



# Interlake–Eastern Regional Health Authority

**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Thursday, October 26, 2023**  
**Selkirk United Church – 202 McLean Ave., Selkirk, MB**  
**Meeting Number 06.2023.10.26**

## MINUTES

**Present:** Michele Polinuk; Chair  
Cyndi Typliski, Vice-Chair  
Murray Werbeniuk  
Susan Bater  
Lynette McDonald (*virtual*)  
Tammy Hagyard-Wiebe  
Judith Cameron (*virtual*)  
Steven Brennan  
Debbie Fiebelkorn  
Penny Anne Wainwright  
Arnthor Jonasson

**Regrets:**

**Absent:**

**RHA Staff:** Marion Ellis, CEO  
Lorianne Kowalyszyn, Regional Lead, Corporate Service and Chief Financial Officer  
C. Cole, Executive Assistant (Recorder)

---

### 1. Call to Order

M. Polinuk, Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m.

### 2. Welcome

M. Polinuk welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### 3. Traditional Land Acknowledgement

S. Bater addressed the Treaty Land Acknowledgment.

“Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority delivers health-care services on First Nation Treaty Territories 1, 2, 3 and 5 and on the homeland of the Red River Métis Nation. We respect that First Nations treaties were made on these territories, acknowledge harms and mistakes, and we dedicate ourselves to collaborate in partnership with First Nations, Inuit and Red River Métis peoples in the spirit of reconciliation.”

#### 4. Adoption of Agenda

The Board reviewed the agenda and there were no additions brought forward.

Moved by P.A. Wainwright, seconded by M. Werbeniuk

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

The agenda be adopted as presented.

**MOTION CARRIED: 06.2023.10.4.0**

#### 5. Attendance

M. Polinuk provided roll call.

J. Cameron and L. McDonald joined virtually. All other Board of Directors attended in person at the Selkirk United Church.

Moved by C. Typliski, seconded by L. McDonald

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

All Board of Directors are in attendance, in person and virtually at the October 26, 2023 meeting.

**MOTION CARRIED: 06.2023.10.5.0**

#### 6. Adoption of previous minutes (September 28, 2023)

The September 28, 2023 Board of Directors minutes were reviewed.

Moved by A. Jonasson, seconded by S. Brennan

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

The minutes from the September 28, 2023 Board meeting be adopted as presented.

**MOTION CARRIED: 06.2023.10.6.0**

#### 7. Business Arising – None

#### 8. New Business

##### 8.1 Cancer Screening Presentation – Board Education

Tracy Abraham, Director Health Services, Rural Acute Care, Renal Program, CancerCare and Cancer Navigation Services joined the Board at 12:35 p.m. to provide a presentation around increasing awareness about colorectal cancer screening using creative strategies.

In 2014, the IERHA Community Health Assessment had indicated there were notably fewer First Nations people receiving cancer screening in comparison to the IERHA population. In 2017, the Cancer Screening Working Group was established, meeting 4 times a year. Stakeholders include: Interlake Reserves Tribal Council (IRTC), Southeast Resource Development Council (SERDC), CancerCare Manitoba (CCMB), Independent First Nations (Berens, Sagkeeng and Poplar River) and IERHA.

The Canadian Partnership Against Cancer (CPAC) initiative titled “Increasing colorectal cancer awareness and screening in underserved populations through community engagement” was completed in March 2022.

The giant inflatable colon community-based toolkit initiative was developed by the Canadian Partnership Against Cancer (CPAC). Pivotal moments:

- Two walk-through giant inflatable colons were purchased by IERHA with CPAC funds.
- The Cancer Navigation Community Engagement Liaison, along with Director Acute - Cancer Care, visited 11 First Nations communities with the giant colon in 2023, and engaged 1,247 people this summer at Treaty Days and other community events.
- The CPAC giant colon is being presented by the Director Acute - Cancer Care at the Cancer Care Manitoba Community Cancer Care Provincial Network conference on October 13, 2023 and again in Halifax for the Canadian Cancer Research Alliance conference on November 12, 2023.

Take home messages:

- Gaining input directly from Elders, community members and health centers, in order to tailor engagement methods, proved highly valuable in building relationships, trust and collaboration.
- A lighthearted and slightly humorous approach to colon cancer education was successful in engaging communities.
- In-person events with an all-age focus, starting education at a younger age
- Using creative, interactive and simple language strategies (ex. wording like poop) and imagery enhanced people’s ability to understand colon cancer screening and is a best practice for public messaging.
- Having strong partnerships from the beginning, supported project progression.

