

PUBLIC BOARD MEETING

Minutes of the meeting of the Alberta Health Services (“AHS”) Board (the “Board”) held by teleconference, on June 1, 2022.

Attendees:

Board Members: Mr. Gregory Turnbull, QC, Chair
Dr. Sayeh Zielke, Vice-Chair
Ms. Deborah Apps
Ms. Sherri Fountain, QC
Mr. Hartley Harris
Mr. Jack Mintz, CM
Ms. Heidi Overguard
Ms. Natalia Reiman

Management: Mauro Chies, Interim President & Chief Executive Officer
Ms. Colleen Purdy, Vice President, Corporate Services & Chief Financial Officer
Ms. Colleen Turner, Vice President, Community Engagement & Communications
Ms. Tina Giesbrecht, General Counsel
Ms. Catherine MacNeill, Corporate Secretary & Legal Counsel

Regrets: Mr. Tony Dagnone, CM
Mr. Brian Vaasjo
Ms. Vicki Yellow Old Woman

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

Mr. Turnbull called the meeting to order at approximately 4:45 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. Gregory Turnbull’s, Board Chair, remarks at the meeting. It is not an official transcript:

Good afternoon, everyone. I am Gregory Turnbull, Chair of the Alberta Health Services 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 meeting of the Board to consider motions coming through the committee meetings in the last month.

To start, in the spirit of 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 Alberta Health Services 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. 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.

This is the first day of June, which means it's Pride Month and National Indigenous Peoples Month.

Here at AHS, we will be marking and celebrating both over the next four weeks because diversity and inclusion are essential to everything we do. I should point out AHS was recently named one of Canada's Best Diversity Employers for the fourth consecutive year, and was bestowed with the 2022 Excellence in Diversity & Inclusion Award from the Canadian College of Health Leaders.

This is well-deserved recognition for our concerted efforts over the past several years to focus on the diverse needs of patients, families and employees, including:

- Women;
- Members of visible minorities and Indigenous Peoples;
- Persons with disabilities; and
- All members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning and two-spirit communities.

I would like to thank the Diversity and Inclusion team for leading this work, as well as our Wisdom Council, Indigenous people and organizations for partnering with us so we can continue working towards offering culturally appropriate health services for all First Nations, Métis and Inuit people.

I also want to express my gratitude to the volunteer members of Health Advisory Councils, Provincial Advisory Councils and the Wisdom Council, who gathered with AHS representatives last weekend in Edmonton at the first in-person Spring Forum since the pandemic. I was there on Friday with Mauro and felt a lot of positive energy in the room.

Our advisory council members are all passionate about healthcare in Alberta and want to make a difference, especially in their communities. It's crucial for AHS to engage these individuals, listen to their ideas and observations, and partner with them to reach our mutual goals.

Building Bridges was the theme of the Spring Forum and, by all accounts, the event helped to renew and rebuild the connections between council members and between the councils and AHS. Our organization needs strong relationships with communities and stakeholders so, together, we can address what matters most to Albertans when it comes to healthcare.

Finally, I'd like to thank all the AHS teams involved in last weekend's fourth launch of Connect Care. This was the biggest launch to date, with 57 sites in the Edmonton and Calgary zones joining the provincial clinical information system. There are five more launches to go before the system is implemented at sites provincewide by 2024.

Connect Care is key to everything we are trying to do at AHS, including:

- Giving Albertans improved access to their health information and healthcare teams.
- Standardizing best practices throughout the province to improve outcomes, safety and sustainability.

- Expanding virtual health options and community-based care.
- And enabling evidence-based decision-making through data and analytics.

I'm grateful to everyone who is now working with Connect Care, and those preparing for future launches. Digital Health Evolution and Innovation is one of 10 AHS priorities — and Connect Care is an essential part of that priority.

Now, before we get to the business of the day, Mauro Chies would like to say a few words about progress being made in several other AHS priority areas.

❖ **Comments from the Interim President & CEO**

The following is an abstract of Mr. Mauro Chies, Interim President & CEO, remarks at the meeting. It is not an official transcript:

Thank you, Greg, and good afternoon everyone.

I'd also like to pass along my gratitude to everyone involved in last weekend's Connect Care launch — there was so much difficult and complex work done before and after launch to ensure we got our people up and running on the system without a significant impact on patient care.

