

June 26, 2024

## Board of Directors – Public Minutes

PEI Wildlife Federation, Souris

10:00 to 11:30 am

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**Chair:** Ms. Diane Griffin

**Members:** Mr. Peter MacDonald, Dr. Richard Wedge (Vice Chair), Ms. Megan Cheverie, Ms. Colleen Parker, Dr. William Montelpare, Ms. Jennifer Evans, Ms. Helen Flynn, Mr. Matt Vaughan & Ms. Ouma Cuniah

**HPEI Staff:** Ms. Belinda White, Chief Administrative Officer  
Mr. Andrew MacDougall, Interim Chief Operating Officer  
Ms. Jessica Bruce, Senior Communications Officer  
Ms. Gina Beeley, Assistant to the Board (recorder)

**Guests:** Mr. Peter MacDougall & supporters  
Ms. Gail MacInnis, Souris Regional Hospital Foundation  
Mr. Al MacDonald, Souris Regional Hospital Foundation  
Mr. Allan Gallant, Souris Regional Hospital Foundation  
Mr. Matt MacFarlane, Green Party MLA  
Ms. Michelle Patterson, Green Party Member  
Mr. Josh Ellis, Eastern Graphic  
Mr. Stu Neatby, The Guardian

**Regrets :** Ms. Melanie Fraser, CEO

### 1.0 CONVENING THE MEETING

Ms. Diane Griffin, chair welcomed our guests and the meeting convened at 10:05 am.

#### 1.1 Review of Agenda

The Chair reviewed the agenda for the public session.

**MOTION:** It was moved by Dr. William Montelpare and seconded by Ms. Helen Flynn to approve the June 26, 2024 Agenda

*MOTION CARRIED*

### 2.0 CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

## 2.1 Health PEI Board Minutes

The Board had reviewed the Public Minutes and no revisions were noted.

**MOTION: It was moved by Dr. William Montelpare and seconded by Ms. Helen Flynn to approve the minutes from March 26, 2024 as presented.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

Being mindful of time constraints and the number of guests attending/ waiting to speak during the public meeting, the Chair moved the correspondence agenda item to the beginning of the meeting.

## 2.2 Correspondence

The Chair reported correspondence from:

- The Chair of Kings County Memorial Hospital Foundation, Mr. Norman Stewart. Unfortunately, Mr. Stewart was unable to attend but he forwarded this observation:  
*He would like to see local representation on the steering committee for the planning of the new KCMH. He feels it is important that there is local input on the replacement facility, and he feels that there are highly qualified persons in the catchment area that should be considered for this committee.*

The observation had been previously relayed to the CEO who confirmed at that time that absolutely that there is a process to have the community engaged in many aspects of the planning and local input is incredibly important to Health PEI. We are just at the beginning phases of the planning process and there have been some inputs from local health system providers and partners. However, as we progress the opportunities for input will become broader and more frequent. At the meeting, Mr. Andrew MacDougall (representing the CEO) confirmed that more frequent consultations will be taking place soon.

The Chair feels that Mr. Stewart makes a valid point and agrees that public input and interaction is key to the planning process and the Board supports local dialogue at all stages. Ms. Jennifer Evans encourages better communication to our stakeholders and public to inform them that we are not quite there yet regarding consultation. The Chair will reflect this in her email response to Mr. Stewart.

- Mr. Peter MacDougall reached out to the Board and asked the following questions: -
  1. *Please explain, where is the danger, and what terrible result could we expect from having someone working in a hospital that wasn't vaccinated with this 'vaccine'?* and
  2. *Since the shots are not as effective as previously hoped for, and since boosters are recommended: Why is it mandatory to have booster shots every three to six months to work in Health Care to stay 'protected'?*

Mr. MacDougall explained the background to his attendance; his daughter had been offered a position by Health PEI but as she did not have the mandated Covid-19 vaccinations as per Health

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PEI Policy, and she was not engaged. Mr. MacDougall feels that only hiring immunized people is a great injustice, he feels that he has a wealth of evidence that does not support the Immunization Policy. He feels that by following Canadian Federal Health standards regarding this matter that Health PEI is supporting an 'evil' agenda of misinformation and cover ups.

Mr. Andrew MacDougall explained that the Health PEI policy is updated on a regular basis, gathering balanced evidence from the latest health data sources, both here and across Canada. Health PEI believe that the policy is appropriate for the Healthcare Sector.