References:

- IERHA. (2023, April 10). Priorities for the Development of a Regional and Provincial Health-Care System. *Strategic Plan 2021-2028*. IERHA. (2020, June 8). [Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority, Community Health Assessment 2019. https://www.ierha.ca/files/382019-Community-Health-Assessment-1.pdf](https://www.ierha.ca/files/382019-Community-Health-Assessment-1.pdf)
- IERHA. (2020, June 8). Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority, Community Health Assessment 2019. <https://www.ierha.ca/files/382019-Community-Health-Assessment-1.pdf>
- IERHA. (2015, April 13). Community Health Assessment 2014. *Interlake Eastern Regional Health Authority*.

Opportunity for questions was provided.

The Board thanked Tracy Abraham for coming to present and setting up the colon so that the Board experience this great initiative.

## 8.2 2023 IERHA Draft Annual General Meeting Minutes

The 11th Interlake-Eastern RHA Annual General Meeting was held on October 10, 2023 virtually. There were approximately 130 people in attendance virtually from across the region.

The draft minutes from the October 10, 2023 Annual General Meeting were included in the package for review and approval. Once approved they will be posted on the Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority website.

**Motion by J. Cameron, seconded by M. Werbeniuk**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

**The Board of Directors approves the Interlake-Eastern RHA Annual General Meeting minutes of October 3, 2022 be adopted as presented.**

**MOTION CARRIED: 06.2023.10.8.2**

Included in the package is copy of the evaluation. M. Polinuk, Board Chair thanked all the Board, staff and community members who took part in the day and in preparation for the day. It was a successful Annual General Meeting.

The Board had the opportunity to provide their feedback of Annual General Meeting. Overall the Board provided good feedback and would like to see some suggestions be included that were outlined in the overall evaluation.

## **9. Chair's Report**

Michele Polinuk provided her Chair's report:

- Board and Executive Strategic Planning Session
  - Will be taking place on Thursday, November 2, 2023 at the Selkirk United Church from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. In person attendance is recommended to allow for individual reflections and group discussions. Virtual option can be provided for those who cannot attend due to illness or travelling afar, but wish to listen in.
  - Guest speaker Derek Felton, Associate Director at Rebbeck supporting Manitoba Health, Seniors and Long-Term Care met with the Board Chair, the CEO and the Quality, Planning & Accreditation Coordinator to address the agenda for the day.
  - This session is for senior leadership and board members as part of our strategic plan annual review. We do have a strategic plan in place, but we should always be looking at current realities, and planning for the years ahead. Derek Felton will share what is going on in other health systems around the world as we look to consider what could a high performing Service Delivery Organization look like in 10 years.
- Annual Strategic Planning Session with Community
  - Will be taking place Thursday, November 30, 2023 virtually from 9:00 a.m. to noon.
  - A reach out to presenters is taking place. There will be updates from the Strategic Steering Committee leads. Agenda will be shared upon finalization.
  - The session will be open to everyone, including the public/community, just like our Annual General Meeting. RSVP will be required so that we can establish a contact list.

Opportunity for questions was provided.

## **10. Chief Executive Officer Report**

### **10.1 October 2023 CEO Report to the Board – Executive Summary**

The October 2023 CEO Report to the Board was distributed and reviewed for information.

M. Ellis, CEO, provided a high-level executive summary overview to the Board on progress around the current Provincial initiatives; strategic steering committees; health system transformation, clinical

preventative services plan; local community engagement and operational table updates; service delivery organization (SDO) performance management provincial dashboard; and operational program update. Highlights included;