And Connect Care will undoubtedly improve the quality and safety of the care we provide across the province, especially once the phased rollout is completed in 2024.

Of course, there is always so much work being done across AHS at all times. Healthcare workers are multi-taskers. As our people have been responding to the pandemic, and working on the rollout of Connect Care, they have also been making significant progress toward the goals outlined in our organization's 10 priority areas.

Let me highlight a few examples of our progress. For instance, by implementing Alberta Surgical Initiative, we are working to reduce wait lists for surgery and ensure Albertans receive their procedures within clinically appropriate wait times.

We're seeing our wait lists steadily decrease. Right now, there are about 70,500 Albertans on surgical wait lists — that's down almost 4,000 people since April. That's still too many people but it's heartening to see the actions we're taking are helping us trend in the right direction.

Our Workforce Recruitment and Retention strategy aims to recruit and retain healthcare workers across the province, especially in rural communities.

In the past few weeks, we've announced the recruitment of new physicians in several northern Alberta communities, including Hinton, High Prairie, McLennan, Elk Point, Barrhead, Wabasca and Swan Hills. This means many more northern Albertans will now have improved access to primary care to help them manage their health and wellness.

Pandemic Response and Recovery is another priority, and part of this work involves increasing our acute care capacity. Earlier this month, AHS added 19 permanent and fully staffed ICU beds, with 31 more to open by September.

I should point out: ICU beds are specialized care spaces and require teams with specialized skills, so the addition of ICU capacity represents a huge amount of work and a significant investment in our workforce and infrastructure.

Then there's the implementation of the EMS 10-Point Plan. This work is focused on managing high volumes of EMS calls, freeing ambulances for urgent care needs, and ensuring our EMS workforce is robust and well supported.

This month, we opened an Integrated Operations Centre in the Calgary Zone that acts as something of an 'air traffic control' centre for our EMS fleet. It works with EMS crews on the ground, helping direct them to the most appropriate care facility for each specific patient, based on patient need and site capacity — all with the aim of improving response times for Albertans when they need urgently need EMS services.

Before I turn the mic back over to Greg, I want to take time to thank all of our staff, physicians and volunteers for all of their hard work, professionalism and compassion. Although we hope the worst of the pandemic is behind us, this remains an incredibly busy time for our people, especially on the front lines. They continue to go above and beyond, each and every day, despite the fatigue that comes from more than two years of dealing with the pandemic. They have my respect, appreciation and gratitude for all they've done, and continue to do, to serve the people of this province.

Thank you.

❖ **Review of Agenda**

UPON MOTION duly moved, seconded and unanimously carried, the Board approved the agenda for the meeting of the Board held on June 1, 2022, which was provided to the Board in advance of the meeting.

❖ **Declaration of Conflicts of Interest**

Mr. Turnbull 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 – March 17, April 21 & May 12, 2022

UPON MOTION duly moved, seconded and unanimously carried, the minutes of the AHS Board meetings held on March 17, April 21 & May 12, 2022 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. Community Engagement Committee

a) Report to the Board

Ms. Heidi Overguard, Committee Vice Chair, reported that the Community Engagement Committee met on May 12, 2022.

Ms. Overguard advised the Committee received presentations from the Alberta Children's Hospital Foundation and from the Palliser Triangle Health Advisory Council.

Ms. Overguard advised the Committee considered two recommendations for approval of the Board.

b) [CEC22-14] Appointments of Trustees to Health Foundations

Ms. Overguard noted the Committee reviewed the appointments and reappointments of Trustees to Foundations. The responsibility to appoint Trustees to established Foundations lies with the AHS Board. The Committee recommended the Board approve the Trustee appointments and reappointments as reviewed by the Committee. The Board has considered such recommendations and the members support its approval.

UPON MOTION duly moved, seconded and unanimously carried the Alberta Health Services Board approved the appointments and reappointments of Trustees to Health Foundations for the terms reviewed by the Community Engagement Committee and the Alberta Health Services Board.

c) [CEC22-15] Advisory Council Appointments and Renewals and Provincial Advisory Council Chair Appointments

Ms. Overguard noted the Committee reviewed new appointments and term renewals of members to Advisory Councils, and the appointments of the Chairs of the Seniors and Continuing Care Provincial Advisory Council and the Addiction and Mental Health Provincial Advisory Council. The responsibility to appoint Advisory Council members lies with the AHS Board. The Committee recommended the Board approve the member new appointments and term renewals as reviewed by the Committee. The Board has considered such recommendation and the members support its approval.

