



MOUNT WADDINGTON REGIONAL HOSPITAL DISTRICT

August 15, 2023 Minutes

Following the Regional District of Mount Waddington Board of Directors Meeting
Board Room, RDMW Administrative Office, 2044 McNeill Road, Port McNeill, BC

Present: In Person: Andrew Hory (Chair), Dennis Buchanan (left at 4:55pm), Pat Corbett-Labatt, James Furney (left at 5:05pm), Michelle Pottage, Kathryn Wykes, Janet Dorward (Alternate for Dennis Dugas)
Via Zoom: Kevin Cameron
Staff: Via Zoom: Nicole McDowell, Reception, Nadine Weldon, Recording Secretary
Public: Kathy O'Reilly

Resolution **CALL TO ORDER Time 4:08 PM**

No. *The Chair opened the meeting by acknowledging that this meeting is taking place on the traditional territory of the Kwak'waka speaking peoples.*

A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved/Seconded/**CARRIED**

028/2023 THAT the August 15, 2023 MWRHD Meeting Agenda be approved presented.

B. DELEGATIONS & RECOGNITIONS

C. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Minutes of the MWRHD Meeting held June 20, 2023.

Moved/Seconded/**CARRIED**

029/2023 THAT the June 20, 2023 Mount Waddington Regional Hospital District Meeting Minutes be adopted as presented.

D. CORRESPONDENCE – None

E. REPORTS

- 2022 Mount Waddington Regional Hospital District Financial Statements:
 - D. Oakman, Consultant/Acting Treasurer
 - o *Clean audit*
 - o *Review of the Assets, Liabilities, Accumulated Surplus and Notes for the Financial Statement*
 - o *In 2022 practice was changed from moving funds from the Hospital District to the Regional District for investments. It was determined that in 2022, that the Hospital District would invest directly.*
 - o *Note 4 is in regard to the purchase of the Port McNeill Medical Clinic, which was a collaboration between the Regional District, the Mount Waddington Hospital Board and Vancouver Island Health Authority to purchase the Port McNeill clinic building and land. This agreement is almost at an end, which will allow this receivable to be cleared.*
 - o *The Regional Hospital District Board has agreed to carry out the funding for the Health Network, including the Health Network Coordinator.*
 - o *The annual surplus is quite significantly more than was budgeted for, this came about because one of the issues that the Hospital District held matured in 2022, based on this, there were actuarial funds of \$109,825.00 that came back.*

- **Island Health – Lesly Deuchar, Max Jajszczok, Dr. Nicole Bennet-Boutilier, Ian Wood, Dr. Dieter de Bruin**
 - o *Introduction of Ian Wood, he is the new Director for Clinical Services, Vancouver Island North. He and his family have relocated to Port Hardy from Kamloops. Has been in Health Care for the last 20 years.*
 - o *There will be another physician to Port Hardy mid-September. This will be a full time position. The plan is to add 2 more practice ready assessment physicians to Port Hardy in the spring. They will be working under 3 year return to service contracts, which is great news for the community.*
 - o *Have been able to recruit 2 clinical nurse educators for the North Island. They will be working in all communities on the North Island, as they are both new to their careers, they will be mentored for the time being by an established clinical nurse educator who will provide support and feedback for the 2 long term clinical nurse educators and Island Health.*
 - o *It has been difficult, but the recruitment is ongoing for specialty nurses for the emergency room positions. Ian is very proud of the hospital teams for pulling together to keep the emergency rooms open as much as possible.*
 - o *Construction started on August 14 for the CT scanner pad. It is anticipated that the scanner will be available for residents by the spring of 2024. The CT scanner will need to go through an accreditation process and that delivery remains on schedule. Staff has provided lots of positive response.*
 - o *VIHA is looking at further education for teams within the health authority to support the emergency room departments.*
 - o *There have been a rash of unexpected deaths in the last couple of weeks. Supportive measures have been set up for staff to ensure that everyone receives the support they need.*
 - o *Indigenous Learning journeys has been launched for team leads.*
 - o *Hailey, the retention & recruitment coordinator is out and about in the community, making connections through various community events.*
 - o *Port Hardy Primary Care Clinic virtual care is growing.*
 - o *Alert Bay had a new leadership team start for the Cormorant Island Clinic.*
 - o *Optimization work can begin now that the shuttles and security staff are in place.*
 - o *Request from the MWHN Chair to have VIHA join in a transportation committee meeting to determine how to integrate the VIHA shuttle with the VTN and regional transit system.*
 - o *At the end of March, the beginning of April, a recruitment campaign was launched nationally, and it's been working quite well. Thank you to the Regional District for all the work done with the retention and visitor information.*
 - o *There have been significant hires within and outside of the communities, averaging 1-2 per week. At this time, there are approximately 25 people who are working through their onboarding process to come to the North Island. Island Health is providing support through assisting with peer connections and temporary housing.*
 - o *Island Health have done bus wraps in various communities in other provinces as part of the recruitment programming, as well as media advertising in local newspapers.*
 - o *Summer is a hard time to ensure 100% staffing, but teams have really step up.*
 - o *New specialties are coming into the community, including a clinical pharmacist who will provide support to physicians and nursing staff.*
 - o *Thank you to the RD & Hospital District re: the clinic purchase.*

