



Interlake–Eastern Regional Health Authority

Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, November 27, 2025
Selkirk United Church – 202 McLean Ave., Selkirk, MB
Meeting Number 07.2025.11.27

MINUTES

Present: Michele Polinuk; Chair Debbie Fiebelkorn
 Cyndi Typliski; Vice-Chair Arnthor Jonasson
 Dana Erickson Lorraine Sigurdson

Regrets: Clarissa Seymour, Penny-Anne Wainwright and Jacqueline Romanow
Absent:

RHA Staff: Marion Ellis, Chief Executive Officer
 Lorianne Kowalyszyn, Vice President, Corporate Service and Chief Financial Officer
 Julene Sawatzky, Vice President, Human Resources
 Corrie Cole, Executive Assistant (Recorder)

1. Call to Order

M. Polinuk, Chair called the meeting to order at 1:45 p.m.

2. Welcome

M. Polinuk, Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

3. Treaty Land Acknowledgement

L. Sigurdson addressed the Treaty Land Acknowledgment.

“Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority delivers 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 past and current day harms and wrongs.

The Interlake-Eastern RHA also acknowledges its responsibility under the treaties to commit to actions. This includes actions in: addressing jurisdictional discrimination and systemic racism, growing cultural competency capacity, implementing an antiracism action plan, addressing health equity gaps, increasing the number of Indigenous employees, building Indigenous patient advocacy services, and increasing access to traditional healing.

The Interlake-Eastern RHA offers an accountability promise to report annually on its reconciliation journey actions and outcomes.”

4. Adoption of Agenda

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

Moved by C. Typliski, seconded by A. Jonasson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The agenda be adopted as presented.

MOTION CARRIED: 07.2025.11.4.0

5. Attendance

M. Polinuk provided roll call.

Clarissa Seymour, Penny-Anne Wainwright and Jacqueline Romanow sent regrets. All other Board of Directors attended in person at the Selkirk United Church.

Moved by D. Fiebelkorn, seconded C. Typliski

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The Board of Directors excused Clarissa Seymour, Penny-Anne Wainwright and Jacqueline Romanow. All other Board of Directors are in attendance in person at the November 27, 2025 meeting.

MOTION CARRIED: 07.2025.11.5.0

6. Adoption of previous minutes

6.1 Board Minutes (October 23, 2025)

The October 23, 2025 Board of Directors minutes were reviewed.

Moved by D. Erickson, seconded by C. Typliski

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The minutes from October 23, 2025 Board meeting be adopted as presented.

MOTION CARRIED: 07.2025.11.6.1

7. Business Arising – None

8. New Business

8.1 Indigenous Health Strategic Engagement Report

Adam Sanderson, Regional Director – Waabishki Bineshiins, IERHA joined the Board in person at 2:05 p.m. to share feedback from the October 29, 2026 Indigenous Health Gathering.

On October 29, 2025, the Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority (IERHA) hosted its first Indigenous Health Gathering at South Beach Casino and Resort, located in Brokenhead Ojibway Nation. The purpose was to engage First Nations health leaders and community members in identifying priorities to inform the 2026/2027 Indigenous Health Strategic/Action Plan. The session focused on listening and responding to three key questions: pressing health concerns, priorities for the next year, and opportunities for stronger partnerships. Five major themes emerged:

1. Enhancing access to primary and specialized care,
2. Addressing mental health and addictions holistically,
3. Improving logistics, safety, and communication in patient care,
4. Cultivating authentic partnerships and cultural safety, and
5. Overcoming systemic barriers and addressing social determinants of health.

This feedback will guide operational planning, with next steps including community validation of the report (November 2025), draft plan development (January/February Feb 2026), and ongoing engagement through mid-term check-ins and annual gatherings.

Opportunity for questions was provided.

The Board thanked Adam Sanderson, and he left the meeting at 2:46 p.m.

9. Chair's Report

The Board Chair highlighted the recent and upcoming activities:

- Two Board Orientation sessions for new members to align expectations, strengthen governance knowledge, and enhance cohesion,
- Giving Life to Our Plan strategic session held on September 29, 2025, which provided deeper insight for Board members,
- IERHA Annual General Meeting held on October 6, 2025,
- Indigenous Health Advisory Gathering held on October 29, 2025, at South Beach Casino, for which an update was provided by Adam Sanderson earlier, and
- the upcoming Strategic Planning Day on November 6, 2025, a virtual session to launch the 2025–2030 Strategic Plan with stakeholders.

The Board Chair expressed appreciation to all Board members for their time and dedication in attending key events, emphasizing the importance of staff and community knowing that Board members are actively engaged.

In addition, the Board Chair shared that she attended the CancerCare Manitoba Board Annual Public Forum on November 18, 2025, at the invitation of the CancerCare Board Chair. More of an update on highlights and learnings will be provided under agenda item 11.4.2 Annual General Meeting debrief.

10. Chief Executive Officer Report

The November 2025 CEO Report was distributed and reviewed for information.

M. Ellis, CEO provided an executive summary overview to the Board on progress around the current provincial initiatives; local community engagement and operational table updates; and operational program updates aligned with the purpose, vision, values and strategic priorities of our organization's strategic plan. Key highlights include:

- On November 17, 2025, the CEO attended the Manitoba government announcement for the launch of Midwifery services in the IERHA. These services are to strengthen access to pre and post-natal care and family support by introducing new midwifery services in the Interlake-Eastern area.
 - The program is fully integrated with existing primary care and obstetrical services throughout the region, will begin with two full-time midwives. The midwives will provide comprehensive

- care including prenatal visits, labour and birth support, newborn care, postpartum follow-up and reproductive sexual health care. The first midwifery office is in the Interlake-Eastern Health Services building at 100 Easton Dr. in Selkirk.
- On October 27, 2025, a request for the IERHA to establish a blood collection site in Selkirk was received. Planning is underway with 100 Easton Drive (the former Selkirk Hospital) being explored as a potential location.
 - On November 13, 2025, a leaking pipe was discovered at Selkirk Regional Health Centre, affecting areas on both the second and main floors. Immediate action was taken to stop the leak and minimize disruption to patient care. While initial impacts were limited, remediation work is required and is expected to take approximately 10–12 weeks, with some temporary impact on endoscopy services. Air quality tests have confirmed no contaminants, and moisture testing is guiding restoration efforts. The situation has been reported as a critical occurrence, and staff are being kept informed as work progresses to ensure safety and continuity of care.

