



## **Board**

- The Board of Directors, through the Governance Committee, reviewed the functioning of its sub-committees and adjusted the previously Long-Term Care Development Committee to an adjusted Capital Development Committee. The revised committee will expand its scope from previously focusing on the long-term care development project to oversight of all capital development projects at the health campus. Through this adjusted committee structure, the Board of Directors will aim to enhance governance oversight, support and alignment of both current and future projects to strategic direction and deliverables.
- At the Governance Committee meeting, results from the Board's self-assessment were reviewed. The self-assessment is completed through the Ontario Hospital Association, and provides benchmarking results comparing DRDH's results to those of 26 other 'small' peer organizations across the province as well as all other hospitals that partook in the survey. The survey indicated a number of areas in which DRDH scored higher than average, such as the Board's involvement in the development of the Strategic Plan, communication with stakeholders, Board membership diversity, and effective use of virtual meetings. Areas for improvement and future Board education were identified, including both CEO and Chief of Staff performance evaluation and succession planning.

## **Foundation**

- A report on the successful first Polar Plunge event was provided, highlighting the large numbers of participants, community engagement and proceeds raising over \$36 000!
- The Closer to Home campaign has now raised \$2.2 million of its \$2.5 million goal.
- The Foundation shared developing plans for the annual bonspiel event in March 2025, with the date to be confirmed.

## **Health Campus Updates**

### Building Updates

- Kick Off for the Sprinkler System project occurred, with plans for work onsite to begin in January. The goal will be full installation of sprinkler systems throughout the current building by March 31.
- Upgrades to the organization's Nurse Call system have kicked off with an on-site meeting and walkthrough by the vendor. Installation work onsite is expected to begin in January.

### Emergency Preparedness & Response

- The organization's annual Fire Inspection by the Deep River Fire Department (DRFD) occurred on November 27, with a pending written report of documented findings. One identified area of change was noted, to ensure a closure device was installed on the a door due in close proximity of oxygen storage tanks. Closure protocols for the identified door are now in place, pending a closure device being installed.
- Following the Code Red – Fire Incident on November 20, the organizations Code Red – Fire Response Plan was reviewed and updated. This is under revisions with the DRFD Fire Chief for approval.

## Family Health Team

- The FHT has completed supporting two Bachelor of Nursing Science students from Algonquin College as part of their Community Placement. Students reviewed and developed a Fall Prevention Program for primary care, updating the FHT's resources and programming with best practices and new evidence. The students presented their work at the BScN Poster Presentation day, sharing with fellow students and colleagues. The FHT Manager, who acted as their preceptor for the placement, attended the Open House Poster Presentation Day to support the students as well as future placements.

## Finance

- Training for DRDH finance team members on the newly implemented electronic Budget Management software is underway. The software will be used to develop the 2025/26 budget, as well as plan for regular variance monitoring throughout the year.

## Human Resources

- Work continues on implementation of a fully electronic scheduling and workforce management software. The centralized electronic system will replace a patchwork of electronic and paper systems, reducing gaps in the process and creating an interactive, real-time experience of scheduling, shift offering and tracking for both staff and management. The project has kicked off, with go live anticipated in early 2025.
- December holiday recognition events are underway, coordinated through the organization's Social Committee. Events include team and departmental events, festive foods and the annual Holiday Party to be held December 13.

## Infection Prevention and Control

- The annual fall vaccination for staff campaign is now underway, with influenza vaccines being provided for DRDH staff and family members. Current immunization rates for staff have achieved 58%.

## Long-Term Care

- Four Seasons Lodge residents welcomed Auxiliary Volunteers into the home to help with holiday decorating. Activities for residents and families have kicked off in recognition of the holidays, including a planned holiday dinner, musical events and visits from Santa.

## Medical Inpatient Unit

- The Medical Floor census has again surged up to and above 100%, with 30-60% of patients currently identified as Alternative Level of Care (ALC). Discharge planning coordination and support continue to address increased inpatient need and challenges with ALC allocations.

## Regional Partners

- The organization welcomed two Department of National Defense Members to the medical and emergency department teams as part of the Bedside Care Program. This program sees Nursing Officers in the Canadian Armed Forces gain hands on clinical skills to maintain competency in practice in civilian organizations.

## Quality

- The 2024-2025 Corporate Scorecard was presented for review. It was highlighted that work is underway to ensure corporate orientation is completed within 60 days of hire for the high number of new-hires joining the DRDH team. Due to large volumes of new hires, offsite locations are being secured as necessary to accommodate volumes for orientation. It was also noted that although there is a higher turnover amongst casual employees, retention levels for full-time and part time staff remain consistent.