As regards the second question, the Chair asked who else had Mr. MacDougall approached for an answer. Mr. MacDougall has contacted as many people as he thought may take an interest, including the Premier and Minister of Health & Wellness. The Chair explained that in their governance role, it was their job to ask questions, to ensure policy is being followed, not to set policy. She understands that a response is being prepared for Mr. MacDougall, and it will likely come from the Minister. The Chair explained that it may be not be the answer that he wants, however, he will have been part of the conversation. The Chair thanked them for their time.

Mr. MacDougall and supporters left the meeting, having asked the Board to do their own research at [National Citizens Inquiry | NCICanada - National Citizen's Inquiry - Canada's Response To Covid-19](#)

## **3.0 BUSINESS ITEMS**

### **3.1 CEO Report to Islanders**

Ms. Melanie Fraser was absent as she was attending negotiations re the Physicians Services Agreement. Mr. Andrew MacDougall, Interim COO presented the report on her behalf, the highlights of which were: -

- The CEO has communicated very clear near-term priorities and to this end is establishing a Transformation Office to set up HPEI for success on these priorities. Consultants KPMG have been engaged for a four month period to devise a comprehensive model to help put the transformation in place. There are 5 pillars:
  - Workforce Recruitment
  - Patient Medical Homes
  - Patient Registry
  - Medical Education
  - Organizational Capacity
- We have appointed a Director of Transformation who will be working alongside KPMG
- We have challenges, but improvements are happening in Home Care, EMR & Midwifery. Critical care continues to be a significant issue, but we are seeing more doctors being hired. We are aware of the high demands of Islanders and are making in-roads at achieving them. There will be more challenges ahead and we are mindful of supporting staff.

The Chair thanked Mr. MacDougall for his report.

**MOTION: It was moved by Ms. Colleen Parker and seconded by Ms. Ouma Cuniah to approve the CEO Report to Islanders.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

## 6.2 Board Chair Report

The Chair delivered her report, the highlights were:

- The Chair welcomed all our guests who have taken time out of their day to join the meeting today
- On behalf of the Board and Health PEI, the Chair thanked Ms. Helen Flynn, attending as a Board Member for the last time, for her commitment to the Board and Committees over many years. Fortunately, Helen will still be involved with the Quality & Safety Committee as a Patient Partner.
- She feels that Ms. Melanie Fraser, CEO has hit the ground running since taking her position on March 11, 2024, she feels she has created a more collaborative culture, and there is a real sense of positivity and visibility
- The pace of change will be slower than Islander's expectations, it will take time to feel the impact of the changes being made
- She is excited to see the implementation of the Transformation Office

**MOTION: It was moved by the Chair to accept her report, seconded by Ms. Helen Flynn**

**MOTION CARRIED**

## 4.0 RESOLUTIONS/ MOTIONS

**Resolutions and Motions from the in-camera session will be available by email to [ginabeeley@ihis.org](mailto:ginabeeley@ihis.org). These resolutions will be added to these minutes after the in-camera meeting of the Board.**

1. *MOTION: It was moved by Dr. William Montelpare and seconded by Ms. Helen Flynn to approve the June 26, 2024 Agenda.*
2. *MOTION: It was moved by Dr. William Montelpare and seconded by Ms. Megan Cheverie to approve the minutes from March 26, 2024 as presented.*
3. *MOTION: It was moved by Ms. Colleen Parker and seconded by Ms. Ouma Cuniah to approve the CEO Report to Islanders.*
4. *MOTION: It was moved by the Chair to accept her report, seconded by Ms. Helen Flynn*
5. *MOTION: Dr. Richard Wedge moved to adjourn at 11:35 am, meeting adjourned.*