- On Wednesday, October 18, 2023 Manitoba Premier, Wab Kinew and the new Government Sworn In. The premier's executive council will have 15 ministers who reflect the province geographically, culturally and as a society including ensuring gender parity in cabinet. Important to note the new Ministers for Health Care are:
  - Wab Kinew (MLA for Fort Rouge) – premier, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs and International Relations, Minister responsible for Indigenous Reconciliation;
  - Bernadette Smith (MLA for Point Douglas) – Minister of Housing, Addictions and Homelessness, and Minister responsible for Mental Health;
  - Uzoma Asagwara (MLA for Union Station) – Deputy Premier, Minister of Health, Seniors and Long-Term Care.
- Manitoba, and other jurisdictions across the Canada have planned for a return of some enhanced protections, including the use of medical masks by health-care workers during interactions with patients, residents in Personal Care Homes and clients. This additional masking precaution will allow for a simpler return to work process in that health-care workers may return to work when they are feeling well, without consideration of the number of days they have been off. These precautions treat all respiratory viruses similarly, in recognition of the severe effects that influenza, COVID-19 and other seasonal respiratory illness can have on vulnerable populations. All changes went into effect October 18, 2023.
  - For Patients/Residents/Clients, Visitors, and Designated Caregivers
  - Masks Recommended, Not Required in Most Settings
  - Visitor guidelines are unchanged. Visit: <https://sharedhealthmb.ca/files/expanded-visitation-acute-and-pch.pdf>
  - PCH settings specific reminder: [outbreak-management-pch.pdf \(sharedhealthmb.ca\)](https://sharedhealthmb.ca/files/outbreak-management-pch.pdf).
- On September 29, 2023, a sod turning ceremony was held for the Lac du Bonnet personal care home.
- The IERHA's "Grow Our Own, Recruit and Train" Uncertified Health Care Aide (UHCA) mobile training program ran in Seymourville (an hour north of Pine Falls) from September 18, 2023 to October 6, 2023. The practicum component was held at Sunnywood personal care home in Pine Falls. All eight students successfully graduated; the graduation ceremony was held on October 6, 2023. The next program is slated to run in Selkirk starting on October 23, 2023 in Selkirk with another full cohort of students new to the healthcare workforce.

Opportunity for questions was provided.

## 11. Committee Reports

### 11.1 Finance Committee

#### 11.1.1 Approved Finance Minutes September 21, 2023

The approved Finance Committee minutes from September 21, 2023 are included in the Board package for information.

### **11.1.2 Finance Presentation**

The Financial statements for August 2023 were provided in the Finance package. L. Kowaliszyn reviewed in detail the August 31, 2023 the non-consolidated financial statements by expenses by program, expenses by type, forecast to annual budget and the statement of financial position.

Opportunity for questions was provided.

**Motion by J. Cameron, seconded by M. Werbeniuk**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

**The Board of Directors accepts the Non-Consolidated Financial Statements for the period ending August 31, 2023 as presented.**

**MOTION CARRIED: 06.2023.10.11.1.3**

### **11.1.3 Finance Program Update**

L. Kowaliszyn provided an update to the Board of Directors on ongoing accountability & sustainability initiatives that are taking place in the Finance program.

Opportunity for questions was provide.

## **11.2 Audit Committee**

No report. Next meeting will be scheduled for December 2023.

## **11.3 Quality and Patient Safety Committee**

No report. Next meeting is schedules for November 23, 2023.

## **11.4 Education, Policy and Planning Committee**

### **11.4.1 Approved Education, Policy and Planning Minutes**

The approved Education, Policy and Planning minutes from September 21, 2023 are included in the Board package for information.

## **11.5 Indigenous Health Committee**

The approved Education, Policy and Planning minutes from August 17, 2023 are included in the Board package for information.

## 12. For Information

On October 26, 2023 Manitoba Premier Wab Kinew released the mandate letter for Health, Seniors and Long-Term Care, Minister Uzoma Asagwara outlining the immediate priorities and key commitments.

## 13. Next Meeting

- Thursday, November 23, 2023 @ 12:30 p.m.  
Selkirk Regional Health Centre – 120 Easton Drive, Selkirk, MB

## 14. In Camera

L. Kowalyszyn and C. Cole left the meeting at 2:48 p.m.

In attendance:

M. Polinuk, M. Werbeniuk, J. Cameron, C. Typliski, D. Fiebelkorn, S. Bater, L. McDonald, A. Jonasson, P.A. Wainwright, S. Brennan, T. Hagyard-Wiebe and M. Ellis (left at 2:48 p.m.).

**Moved by M. Werbeniuk, seconded by C. Typliski**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

**The meeting moved “in camera” at 2:33 p.m.**

**MOTION CARRIED: 06.2023.10.14A**

**Moved by P.A. Wainwright, seconded by D. Fiebelkorn**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

**The meeting moved “out of camera” at 2:55 p.m.**

**MOTION CARRIED: 06.2023.10.14B**

## 15. Adjournment

Moved by C. Typliski, the meeting be adjourned at 2:55 p.m.