

# Board Highlights

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

June 2015

## Board Members:

Patrick Flinn, Chair  
Peter Wilde, Vice Chair  
Louise Cloutier  
Rhonda Church  
Doug Clarke  
Sandra Hennigar  
Susan Kirkland  
Sheldon Lipkus  
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, June 8, 2015 at 5:00 pm in the Penthouse, Edward L. Roach Centre for Living, Halifax.

Mr. Flinn welcomed Akbar Khan and Dianne Swinemar to their first Board meeting.

### Review of Audited Financial Statements

Jacklyn Mercer and Paul Janes of Deloitte presented their audited financial report for the year ending March 31, 2015 to the Board. They reported that they did not encounter any significant deficiencies in internal control. Ms. Mercer also confirmed that the corporate restructuring was finalized in 2014-2015.

New this year is an overall consolidation of Capital Assets for Halifax, Bedford and Realty corporations. Deloitte has confirmed that assets are being carried out at an appropriate value and they concur with Management's assessment.

### CEO Report

The Department of Health and Wellness (DHW) issued a communication on May 28th putting the RFP process on hold for the time being. Northwood will continue to focus on addressing priority areas to ensure we are ready for the next steps in this process. These priorities include cost competitiveness and responsiveness.

Ms. Simm advised that the home care industry is currently working with DHW on the development of a definition of Direct Service Hours (DSH) to address reporting inconsistencies within the sector. The industry has also been informed that DHW will be looking at embedding performance measures into service contracts.

### BOARD ADVISORY COMMITTEES

#### Foundation Board

No report.

#### Quality and Performance Committee

Beginning in the Fall, the Quality and Performance Committee will identify a quality feature of the month that will be shared with the Board.

#### Executive Committee

The Annual General Meeting will be held Monday, June 22nd, 2015 at 5:00pm in the Shirley Burnstein Hall. New Members will be formally confirmed at the AGM. A Board meeting is scheduled following the AGM.

The Executive Committee has assigned Akbar Khan to the Quality and

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Performance Committee; Dianne Swinemar to the Foundation Committee and Jerome Grady to the Finance and Audit Committee.

## **H.R. Committee**

The Peer Review Process was briefly discussed. Claire Westhaver has tabulated the results and submitted them to the Board Chair. Each Board Member will receive a copy of the results.

## **Finance and Audit Committee**

Members reviewed the 2015-2016 budgets. Northwood's revenue is approximately \$98M. The DHW small equipment allowance has been reduced by 50%. Northwood is also in the process of re-financing some mortgages at favorable rates. Reinhard Jerabek will continue to work with Finance and Audit Committee in developing a cyclical agenda for reviews.

## **Annual General Meeting**

Invitations were extended to residents, tenants, family and stakeholders to attend. The agenda was expanded to include an overview of achievements and highlights from the Community and Stakeholder report and progress on our strategic directions.

## **Board Advocacy Ad Hoc Committee and Board Advocacy Work**

Members were advised about changes in the Long Term Care Funding Policy impacting the role of the Northwood Foundation. In response to comments made by the Health Minister Leo Glavine, letters were sent from the Board Chair to the Minister of Health and MLA of Halifax Needham.

A list of additional goals for follow up was reviewed. Next steps include the development of a more detailed description of each of the advocacy items to ensure a clearer board understanding of each issue. Once a process has been tested, then a policy will be developed to reflect the Board role in advocacy.

Louise Cloutier informed Members that tonight was her last meeting after 9 years of service to the Board. She thanked Members for their support over the years and wished them well.