hemmelgarn, Committee Chair, reported on the meeting of the Community Engagement Committee on February 9, 2017. She noted the Committee received a presentation from Mr. Casey Eaglespeaker, Vice-Chair, Wisdom Council, and Ms. Brenda Laboucan, Aboriginal Engagement Officer, Aboriginal Health Program, on what they perceive as opportunities, results and challenges in healthcare in this area. The Committee at the meeting also considered three recommendations for approval.

b) [CEC17-02] Advisory Council Member Renewals and Appointments

Dr. Brenda Hemmelgarn, Committee Chair, advised that under the Amended Bylaw for Alberta Health Services (AHS) Establishing Health Advisory Councils, the AHS Board is required to approve renewals and appointments of members to the Health Advisory Councils. In addition, under the Bylaws for each of the Addiction & Mental Health Provincial Advisory Council and the Cancer Provincial Advisory Council, the AHS Board is required to approve membership appointments.

The Committee reviewed appointments to certain Health Advisory Councils effective March 1, 2017 and recommended that the AHS Board approve such appointments. Dr. Hemmelgarn noted that AHS is very grateful for the commitment of volunteers across the province and that AHS values their work and appreciates their commitment to health care in the province. Given the number of renewals and appointments, the names were not read but were incorporated into these minutes and posted publicly.

UPON MOTION duly moved, seconded and unanimously carried the Alberta Health Services Board approved member renewals and new appointments to the Health Advisory Council, Addiction Mental Health Provincial Advisory Council, and the Cancer Provincial Advisory Council effective March 1, 2017 as reviewed by the Alberta Health Services Board, for the following individuals for terms specified:

Health Advisory Council Renewals – for a Three Year Term – effective January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2019	
Health Advisory Council	Name
David Thompson	Ms. Sandra Doze Ms. Janice Lockhart
Greater Edmonton	Ms. Edith Baraniecki Ms. Teresa O’Riordan
Lakeland Communities	Mr. David Beale Ms. Patricia Palechuk
Lesser Slave Lake	Mr. Brian Rosche
Oldman River	Mr. Fred Bosma Mr. Clifford Elle
Palliser Triangle	Ms. Marjorie Moncrief
Peace	Ms. Yvonne Rempel
Prairie Mountain	Ms. Moremi Omotoso Ms. Francesca Simon
Tamarack	Mr. Douglas Heine Mr. Daniel Pritchard
True North	Mr. Waldemar Schroeder
Wood Buffalo	Ms. Heather MacKay
Yellowhead	Mr. Gary Duffett
Health Advisory Council New Appointments – for a Three Year Term – effective March 1, 2017 to February 29, 2020	
Health Advisory Council	Name
Greater Edmonton	Ms. Anahi Johnson
Lakeland Communities	Mr. Robert Deresh Mr. Zicki Eludin
Oldman River	Ms. Gerri Eagle Speaker
Peace	Ms. Alison Cormack Ms. Laura Hancharuk
Wood Buffalo	Ms. Lucie Lapierre Mr. Ahmad Qayyum Ms. Cathy Underhill Mr. Jonathan Willcott
Yellowhead East	Ms. Ellen Lefsrud Ms. Tahneen Rudyk

Addiction & Mental Health PAC New Appointments – for a Two Year Term - effective April 1, 2017	
	Name
Calgary Area	Ms. Timena Osborne
Cancer PAC New Appointments – for a Three Year Term - effective March 1, 2017	
	Name
Calgary Area	Mr. Stephen Herbert
South Area	Mr. Bryson Brown
Cancer PAC New Appointments – for a Two Year Term - effective March 1, 2017	
	Name
Calgary Area	Ms. Leanne Anderson
Central Area	Ms. Andrea DeYoung
North Area	Mr. Ernie Grach

c) [CEC17-03] Q4 Appointment of Trustees to Health Foundations

Dr. Brenda Hemmelgarn, Committee Chair, advised that the responsibility to appoint Trustees to established Foundations lies with the AHS Board pursuant to the *Regional Health Authorities Foundations Regulation*. The Committee reviewed appointments to certain Foundations effective March 1, 2017 and recommended that the AHS Board approve such appointments. Dr. Hemmelgarn again noted that AHS is very grateful for the commitment of Foundation volunteers across the province and that AHS values their work and appreciates their commitment to healthcare in the province. Given the number of appointments, the names were not read but were incorporated into these minutes and posted publicly.

UPON MOTION duly moved, seconded and unanimously carried the Alberta Health Services Board approved the following trustee appointments or re-appointments to the Foundations effective March 1, 2017 as reviewed by the Committee of Alberta Health Services Board for the terms specified:

Foundation	Name	Role	Period of Appointment
Alberta Cancer Foundation	Matthew Parliament	Trustee	March 1, 2017 to March 1, 2018
Calgary Health Trust	Dan Silvester	Trustee	March 1, 2017 to March 1, 2020
Lac La Biche Regional Health Foundation	Omer Moghrabi	Trustee	March 1, 2017 to March 1, 2020
	Sharon Hutchinson	Trustee	March 1, 2017 to March 1, 2019
Medicine Hat & District Health Foundation	Chris Hellman	Trustee	March 1, 2017 to March 1, 2020
Rocky Mountain House and Area Health Services Foundation	Marliss Cartier	Trustee	March 1, 2017 to March 1, 2019
	Tammy Cote	Trustee	March 1, 2017 to March 1, 2020
	Terri Fraser	Trustee	March 1, 2017 to March 1, 2019
	Shirley Hope	Trustee	March 1, 2017 to March 1, 2020
	Dexter Kjorlien	Trustee	March 1, 2017 to March 1, 2020
	Marlene Levinsky	Trustee	March 1, 2017 to March 1, 2020
	Phyllis Loewen	Trustee	March 1, 2017 to March 1, 2019
	Dale Shippelt	Trustee	March 1, 2017 to March 1, 2019
Strathcona Community Hospital Foundation	Ann Stewart	Trustee	March 1, 2017 to March 1, 2020
	Linda Osinchuk	Trustee	March 1, 2017 to March 1, 2019
	Douglas Endres	Trustee	March 1, 2017 to March 1, 2018
Vulcan County Health and Wellness Foundation	Victor Bidzinski	Trustee	March 1, 2017 to March 1, 2018
	Susan Dow	Trustee	March 1, 2017 to March 1, 2020

d) [CEC17-04] Amendments to Provincial Advisory Council Bylaws

Dr. Brenda Hemmelgarn, Committee Chair, advised that the Committee was presented amendments to the Addiction and Mental Health and the Cancer Provincial Advisory Council Bylaws which require Board approval.

The Committee recommended the Board approve the revised amended Bylaws.

UPON MOTION duly moved, seconded and unanimously carried the Alberta Health Services Board approved the proposed revisions to the Addiction and Mental Health Provincial Advisory Council Amended Bylaw and the Cancer Provincial Advisory Council Amended Bylaw as reviewed by the Committee and directed management to forward the revised Bylaws to Alberta Health for the Minister's approval.

3. **Governance Committee**

a) **Report to the Board**

Mr. Hugh Sommerville, Committee Chair, reported on the meeting of the Governance Committee on February 9, 2017. He advised the Committee reviewed the Board Member Skills and Competencies Matrix and the Board Evaluation Survey template which it will use to conduct board evaluations this Spring. He noted that the Chief Ethics Officer attended the meeting to provide a quarterly update on the Ethics and Compliance Department and that there were no items presented at the Committee to be considered for Board approval.

4. **Finance Committee**

a) **Report to the Board**

Mr. David Carpenter, Committee Chair, reported on the meeting of the Finance Committee on February 15, 2017. He advised the Committee had significant discussions on the 2017-18 Budget. In addition the Committee had two items to consider for recommendation for Board approval.

b) **[FC17-01] Delegation of Signing Authority to the President and CEO for the Celgene Revlimid® Agreement**

Mr. David Carpenter, Committee Chair, advised that the Committee recommended the Board approve a contract between Celgene and AHS effective October 1, 2016 for a 6-year supply of Revlimid and delegate signing authority of such to the AHS President & CEO.

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

(a) approved a contract between Celgene and Alberta Health Services effective October 1, 2016 for the 6-year supply of Revlimid® upon the terms and conditions presented to the Finance Committee; and

(b) delegated authority to the Alberta Health Services President and CEO to sign the Contract on behalf of AHS.

c) **[FC17-02] Third Quarter Investment Report**

Mr. David Carpenter, Committee Chair, advised that as mandated by AHS' Investment Bylaw, the Finance Committee is required to review reports prepared by management and investment managers summarizing the activities and performance of AHS' investment portfolio on a quarterly basis. The *Regional Health Authorities Regulation* and the AHS Investment Bylaw describe the requirements for the Board to approve or ratify by resolution AHS' investment decisions. The Committee was presented the December 31, 2016 Third Quarter Investment Report and recommended that the Board ratify the transactions.

UPON MOTION duly moved, seconded and unanimously carried the Alberta Health Services Board ratified the investment portfolio and transactions described below, and as certified by

signed investment compliance certificates from AHS and Phillips, Hager & North Investment Management:

- (a) as at December 31, 2016, AHS held restricted and unrestricted funds managed by Phillips, Hager & North Investment Management and Standard Life Canada totalling \$1.497 billion;**
- (b) the funds were invested in short term treasury bills, federal, provincial and corporate fixed income bonds, pooled mortgage funds, bond funds, Canadian and Global equity funds; and**
- (c) all of the funds invested during the quarter ended December 31, 2016, were invested in accordance with the Investment Bylaw and Investments Policy as certified by signed investment compliance certificates from AHS and PH&N.**

5. Audit & Risk Committee

a) Report to the Board

Mr. David Carpenter, Committee Chair, reported on the Audit & Risk Committee meeting on February 15, 2017. He noted that in accordance with usual practice, representatives from the Office of the Auditor General and KPMG attended the meeting. He also noted that the Committee discussed various audit matters including the status of the outstanding internal and external audit recommendations and AHS' property insurance. There were no items presented at the Committee to be considered for Board approval.

6. Human Resources Committee

a) Report to the Board

Mr. Richard Dicerni, Committee Chair, reported on the Human Resources Committee meeting on February 28, 2017. He noted the Committee discussed success measures under *Our People Strategy*, received an update on labour relations and essential services, and discussed the status of workplace health and safety as well as the internal audit. He also noted the Committee was provided an executive leadership planning process and an update on Canada's top 100 employers. There were no items presented to the Committee for Board approval.

❖ Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:52 p.m.

Linda Hughes
Chair

Catherine MacNeill
Corporate Secretary & Legal Counsel