UPON MOTION duly moved, seconded and unanimously carried the Alberta Health Services Board approved the appointments and renewals of members to the Advisory Councils and the appointments of the Seniors and Continuing Care Provincial Advisory Council Chair and the Addiction and Mental Health Provincial Advisory Council Chair for the terms reviewed by the Community Engagement Committee and the Alberta Health Services Board.

3. Human Resources Committee

a) Report to the Board

Ms. Heidi Overguard, Committee Chair, reported that the Human Resources Committee met on May 16, 2022.

The Committee received a labour relations update and had a fulsome discussion on integrated workforce planning.

There were no items that came through the Committee for Board approval.

4. **Quality & Safety Committee**

a) **Report to the Board**

Dr. Sayeh Zielke, Committee Chair, reported that the Quality & Safety Committee met on May 18, 2022. Dr. Zielke advised that the agenda items typically focus on access, quality and safety.

The Committee discussed the Hospital Standardized Mortality Ratio Review. The Committee also received updates on the Alberta Surgical Initiative, Right Care Alberta, and the Continuing Care Quality Plan and Continuing Care Health Service Standards Annual Report and Audit Plan.

The Committee received a presentation on Cancer Care Alberta: Caring Today and Preparing for the Future.

There were no items that came through the Committee for Board approval.

5. **Finance Committee**

a) **Report to the Board**

Mr. Brian Vaasjo, Committee Chair, reported that the Finance Committee met on May 26, 2022.

Mr. Vaasjo advised the Committee considered four recommendations for approval of the Board.

b) **[FC22-18] Proposed Amendments to the *Delegation of Authority and Establishment of Controls for Commitments Policy***

Mr. Brian Vaasjo, Committee Chair, noted the Committee recommended the Alberta Health Services Board approve proposed amendments to Policy 1100, *The Delegation of Authority and Establishment of Controls for Commitments Policy*. The Board has considered such recommendation and the members support its approval.

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

- 1. approved, effectively immediately, the proposed amendments to *Policy 1100 Delegation of Authority and Establishment of Controls for Commitments Policy*, as reviewed by the Finance Committee and the Alberta Health Services Board, with such non-substantive changes that management of Alberta Health Services considers necessary or advisable; and**
- 2. directed management of Alberta Health Services to post the amended Policy 1100 on the Alberta Healthy Services public website.**

c) **[FC22-17] i) Delegation of Authority – Amendment of the Operating Services Agreement with Covenant Care – Garry Station**

Mr. Brian Vaasjo, Committee Chair, advised the Committee reviewed and recommended the Alberta Health Services Board approve an amendment to the Operating Services Agreement with Covenant Care at the new Garry Station facility in Lethbridge. The Board has considered such recommendation and the members support its approval.

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

1. approved an amendment to the Operating Services Agreement with Covenant Care to add 102 new supportive living spaces for a 30-year term at the new Garry Station facility in Lethbridge on the terms and conditions reviewed by the Finance Committee and the Alberta Health Services Board with such non-substantive changes that management of Alberta Health Services considers necessary or advisable; and
2. delegated the authority to the Alberta Health Services Interim President & CEO to execute the documents that give effect to the amendment noted above on behalf of Alberta Health Services in accordance with the *Delegation of Authority and Establishment of Controls for Commitments Policy*.

d) [FC22-17] ii) Delegation of Authority – Extension of Master Services Agreements with CBI Home Health (AB) Limited Partnership

Mr. Brian Vaasjo, Committee Chair, advised the Committee considered and recommended for Board approval an extension to the current Master Services Agreements with CBI Home Health (AB) Limited Partnership. The Board has considered such recommendation and the members support its approval.

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

1. approved an extension of up to 12 months to the current Master Services Agreements with CBI Home Health (AB) Limited Partnership for community home care services in the Edmonton, Calgary, Central, and South zones on the terms and conditions reviewed by the Finance Committee and the Alberta Health Services Board with such non-substantive changes that management of Alberta Health Services considers necessary or advisable; and
2. delegated the authority to the Alberta Health Services Interim President & CEO to execute the documents that give effect to the extensions noted above on behalf of Alberta Health Services in accordance with the *Delegation of Authority and Establishment of Controls for Commitments Policy*.

e) [FC22-19] Interim Authorization to Spend for COVID-19 and Surgery Recovery Costs in 2022/23

Mr. Brian Vaasjo, Committee Chair, advised the Committee reviewed and recommended the Board approve amendments to the authorization to spend related to costs for COVID-19 and surgery recovery previously approved by the Alberta Health Services Board on March 17, 2022. The Board has considered such recommendation and the members support its approval.

