

The Board of Directors held a meeting on September 11, 2017.

Pre-Capital Submission on Building Upgrades and Improvements

The Hospital will proceed to develop a pre-capital submission to the Champlain Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) and the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care for building improvements. The scope of this project will be defined during the planning phase.

In 2004, when the scope of work on the Hospital Redevelopment project had been confirmed, it was acknowledged that there would be a need for another phase of project work. The two main areas requiring building upgrades are Level 6 (North and South) and the Laboratory. The Birthing area (West) on Level 6 received a full renovation; however, the inpatient floor was not renovated. This area does not have good ventilation and air conditioning and the patient washrooms are small and not wheelchair accessible. Level 6 South is often used when additional medical beds are required. The Hospital is now in a position to plan for the much needed improvements to this space.

Opioid Volumes

In light of significant media coverage on increased opioid usage across the country, the Board of Directors received an update regarding the local situation. From our data, this community is not currently experiencing an overdose crisis, although it is recognized that this can change in an instant.

The hospital is also not seeing a dramatic increase in referrals to its Addiction Services/Withdrawal Management related to opioid usage. In fact, locally there has been an 11% decrease in clients presenting to the hospital's community services with opioid issues since 2015. The Emergency Department has also seen a decrease in presentations related to opioid use disorder over the years.

It is always difficult to definitively explain trends; although excellent community partnerships have allowed the building of strong linkages in Cornwall between public health, withdrawal management, addiction services and private sector treatment options. This is a strength in our community. Cornwall Community Hospital's Community Addiction and Mental Health Programs has worked closely with local private addiction treatment clinics to create a seamless service. Clients used to wait months for opioid addiction treatment and now can be seen the same day for medical treatment. The Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) has provided some one-time funding for this year, which will be used to expand our harm reduction efforts.

Operating Budget

During the first quarter of 2017-2018, the Hospital continued to experience high patient volumes and the impact on its operating budget has been significant. At the end of July, the Hospital's year-to-date expenses were approximately \$600,000 over budget, and revenues were slightly lower than budget.

The month of July improved with expenses coming in on budget, and August moved us in a positive direction.

The Senior Team, directors and managers across the hospital are looking for opportunities to ensure that results continue to improve in the coming months.

North Annex

Demolition of the North Annex (the former convent) is proceeding well. The contract for this work has been awarded to Bourgon Construction.

Corporate Scorecard

The Board reviewed results of the 2017-2018 Corporate Scorecard to Quarter 1.

Policies and Plans

The Board approved the following:

- Policy CM 05-005 – Directional Signage;
- 2017 French Language Services Designation Plan; and
- Accessibility Plan for 2017-2018.

The Accessibility Plan is available on the hospital's web site.

Recognition

The Board recognized the following individuals:

Jennifer Barkley for ensuring that all patients from our Sleep Lab received direct communication and were given assistance with scheduling alternative appointment, and for the significant improvement in wait times for CT scans.

Suzanne Dionne, Karin Hagen and Paula Sleeman for completing the Hospital's first internal audit, which was a review of the medical staff credentialing process.

Dr. Rony Greemberg for the great work he has been doing in the community as a paediatrician.

Karin Hagen for the development of a management reporting system assembling in one location all pertinent information required by managers.

Deena Shorkey for being successful in receiving a grant from The Centre of Excellence to enhance youth engagement in service planning and implementation in our region.

Krystie Small for her meticulous delivery of the Cerner program to nursing students at St. Lawrence College.

Dr. Jerry Stern for his many years of service at the hospital in Nuclear Medicine.
