



**2<sup>nd</sup> Annual General Meeting  
Monday, October 6, 2014  
Arborg Bifrost Community Centre  
409 Recreation Centre, Arborg, Manitoba**

**MINUTES**

Approximately one hundred and fifty community members attended the Interlake-Eastern RHA's second Annual General Meeting. They were joined by approximately 50 staff members and the Board of Directors.

**Greetings**

Honourable Peter Bjornson, Minister of Entrepreneurship, Training & Trade and MLA for Gimli brought greetings on behalf of the province.

Cindy Hart, brought greetings on behalf of First Nations communities in the area.

Beth Beaupre, Assistant Deputy Minister, Manitoba Health, brought greetings on behalf of the Minister of Health.

Vivian Leduchowski, Town of Arborg Councillor, brought greetings on behalf of the Town.

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Interlake-Eastern RHA Board Chair, Diane Kelly, at 6:20 p.m. Members of the Board of Directors and Senior Leadership were introduced.

**Board Chair Report**

Diane Kelly provided an overview of some of the accomplishments achieved in the past year.

- Interlake-Eastern RHA was one of two RHAs selected to pilot the Family Doctor Finder Program, where people call a toll free number to be connected with a family physician.
- The RHA introduced a regional palliative care program that better aligns physician and nursing care, and supports.
- The region launched its Cancer Navigation Services team. The team works regionally to address problematic processes and provide the required support for the benefit of individuals with a cancer diagnosis.
- Selkirk Regional Health Centre construction was retendered to accommodate an MRI. EllisDon Corporation was the successful bidder.
- Pine Falls Primary Health and Traditional Healing Centre - Tender documents are near completion with a revised construction budget – awaiting Manitoba Health approval to go to tender.
- Government approval of the RHAs proposal for three Local Health Involvement Groups in our region.

She noted that it has been a year of many gains for the region and believe we have made significant headway in addressing longstanding challenges.

Diane acknowledged CEO, John Stinson`s work, his commitment to the Board`s vision of connecting people and communities to excellent health services. He is tireless in identifying new ways for us to achieve this and putting plans into action. We are so fortunate to have a strong and compassionate leader among us at a time when the provision of rural health care services requires fresh thinking and the complete engagement of our staff and our communities.

In closing, she also extended the Board`s deepest appreciation to staff and care providers in the region for another year of caring and commitment. It is important to acknowledge that despite criticisms placed at the feet of staff who have little control over the system in which they work; our staff continue to care for the people in their communities to the very best of their abilities. We are truly grateful for their work.

## **Treasurer`s Report**

Steve Day, Board Treasurer, introduced Cynthia Ostapyk, Vice President of Finance & Chief Financial Officer. Cynthia reviewed the Audited Financial Statements as at March 31, 2014 and highlights of the past year that included second year post merger, significant system changes, pressure points in home care and EMS due to vacancies and service pressures, efficiencies realized through direct management and lean initiatives, etc.

Revenue for the year for the region was \$217 million, which, after expenditures left the region with a deficit for the year of \$1.1 million.

## **CEO Report**

CEO John Stinson delivered his report, focusing on physician recruitment and retention. He described some of the RHA`s primary recruitment strategies through the University of Manitoba Medical School, the Provincial International Medical Graduate Program – noting that we are in discussion with graduates who are looking to set up practice in the region. He also described the efforts being made with Waterford Global Pilot project to recruit doctors from the UK. Some key challenges would be the competition, matching communities with physicians, on-call services, etc.

He spoke further in regards to the Local Health Involvement Groups - the RHAs plan is to form three geographically-based groups and one patient advisory group.

John also spoke to the four points of priority that he`s identified for successfully sustaining rural health care: primary health care, home care, emergency medical services and diagnostics.

## **Question Period**

John Stinson led a question period and responded to inquiries from the floor.

A short health break was called followed by a panel discussion on Sustaining Diagnostic Services in Rural Manitoba – What`s the Plan? John moderated the panel which was composed of Jim Slater, CEO, Diagnostic Services of Manitoba; Dr. Dan Lindsay, Regional Radiologist Lead, Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority, Provincial Radiology Lead; and Therese Conroy, consumer and Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority Board member.

## **Chair's Award for Excellence in Customer Service**

Diane Kelly, Interlake-Eastern RHA Board Chair, was pleased to offer the region's first Chair's Award recognizing excellent customer service. There were a total of 11 nominations for this award reflecting individuals from all over the organization. Two nominations were selected for recognition this evening.

- Tina Vandersteen, Crisis Worker, Mobile Crisis Unit, Mental Health Program
- Selkirk & District General Hospital's Perioperative Team, Selkirk Surgical Program

## **CEO Award for Community Leadership**

John Stinson presented the CEOs Award for Community Leadership to the Arborg Personal Care Home Development Group. Harold Foster, Reeve of Bifrost accepted the Award on behalf of the group.

## **Meeting Adjournment**

Diane Kelly adjourned the meeting at 9:22 p.m.