

Board of Directors Meeting (Open Session)

MINUTES OF MEETING

September 24, 2024

St. Catharines Site

	Sept 24/2024					
Simon Akinsulie (ex-officio)	✓					
Ray Archer	✓					
Satish Chawla (ex-officio)	✓					
Gervan Fearon	✓*					
Susanne Flett	✓*					
Lynn Guerriero (ex-officio)	✓					
Jennifer Li	R					
Alison MacTavish (ex-officio)	✓					
Mary Maida	✓					
Shane Malcolm	R					
Bill Maurin	✓					
John McKinley	✓					
Catherine Novick	✓					
Marylee O'Neill, Chair	✓					
Charlie Rate	✓					
Anthony Reitboeck	✓*					
Carmen Rossiter	✓					
Janice Thomson	R					
Staff and Guests in Attendance:						
Harpreet Bassi	✓					
Linda Boich	✓					
Anthony DiCaita	✓					
Sonali Kohli	✓					
Heather Paterson	✓					
Fiona Peacefull	✓					

*Virtual Attendance

Guests:

Andrea Scott – Niagara Health Foundation
 Kevin Wilson – Niagara Health Foundation
 Ruby Jhooty – Patient Partner

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Board Chair Marylee O'Neill welcomed fellow Directors, staff and guests and called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

1.1 **Land Acknowledgement**

F. Peacefull led the Board through the Land Acknowledgement and reflected on the recent activities towards truth and reconciliation.

1.2 Quorum

There was quorum and the meeting was properly constituted for the transaction of business.

1.3 Approval of the Agenda

MOTION B24-059:

It was MOVED by J. McKinley and SECONDED by R. Archer that the Niagara Health System Board of Directors approves the Open Session Agenda for the September 24, 2024 Meeting as presented. CARRIED.

1.4 Declaration of Conflicts

There were no conflicts declared with the subject matter contained within the agenda.

1.5 Chair's Comments

The Chair noted that meetings will be scheduled with each of the Independent Directors in the coming months. Thanks were also extended for the visit to the Ronald McDonald Family Room.

1.6 Patient Story

Ruby Jhooty, Patient Partner in the Niagara Health Engagement Network (NHEN), attended the meeting to share her personal journey. Thanks were extended to Ruby for her dedication to improving the experience of others through her participation in the NHEN and the Patient Experience Steering Committee.

2. EDUCATION

A. MacTavish and L. Boich provided the Board with an overview of the role of the Medical Staff Association and Board accountabilities within the context of legislation and the Niagara Health By-Law. Discussion focused on the duty required to the Corporation, quorum requirements for Medical Staff meetings and the nominations process for the Medical Staff Association Executive.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION B24-060:

It was MOVED by J. McKinley and SECONDED by C. Rossiter that the Niagara Health System Board of Directors approves the Consent Agenda for the September 24, 2024 Open Session meeting as presented, including the motions listed below:

- **That the Minutes of the June 25, 2024 Open Session Meeting and June 25, 2024 Post Annual Meeting of the Niagara Health System Board of Directors be approved as presented.**
- **That, on the recommendation of the Finance and Audit Committee, the Niagara Health System Board of Directors approves the Hospital Parking Attestation for the period of September 1, 2023 to August 31, 2024. CARRIED.**

4. REPORTS

4.1 Report of the President and CEO

Lynn Guerriero provided highlights from the September 2024 President and CEO report with a focus on the successful reduction of vacancies, collaborations with primary care and the schedule of South Niagara Site mock up tours that to be provided to Independent Directors.

4.2 Report of the Niagara Health Foundation

Andrea Scott and Kevin Wilson provided highlights from the September 2024 report, including updates on the events occurring over the summer and the budget for the upcoming fiscal year. The Gala will be held on March 1, 2025.

5. BUSINESS ARISING

5.1 There were no business arising items for discussion.

6. MATTERS FOR DECISION/DISCUSSION

6.1 Report of the Quality and Patient Experience Committee

The Board was provided with a report of highlights from the September meeting with a focus on the patient story provided to the Committee demonstrating the connection and interdependencies between the Mental Health and Addictions and Emergency programs.

6.2 Report of the Governance and People Committee

The Board was provided with a report of highlights from the September meeting. The Committee spent a significant amount of time focused on the Strategic Plan pillar of People First, receiving a very detailed review of the most recent Employee and Physician Engagement Pulse Survey results.

6.3 Report of the Finance and Audit Committee

The Board was provided with a report of highlights from the September meeting, including the financial operations report for the period ending July 31, 2024. The report provided an analysis of budget pressures and challenges as well as an update on the benchmarking activities thorough Ontario Health.

6.3.1 Investment Updates

The Committee discussed current investments and recommended that an Investment Firm be selected through an RFP process to manage these funds moving forward. A working group of Independent Directors will be formed to advise Management on the process and RFP development.

MOTION B24-061:

It was MOVED by C. Rate and SECONDED by C. Rossiter that on the recommendation of the Finance and Audit Committee, the Niagara Health System Board of Directors endorses Niagara Health to issue an RFP for a professional funds manager and establish an RFP review committee consisting of management and Finance and Audit Committee members. CARRIED.

6.4 Report of the Medical Advisory Committee

The Board was provided with a report of highlights from the Committee's September meeting. An update on the quality improvement initiatives the Professional Staff are participating in through the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario was provided. The Board was also provided with the year to date statistics related to recruitment and retention of Professional Staff.

7. MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

7.1 Report of the Quality and Patient Experience Committee

The September report was provided to the Board for information.

7.2 Report of the Governance and People Committee

The September report was provided to the Board for information.

7.3 Report of the Finance and Audit Committee

The September report was provided to the Board for information.

8. **MOTION TO ADJOURN OPEN SESSION**

There being no further business, the Open Session adjourned at 5:30p.m.

MOTION B24-062:

It was MOVED by M. Maida that the Niagara Health System Board of Directors Open Session Meeting of September 24, 2024 be adjourned. CARRIED.

Recording Secretary: D. Dube

Marylee O'Neill, Chair