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6. MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Peter MacDonald and seconded by Mr. Matt Vaughan to take the meeting in-camera in accordance with the Health Services Act 7.1 (3).
7. MOTION: It was moved by Dr. William Montelpare and seconded by Mr. Matt Vaughan to approve the revised June 26, 2024 Agenda.
8. MOTION: It was moved by Dr. William Montelpare and seconded by Ms. Megan Cheverie that the minutes of March 26, 2024 be approved as presented.
9. MOTION: Mr. Matt Vaughan moved to approve the Fiscal Year End Financials 2023-2024 as presented on June 24, 2024, subject to no material change, seconded by Mr. Peter MacDonald.
10. MOTION: Mr. Matt Vaughan moved to approve OE 2.4 Financial Conditions & Activities (Quarter 4 Forecast) as presented on June 24, 2024, subject to no material change, seconded by Ms. Colleen Parker.
11. MOTION: Mr. Matt Vaughan moved to approve the ARP Committee Report, seconded by Mr. Peter MacDonald.
12. MOTION: Ms. Jennifer Evans moved to approve OE 2.8 Executive Succession Planning as compliant, seconded by Mr. Peter MacDonald.
13. MOTION: It was moved by Ms. Evans and seconded by Ms. Colleen Parker to approve the HR Report.
14. MOTION: Ms. Flynn moved to approve OE 2.12 Medical Staff as compliant, seconded by Dr. William Montelpare.
15. MOTION: Dr. Montelpare moved to approve OE 2.1 Quality & Safety (Quarter 4), in compliance provision 4.1 and non-compliant in 4.2, seconded by Dr. Richard Wedge.
16. MOTION: It was moved by Ms. Helen Flynn and seconded by Dr. Richard Wedge to approve Quality & Safety Report as submitted.
17. MOTION: It was moved by Ms. Colleen Parker and seconded by Dr. Richard Wedge to approve the CHEC Report as submitted.
18. MOTION: Ms. Colleen Parker moved to accept the CEO Risk Report, seconded by Dr. Richard Wedge.
19. MOTION: Ms. Helen Flynn moved to accept the Board Chair Report, seconded by Dr. William Montelpare.
20. MOTION: Ms. Jennifer Evans moved to adjourn at 3:20 pm, meeting adjourned.

**All Motions were carried**

## **5.0 MINISTERIAL DIRECTIVES**

No Ministerial directives received.

## 6.0 QUESTION PERIOD

### 9.1 Local Stakeholder Questions

The Board held an open question period. The Chair reiterated her pleasure at being in Souris and the level of attendance for this public meeting of the Board.

Ms. Gail MacInnis, President of the Souris Hospital Foundation thanked the Board for coming to Souris. She relayed the latest equipment investments that they have made as a Foundation to the Souris Hospital, in total \$260,000 for a blood analyzer, a drug dispensing system and a bariatric room. The Board applauds these monumental efforts in supporting healthcare. Ms. MacInnis explained that they obtain donations through bequests, the Rotary and recently Tim Hortons' smile cookies campaign. The foundation has 9 members and currently is responsible for several facilities in the Souris district.

Mr. Stu Neatby from the Guardian asked when a review of the 2021-24 Strategic Plan can be expected. The Chair explained that the Board had agreed to a year's extension due to several factors. The Board felt that the priorities set out in the Strategic plan are still relevant, are still being reported on and monitored. Furthermore, it was felt that with a new CEO comes a change of outlook and as such, she should be given the opportunity to shape her vision of the Strategic Plan. The Board continue to monitor the direction of policies and key performance indicators to ensure Health PEI is on track. Mr. Neatby asked if there will be a performance evaluation carried out related to the Strategic Plan. Mr. MacDougall confirmed that this will happen, and that it will be shared. The Chair offers no apologies for the extension, she considers it a wise choice. The new Strategic Planning is being worked on.

Mr. MacDougall hopes that the implementation of the Transformation Office will help make change faster since each priority will have a dedicated project lead and Executive sponsor.

Mr. Matt MacFarlane acknowledged the Board's efforts to be accessible to stakeholders and travelling around the Island to hold their public meetings. He looks forward to seeing the impact of the changes being made. He also commends the hard work done by volunteers at the Foundations both here and across the Island.

Mr. Allan MacDonald asked how recruitment of Physicians was faring. Mr. MacDougall confirmed that we are heading in the right direction, the collaboration between Health PEI, the PSC and the DHW has much improved. Access to tuition grants in nursing has helped and we are recruiting respiratory specialists. He is mindful of the history of confusion we have had regarding recruitment and feels that we are also making strives towards improving our retention. Ms. Evans shared that the Board hear the same stories as Islanders, and we are trying to improve the timescales to on boarding.

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Mr. MacDougall made a point of thanking the Foundations across the Island who have raised \$3.5 million in the past year.

The Chair thanked the guests for their time and attendance.

## 7.0 ADJOURNMENT

The Chair thanked the Board for their time.

**MOTION: Dr. Richard Wedge moved to adjourn at 11:35 am, meeting adjourned.**

The next board meeting will be held in the West on October 30, 2024.

<i>Date Approved:</i>	<i>Chair Signature:</i>
<i>Oct 24, 2024</i>	<i>Diane F. Griffin</i>