

Holland Bloorview Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 26, 2022
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
ZOOM

Attendance

Present: Marg Rappolt, Chair; Poonam Puri, Vice Chair; Catherine Wood, Secretary; Allyson Whyte Nowak, Treasurer; Alycia Calvert; Carol Cowan-Levine; Laura Dottori-Attanasio; Julia Hanigsberg; Andrea Hoffman; Suzanne Jorisch; Alice Keung; Jean Lam; Golda Milo-Manson; Dale Ponder; Jennifer Quaglietta; Lisa Robinson; Catherine Roche; Michael Wasserman;

Sr. Management: Irene Andress; Tom Chau; Enza Dinino; Sandra Hawken, Tracey Millar, Bohodar Rubashewsky; Diane Savage; Meenu Sikand; Stewart Wong

Guest: Anthony Dale; Suzanne de Breyne

Regrets: Neil Selfe; Catherine Roche

Recorder: Kaitlyn Davis

1.0 Call to order

M. Rappolt, Chair, called the meeting of the Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital Board of Directors to order at 6:00 p.m.

Chair's remarks

M. Rappolt began the meeting with a Land Acknowledgment. She recognized and congratulated M. Sikand on her reappointment to the Accessibility Standards Advisory Council. M. Rappolt recognized and thanked the senior management team for their leadership during this difficult and complex time.

Approval of agenda

The Chair requested approval of the agenda as pre-circulated.

MOTION: It was MOVED by Catherine Wood, and seconded by Jennifer Quaglietta that the Board of Directors approve the agenda.

Wood/Quaglietta

CARRIED

Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

The Chair asked whether anyone wished to declare a conflict of interest on any of the items slated for discussion at this Board meeting, and there were none.

2.0 Discussion Agenda

2.1 Board Education: Ontario's New Political Landscape with A. Dale, President and CEO, Ontario Hospital Association (OHA)

M. Rappolt introduced A. Dale and commended him for his leadership at the OHA. A. Dale recognized J. Hanigsberg for her leadership and guidance as a board member at the OHA during the pandemic. A. Dale provided an overview of the impact the pandemic has had on the health care system and its legacy

for hospitals in Ontario. The politicization of the pandemic response has undermined trust and confidence in the health care system. The pandemic has intensified the challenges that the health care system was already facing and he encouraged the Directors to read the [2019 Ontario Hospitals – Leaders in Efficiency](#) report to revisit how we got to where we are today. Going forward, there is a need to move beyond the concept of the Ontario Health Team model by focusing on governance, labour mobility and funding reforms. A. Dale shared the OHA's advocacy plans to be actively engaged in the media space on all issues in the upcoming provincial election cycle.

M. Rappolt thanked A. Dale for his insightful presentation and invited Directors to ask questions. There was a discussion on the current opportunity to leverage this crisis to drive meaningful change in the pediatric sector. A. Dale encouraged the Directors to meet with all of the local political candidates leading up to the election, as with the potential for a minority government, every vote will count.

2.2 Caring Safely

2.2.1 Safety Story

I. Andress shared a story about a client who was admitted for post-operative rehabilitation. The client was exposed to a COVID positive staff member at another hospital prior to admission and as a result was placed in isolation for 10 days on arrival. He was then exposed to a COVID positive Holland Bloorview staff member on two separate occasions, both resulting in a return to isolation. The client tested negative after each exposure. Staff were wearing appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) but physical distancing between therapist and client is not possible during therapy sessions. The client's mother is a health care provider who was unable to work because of the exposure. She expressed frustration about the length of isolation, her child's decreased therapy and not being to work and support her own colleagues. I. Andress discussed that onsite caregivers are now being required to take rapid tests on a daily basis and staff are continuing with daily screening and are confirmed fully vaccinated. A separate rehabilitation therapy space is being established for clients in isolation in order to prevent delays in therapy and possible extensions to their stay. Staff continue to do their best to support the culture of safety through messaging and adherence to protocols. M. Rappolt recognized the fatigue and tedium for health care professionals during the pandemic and thanked the team for supporting staff through this time. There was a discussion around the emotional response to a situation like this for a parent and staff member.