UPON MOTION duly moved, seconded and unanimously carried the Alberta Health Services Board approved amendments to the authorization to spend related to costs for COVID-19 and surgery recovery previously approved by the Alberta Health Services Board on March 17, 2022, as follows:

1. the interim authorization period under the COVID and Surgery Recovery Authorization to Spend be extended to end on September 30, 2022 rather than June 30, 2022;
2. the maximum expenses under the COVID and Surgery Recovery Authorization to Spend be increased from \$420 million to \$640 million for the extended period April 1, 2022 to September 30, 2022; and

3. the maximum capital expenditures under the COVID and Surgery Recovery Authorization to Spend be increased from \$12 million to \$27 million for the extended period April 1, 2022 to September 30, 2022.

6. Audit & Risk Committee

a) Report to the Board

Mr. Jack Mintz, Committee Chair, reported that the Audit & Risk Committee met on May 26, 2022 and on June 1, 2022. In accordance with standard practice, representative from the Office of the Auditor General and KPMG attended both meetings.

At the May 26, 2022 meeting, the Committee received drafts of the 2022-23 Annual Report and the March 31, 2022 consolidated financial statements and financial statement discussion and analysis. In addition, the Committee received a report on outstanding and implemented audit recommendations, and the 2022-23 Internal Audit and Enterprise Risk Management Department Plan and 2022-23 Provincial Continuing Care Audit Team Plan Internal Audit Charter Update.

At the June 1, 2022 meeting, the Committee received the Office of the Auditor General Report for the year ended March 31, 2022, a draft of the annual report, a report on the annual risk summary, an audit report on IT general control and a legal & privacy update.

Mr. Mintz advised the Committee considered two recommendations for approval of the Board.

b) [ARC22-24] 2022-23 Internal Audit and Enterprise Risk Management Department Plan and 2022-23 Provincial Continuing Care Audit Team Plan and Internal Audit Charter Update

Mr. Jack Mintz, Committee Chair, reported the Committee reviewed the 2022-23 Internal Audit and Enterprise Risk Management Department Plan, the 2022-23 Provincial Continuing Care Audit Team Plan and the updated Internal Audit Charter. The Internal Audit and Enterprise Risk Management Department Plan outlines the audits and advisory projects to be conducted over the next year which will focus on key organizational strategic priorities and risks. It also includes the Department's goals, strategies, performance measures and budget. The Provincial Continuing Care Audit Team Plan focuses on the planned audits of continuing care services and programs across the province in the next year. The Plan also includes the team goals, priorities, performance measures and budget.

Mr. Mintz advised the Committee recommended that the AHS Board approve both plans and the charter, which were reviewed by the Board. The Board has considered such recommendation and the members support its approval.

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

- 1. 2022-23 Internal Audit and Enterprise Risk Management Department Plan;**
- 2. 2022-23 Provincial Continuing Care Audit Team Plan; and**
- 3. updated Internal Audit Charter;**

in the forms reviewed by the Audit & Risk Committee and the Alberta Health Services Board with such non-substantive changes that management of Alberta Health Services considers necessary or advisable.

c) [ARC22-33] March 31, 2022 AHS Consolidated Financial Statements and Financial Statement Discussion and Analysis

Mr. Mintz advised the Committee reviewed a final version of the March 31, 2022 Consolidated Financial Statements, the establishment of reserves, and the financial statement discussion and analysis. The Committee recommended the Board approve those items. The Board reviewed such recommendation and the members support the approval.

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

- 1. March 31, 2022 Financial Statement Discussion and Analysis;**
- 2. March 31, 2022 Consolidated Financial Statements, including the Schedules of Remuneration and Benefits; and**
- 3. Internal restriction of reserves, including unrestricted surplus invested in tangible capital assets and internally restricted surplus for insurance equity requirements and foundations.**

❖ **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Gregory Turnbull, QC
Chair

Catherine MacNeill
Corporate Secretary & Legal Counsel