

Board Highlights



Highlights from the regular meetings of Northwood's Board of Governors

October 2014

Board Members:

Patrick Flinn, Chair
Peter Wilde, Vice Chair
Louise Cloutier
Rhonda Church
Doug Clarke
Sandra Hennigar
Susan Kirkland
Sheldon Lipkus
Ed McHugh
David Morrison
David Perrier
Michael Sherar

Our Vision

People living life to the fullest, flourishing in a community of belonging, dignity and choice.

Our Mission

As a leader in continuing care, we build meaningful relationships with our clients everyday and make a positive difference in the communities we serve.

Our Core Values

*People Come First
Everyone Plays a Part
We Promote Social Justice
We are All Accountable
We can Always Do Better*

Highlights from the Northwood Board of Governors, meeting held on Monday, October 6, 2014 at 5:00pm in the Penthouse, Edward L. Roach Centre for Living, Halifax.

Patrick Flinn, Board Chair, welcomed members to the meeting. In his opening remarks, the Chair reminded members that the organization faces a number of important issues in the coming months as well as accreditation scheduled for February 23, 24, 25 and 26, 2015.

Accreditation

Northwood participated in the accreditation process in 2005, 2008 and 2011; each time winning a full accreditation award. In 2011, we were awarded full accreditation with exemplary status; the highest designation provided by Accreditation Canada. As part of its ongoing education, the Board listed to a presentation on the accreditation process. The presentation included:

- A review of governance standards and the Board's role in the process.
- How accreditation standards relate to the work of the Board.
- **Required Organizational Standards** that support client safety and ensure quality of service.
- Overview of areas identified for improvement (1 red flag and 13 yellow flags).
- The Board heard the progress is being made in all areas and staff continue to invest significant effort in all areas related to accreditation.

CEO Report

Janet Simm provided an overview of the successes achieved and challenges remaining in Homecare. Even though we succeeded in meeting our direct service hour target in August, continued work and monitoring will be required. A letter has been sent to the Department of Health updating them on our efforts.

Ms. Simm confirmed work continues on a number of fronts including:

- Meeting the financial challenges of Adult Day
- Foundation strategic planning
- Role of Nurse Practitioner
- Partnership opportunities with other facilities for contracted services. Northwood made a proposal to Shoreham Village in Chester.
- Research initiatives

Michele Lowe, Executive Director, Northwood in the Community, spoke about the launch of Intouch's new GPS watch in November. The launch will help position Northwood as a leader in the development and introduction of new technologies design to support people choosing to live in their own homes and communities.

October, 2014

BOARD ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Quality and Performance Committee

Sandra Hennigar informed members that further education sessions would be held at future Board meetings to prepare members for accreditation. Biographies of the three surveyors were shared with members.

The Committee has been advised of changes in indicators and the alignment of the quality scorecard with the strategic plan by the CEO.

The Committee will also review other organizations and processes to look at options for accreditation at future meetings.

Executive Committee

Patrick Flinn presented the report. Request to form a Board Research Advisory Committee was deferred.

H.R. Committee

David Perrier indicated that the committee will meet on October 20 to discuss accreditation, Board member position descriptions and succession planning for the Board.

Finance and Audit Committee

Doug Clarke reported the Committee met on September 17. Members reviewed the pre-circulated August financial reports.

Reinhard Jerabek confirmed that Northwood is looking at new staff scheduling software for long term care but no decision has been made yet.

Foundation Board

Louise Cloutier informed members that the Foundation Board met on October 3, 2014. Topics discussed included:

- Need to emphasize Northwood's not-for-profit status to the general public.
- A question arose about how many members from Northwood Board could sit on the Foundation Board. It was determined that the formal relationship between the two boards was set out in the Foundation bylaws.

BOARD RETREAT

The dates for the Board Retreat at Ivany Place are November 28 and 29, 2014. Accreditation will be the focus of the Friday session.

NEXT MEETING

Monday, November 3, 2014 at 5:00pm