



Hôpital général de Nipissing Ouest

West Nipissing General Hospital

725, chemin Coursol Road, Sturgeon Falls, ON P2B 2Y6  
TEL: (705) 753-3110 • FAX: (705) 753-0210

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Monday, September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 18:30 p.m. (Zoom)

### - MINUTES -

---

Present:

Janet Parsons  
Julie St. Jacques  
Jamie Restoule  
Cynthia Desormiers\*  
Dr. Ben Lalonde  
Dr. Yves Vaillancourt  
Arlene Lesenke\*  
Daniel Richard  
Eric Stevens  
Fern Crepeau  
Leo Malette  
Linda Lacroix  
Neil Fox  
Renée Ragnitz  
Daniel St. Georges, guest\*  
Karima Kanani, guest

Regrets:

Dr. Klère Bourgault

#### 1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 18:30 hours.

A round table of introductions occurred to welcome the three new members to the group.

#### 2. Education Session – WNGH Governance Education Session

Cynthia Desormiers introduced Karima Kanani, partner at Miller Thomson LLP. Karima Kanani provided a detailed governance education session. The session covered corporate governance structure, duties and responsibilities of directors, the relationship of the Board and Management, as well as an overview of the transition to the Ontario Non-Profit Corporations Act.

#### 3. Declaration of Conflict of Interest / Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

No conflicts were declared.

#### 4. Approval of Consent Agenda

Moved by Daniel Richard and seconded by Eric Stevens

«THAT THE CONSENT AGENDA FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021, INCLUDING MINUTES, REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS BE ACCEPTED AS PRESENTED,

**WITH THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:**

- .1 PRESIDENT & CEO NEWSLETTER – SEPTEMBER 2021
- .2 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES – JUNE 14, 2021
- .3 FINANCE & AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING – Summer Activity Highlights
- .4 HEALTH CARE QUALITY MINUTES **-NONE-**
- .5 ETHICS COMMITTEE MINUTES – APRIL 12, 2021
- .6 ALLIANCE CENTRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES **-NONE-**
- .7 WNGH FOUNDATION BOARD MINUTES **-NONE-**
- .8 BOARD MEETING EVALUATION RESULTS – JUNE 14, 2021. »



**Carried M-21-89**

## **5. Approval of Regular Agenda**

Moved by Fern Creapeau and seconded by Julie St. Jacques

«THAT REGULAR AGENDA FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 13<sup>TH</sup>, 2021 BE ACCEPTED AS PRESENTED. »

**Carried M-21-90**

## **6. Regular Agenda**

### **.1 Election of Board Chair**

Moved by Neil Fox and seconded by Leo Malette

«WHEREAS THE ELECTED BOARD CHAIR HAS RESIGNED, AND WHEREAS THE VICE-CHAIR HAS ACCEPTED THE PERMANENT ROLE OF CHAIR FOR 2021-2022,

LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT THE WNGH BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVES JANET PARSONS AS CHAIR OF THE WNGH BOARD OF DIRECTORS.»

**Carried M-21-91**

### **.2 Election of Vice Chair**

Cynthia Desormiers noted that Daniel Richard has offered to accept the position of Vice-Chair on an interim basis as he recognizes that he would not want to move into the role of Chair if required. Leo Malette nominated Jamie Restoule for the position, however, it was noted that Jamie Restoule was elected Member At Large at the AGM in June. It was noted that as we begin to transition into the Ontario Non-Profit Corporations Act as of October 19, 2021, we may no longer need the role of Member At Large, and thus we could eliminate the position. Cynthia Desormiers will confirm this with Karima Kanani and the discussion will be brought back to the Executive Committee.

Moved by Leo Malette and seconded by Daniel Richard

«WHEREAS THE VICE-CHAIR HAS ACCEPTED THE ROLE OF CHAIR, AND WHEREAS JAMIE RESTOULE HAS ACCEPTED THE ROLE OF VICE CHAIR,

LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT THE WNGH BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVES JAMIE RESTOULE AS VICE-CHAIR OF THE WNGH BOARD OF DIRECTORS.»

**Carried M-21-92**

### **.3 Chief of Staff Report**

Dr. Ben Lalonde informed members that things have remained quiet throughout the summer, but the pandemic is beginning to take a toll on our medical staff and healthcare workers. We have prepared policies to meet MOH Directives 3 and 6. Overall compliance is good at WNGH.

It was noted that staffing and scheduling is improving. We continue to see vacancies in the ED, and as such we are relying on EDLP to secure coverage. Dr. Ben Lalonde shared that we aren't alone in these challenges.



Hôpital général de Nipissing Ouest

West Nipissing General Hospital

725, chemin Coursol Road, Sturgeon Falls, ON P2B 2Y6  
TEL: (705) 753-3110 • FAX: (705) 753-0210

.4 Credentials Committee Minutes – May 20, 2021

Dr. Ben Lalonde highlighted the discussion on the issues surrounding ED Second On-Call. He explained that some hospitalists have said that they do not feel comfortable working in the Emergency Department as emergency medicine isn't in their scope of practice. As a result, it was agreed that this portion of the hospitalist role could be split between two physicians in order to provide adequate coverage. This has been a welcome change and has aided in recruitment and retention.