2.2.2 Quality Quarterly Performance Report

D. Savage directed the Directors to the pre-circulated Q1/Q2 performance report, which offered a detailed analysis of strategic performance targets and an overview of successes and opportunities. She recognized the outstanding work of the Quality, Safety and Performance team for their efforts in pulling the report together. D. Savage drew attention to the revised targets for inpatient days and ambulatory attendance days in response to the volatility and uncertainty of COVID-19 on access and staffing. For Q1 and Q2, total inpatient days are exceeding target in all areas. She highlighted that falls are higher than typical and the team has a falls prevention group investigating and assessing whether there are any unique impacts as a result of COVID-19. G. Milo-Manson indicated that there has been an exponential increase in new referrals which has contributed to the wait times. The group discussed ways to encourage staff to report workplace violence incidents and what can be done to enable reporting.

2.2.3 Quality Committee Report

C. Cowan-Levine gave a report of the Quality Committee December meeting. She highlighted the meaningful patient story of a client who is in the process of transitioning to the adult sector. She congratulated the team on their 100% compliance rating from Accreditation Canada.

2.2.4 Medical Advisory Report

G. Milo-Manson drew attention to the high percentage of medications that were delivered in October and November which is typical of the high census. She highlighted that there was one moderate client incident in November.

2.3 Pandemic Update

T. Millar shared the planned initiatives to support staff including an organization-wide Schwartz Rounds in February and another round for the leadership team focused on 'running on empty'. The senior management team continues to explore ways to recognize teams through increasing wellness benefits, focusing on psychological safety, staff burnout, etc. The mental health committee is developing a survey to get a better sense of what staff need to feel supported.

I. Andress assured the Directors that staffing levels are good and the teams have been able to modify service delivery to maintain safe staff levels. She specifically recognized the hospital charge nurses for their leadership during this time.

D. Savage provided an update on the client and family experience during the Omicron wave. Families are asking for more help as they are having challenges accessing services in the community and in their home. She highlighted that youth are expressing anxieties about getting further behind in school and their appreciation for the move to virtual programming which has reduced their sense of isolation. While most families are happy to be back in school, some have expressed worry about safety for their children with complex medical needs.

2.4 President & CEO Report - January 2022

J. Hanigsberg referred Directors to her written report and drew attention to Directive #2 issued by the Chief Medical Officer of Health to pause all non-emergent and non-urgent surgeries and procedures. With input from the team at Holland Bloorview (including family leaders, representatives from ethics, practice and leadership), the Children's Recovery Table was able to successfully work with Ontario Health to develop principles to support Directive #2 implementation in pediatric hospitals and for regulated professionals serving children. J. Hanigsberg highlighted some new initiatives including the adoption of e-referrals and a new virtual interpreter services platform. J. Hanigsberg invited T. Chau to share that the Bloorview Research Institute (BRI) was awarded a Canadian Foundation for Innovation (CFI) grant for building a pediatric imaging bank specifically for research with kids with disabilities. This grant will allow BRI to acquire three new pieces of hardware to complement the new MRI suite and expand imaging to include cardiac, abdomen and upper/lower extremities. M. Rappolt congratulated the team and thanked everyone for their hard work.

3.0 Consent Agenda

The Chair noted the following items under the Consent Agenda requiring Board approval.

- 3.1 Minutes of Board Meeting September 29th 2021
- 3.2 Board of Directors Meeting Schedule 2022-2023
- 3.3 Nominations for Chair and Vice Chair
- 3.4 Board Profile and Matrix

A MOTION to approve: It was MOVED by Alice Keung and seconded by Catherine Wood that the Board of Directors approve the Consent Agenda.

Keung/Wood

CARRIED

Adjournment

There being no further business for discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Marg Rappolt
Chair, Board of Directors
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