Opportunity for questions was provided.

11. Committee Reports

D. Fiebelkorn left the meeting at 3:06 p.m.

11.1 Finance Committee of the Whole

The October 23, 2025 Finance Committee minutes were approved by the Board at the November 17, 2025 Finance Committee (of the Whole) meeting.

The Financial statements for the period ending September 30, 2025 were reviewed and accepted at the November 17, 2025 Finance Committee (of the Whole) meeting.

11.2 Audit Committee

No report. Next meeting is scheduled for the morning of December 15, 2025.

11.3 Quality and Patient Safety Committee of the Whole

The August 28, 2025 Quality and Patient Safety Committee (of the Whole) minutes were approved by the Board at the November 27, 2025 Quality and Patient Safety Committee (of the Whole) meeting.

11.4 Education, Policy and Planning Committee

11.4.1 Approved Education, Policy and Planning Minutes (September 18, 2025)

The September 18, 2025 Education, Policy and Planning minutes were approved by the Education, Policy and Planning Committee at the November 20, 2025 meeting. Included for information.

11.4.2 Annual General Meeting Debrief

The Board debriefed the October 6, 2025 Annual General Meeting (AGM), reviewing attendance, feedback, and lessons learned for future planning. Attendance was strong, though survey participation was lower than anticipated, with approximately 19 responses (20–25%), which is considered acceptable given typical survey response rate.

Overall feedback was positive, with no significant concerns raised and open-ended comments reinforcing satisfaction with the event. Technical challenges, notably an echo issue, underscored the importance of pausing proceedings to resolve disruptions—a best practice successfully applied in later meetings. Virtual meeting management protocols were reaffirmed, including starting with participants muted, enabling self-unmute for questions, and using raised-hand features with moderator oversight; the ability to mute disruptive participants was confirmed. External feedback was also noted from Manitoba Health commending the team’s professionalism and capability.

The Board Chair shared that she attended the CancerCare Manitoba Board Annual Public Forum on November 18, 2025. The session included a patient story, reaffirmation of the Board’s governance role, introduction of board members, and highlights of key achievements such as hiring a new President and CEO (Kent Stobart), launching a new strategic plan, achieving accreditation with exemplary standing, and opening a second building. The forum also featured a presentation on the refreshed strategic roadmap with five priorities and related objectives, remarks from the new CEO, and a Q&A session.

The Board Chair took away some key observations and shared them with the Education, Policy and Planning Committee to assist with future planning of our annual general meetings and strategic planning sessions.

11.4.3 Policy Review

A. Jonasson noted that in line with the Education, Policy and Planning annual work plan the Committee reviewed the following policies at the November 20, 2026, meeting:

- GP. 27 - Board of Directors Skills, Knowledge and Training Matrix *new
- Appendix 14 - Board Skills, Competencies and Experience Evaluation *new
- Appendix 3 - Finance Committee Terms of Reference
- EO. 5 – Finance Planning
- EO. 6 – Financial Management
- EO.7 – Asset Protection
- EO. 8 – Capital Equipment

The Education, Policy and Planning Committee reviewed the two new policies and changes to the following policies with the Board:

- GP. 27 - Board of Directors Skills, Knowledge and Training Matrix *new
- Appendix 14 - Board Skills, Competencies and Experience Evaluation *new
- Appendix 3 - Finance Committee Terms of Reference
- EO. 6 – Financial Management
- EO.7 – Asset Protection
- EO. 8 – Capital Equipment

The Board policies related to Financial Position were reviewed by the Chief Financial Officer to confirm consistency with both provincial requirements and organizational processes. The recommended updates are intended to maintain this alignment. There are no proposed changes to EO. 5 - Financial Planning.

Recommendation is for the Board to adopt the new policies and changes.

Moved by A. Jonasson, seconded by D. Erickson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The Board of Directors approves the new and recommended change to the following policies;

- GP. 27 - Board of Directors Skills, Knowledge and Training Matrix *new
- Appendix 14 - Board Skills, Competencies and Experience Evaluation *new
- Appendix 3 - Finance Committee Terms of Reference
- EO. 6 – Financial Management
- EO.7 – Asset Protection
- EO. 8 – Capital Equipment,

as presented.

MOTION CARRIED: 07.2025.11.11.4.3

12. Liaison Reports

12.1 Ethics

No report.

12.2 Interlake Eastern Health Foundation

No report.

13. For Information - None

14. Next Meeting

- Thursday, January 22, 2026 @ 1:30 p.m.
Selkirk United Church – 202 McLean Ave., Selkirk, MB

15. In Camera

Leadership was invited to stay; the Board Chair called for motion to go in camera.

Moved by C. Typliski, seconded by L. Sigurdson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The meeting moved “in camera” at 3:35 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED: 07.2025.11.15A

Then Board Chair called for a motion to come out of camera.

Moved by L. Sigurdson, seconded by D. Erickson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The meeting moved “out of camera” at 3:47 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED: 07.2025.11.15B

16. Adjournment

Moved by C. Typliski, the meeting be adjourned at 3:48 p.m.