- *Another success in recruiting is the addition of 2 midwives and 2 full-time nurse practitioners.*
- *24/7 coverage requires a lot of manpower. Some of the ways Island Health is incentivizing their recruitment is to offer supplemental financial and scheduling perks. The hope is that people that are currently returning as supplemental will become full time staff.*
- *There have been some social media posts re: compensation discrepancies for regular physicians as locums. All doctors receive the same compensation for working, the only additional financial compensation that locum doctors do receive is travel allowance. Payment is based on a physician master payment, which includes "on call sum" and "fee for service".*
- *Dr. Armogam's privileges are still intact. Removal of hospital privileges is normally a private and confidential matter and not typically shared. Island Health is not going to speak to this until there is a clear outcome. Advocating with accurate information is always the most helpful.*
- *Management of misinformation through the media has been prevalent, and Island Health is working strenuously to ensure that provincial protocols and processes are being relayed to the public. Removal of hospital privileges is normally a private and confidential matter and not typically shared. Island Health is not going to speak to this until there is a clear outcome.*
- *The UBC learning or resident doctors' program is slowly coming back to the North Island. There have been 2 PRABC clinical field assessments (international doctor certifications) and are now successfully matched to their communities.*
- *Thank you from the Directors, especially from Director Cameron to Dr. Bennett-Boutilier for the fantastic work you are doing. Residents may not be aware that the physicians are not stationary, but travel from community to community within the North Island.*
- *Request from the Board to Island Health to provide an update on the capital implications further to the \$30,000,000.00 funding from the province. Preferably in October.*
- *There are plans to provide a public information session around the funding programs. This will be done once most of the foundational pieces are put together.*
- *Question from the Public: Is there any update to the possibility of loss of clinics in small communities? Physicians can provide service to community even if they don't have hospital privileges. At this time, Island Health is not able to confirm if some of the smaller communities will maintain community specific clinical services. It is hoped that there will be good communication and collaboration to ensure that there is no service interruption.*

Moved/Seconded/CARRIED

030/2023 THAT the Island Health verbal report be received and filed.

F. BYLAWS – None

G. COMMITTEE REPORTS

H. HEALTH NETWORK BUSINESS

- Introduction of Marjorie Giroux, the new Health Network Coordinator
- Marjorie has been a resident for the 32 years and with background in sociology....
- 10 days into this new position and has an upcoming meeting with Angela Smith, the former Health Network Coordinator to get up to speed.

- Appreciate having the opportunity to be included in this meeting process, meeting everyone and working collaboratively with everyone.

031/2023 **NEXT MEETING** – September 11, 2023 following the RDMW Board of Directors meeting.

032/2023 **I. ADJOURNMENT**

Time 5:10 PM



CHAIR



SECRETARY