Moved by Leo Malette and seconded by Linda Lacroix

«THAT THE MINUTES FROM THE MAY 20, 2021 CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE MEETINGS BE ACCEPTED AS PRESENTED. »

**Carried M-21-93**

.5 Medical Advisory Committee Minutes – May 20, 2021

Moved by Jamie Restoule and seconded by Neil Fox

«THAT THE MINUTES FROM THE MAY 20, 2021 MEDICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETINGS BE ACCEPTED AS PRESENTED. »

**Carried M-21-94**

.6 Medical Advisory Committee Recommendations – June 17, 2021

Moved by Renée Ragnitz and seconded by Daniel Richard

«THAT THE RECOMMENDATIONS ARISING FROM THE MEDICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING OF JUNE 17, 2021 BE ACCEPTED AS PRESENTED. »

**Carried M-21-95**

.7 Board of Directors Representative on WNGH Foundation Board of Directors

It was noted that two members are required to sit on the Foundation Board of Directors. Jamie Restoule agreed to join the Foundation at the AGM in June, and thus we are now looking for a second member. The Foundation meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every month from 8:30 to 9:30 AM. Anyone who is interested is asked to email Cynthia Desormiers.

.8 COVID-19 Update

Cynthia Desormiers provided a detailed update on COVID-19. Over the summer, the province has seen an increase of cases and hospitalizations are beginning to climb again. On September 7, Ministry of Health Directive 6 came into effect, which mandated that all hospitals establish, implement and ensure compliance with a COVID-19 vaccination policy requiring employees, staff, contractors, volunteers and students provide proof of full vaccination against COVID-19, written proof of a documented medical reason for not being fully vaccinated, or complete an approved educational session about the benefits of COVID-19 vaccinations.

WNGH has developed a policy to meet these requirements. The vaccine has not been made mandatory, however, we will follow Ministry guidelines and directives. Dr. Ben Lalonde noted that medical staff remain hopeful that the vaccines will be mandated for healthcare workers in the future. While larger organizations across the province are moving to mandate the vaccine, we are not yet in the position to do as any legal ramifications or disciplinary actions on staff who refuse the vaccine would have a major impact on our health human resources.



Arlene Lesenke noted that currently WNGH has an 84% vaccine rate, and we continue to discuss the benefits of the vaccine with staff. We are hopeful this number will continue to improve. Dr. Ben Lalonde led a discussion on the effect the pandemic is beginning to take on our medical staff and healthcare workers. It was noted that positive communication and kudos to employees, volunteers and medical staff who have already been fully vaccinated should be sent out. Cynthia Desormiers suggested including our vaccine rates in the October newsletter.

.9 HIRF & Capital Projects Update

Dan St. Georges provided an update on HIRF funding and ongoing capital projects. We are expecting to receive notice of funding shortly. The HIRF funding will be used to complete the replacement of sidewalks, which was mandated by the Ministry of Labour. We will also use any exceptional funding for the fire suppression system, which is also mandated by the Ministry.

.10 Board of Directors Goals & Objectives

Cynthia Desormiers provided an update on the Board of Directors' Goals and Objectives.

.11 Cybersecurity Update

Daniel St. Georges explained the cybersecurity report from iSecurity. The report was included in members' packages for review.

.12 Contingency Plans Review

It was noted that the Contingency Plans are being reviewed. The index will be sent to members tomorrow. Amylee Laforest noted that all emergency code plans and contingency plans are posted on the board portal for members' review.

.13 October Meeting Date (Oct. 4/18)

Due to Thanksgiving, the October Board of Directors meeting needs to be rescheduled. Members agreed that the meeting will be scheduled for Monday, October 18<sup>th</sup>.

.14 Meditech Expanse Update

Cynthia Desormiers provided members with an update on the Meditech Expanse project. It was noted that currently 21 hospitals have signed on to the project.

.15 OHT Update

Cynthia Desormiers provided the group with an update on Ontario Health Teams. It was noted that OHTs have primarily been on hold over the past 18 months due to the pandemic, but things are starting to ramp up again.

## 7. Policy Review

.1 Purpose, Commitment & Values #730-36

Moved by Eric Stevens and seconded by Leo Malette

«THAT THE PURPOSE, COMMITMENT & VALUES POLICY #730-36 BE ACCEPTED AS PRESENTED. »

**Carried M-21-96**

.2 Broader Public Sector Accountability Act (BPSAA) #730-39

Moved by Linda Lacroix and seconded by Jamie Restoule



Hôpital général de Nipissing Ouest

West Nipissing General Hospital

725, chemin Coursol Road, Sturgeon Falls, ON P2B 2Y6  
TEL: (705) 753-3110 • FAX: (705) 753-0210

«THAT THE BROADER PUBLIC SECTOR ACCOUNTABILITY ACT (BPSAA) #730-39 BE ACCEPTED AS PRESENTED. »

**Carried M-21-97**

.3 Meeting Without Management #730-52  
Differed.

.4 Perquisites #730-55

Moved by Daniel Richard and seconded by Renée Ragnitz

«THAT THE PERQUISITES POLICY #730-55 BE ACCEPTED AS AMENDED. »

**Carried M-21-98**

## 8. Correspondence

.1 Certificate of Accreditation (Mammography)

.2 Carte de remerciement / Thank You Card – E.S.C. Franco-Cité

.3 Thank You Card – Northern Secondary School

.4 OHT Staffing Announcement

.5 Letter: Financial Contribution (CT Scanner) – Municipality of West Nipissing

.6 Memo: Fall Preparedness – Ontario Health

## 9. Adjournment

The Meeting Effectiveness Survey will be provided to members via Survey Monkey.

Moved by Daniel Richard and seconded by Julie St. Jacques

«THAT THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF SEPTEMBER 13<sup>TH</sup>, 2021 BE ADJOURNED AT 20:47 HOURS.»

**Carried M-21-99**

---

Janet Parsons, Chair

---

Amylee Laforest, Recorder