

# Board Highlights



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

March 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, March 2, 2015 at 5:00 pm in the Penthouse, Edward L. Roach Centre for Living, Halifax.**

## CEO Report

Under the **Program Development and Growth** (Stabilization) Strategic Direction:

- An information session was held on February 20th with industry stakeholders by the Consultants looking at the government's RFP proposal for homecare services to obtain reaction and feedback. Michele Lowe commented that there is movement toward the creation of a potential Fourth (4th) level worker.
- Direct service rates for January 2015 was reviewed.
- We will be moving to a smoke free building in the Northwood Manor.

Under the **Brand Awareness** Strategic Direction:

- Staff have been working with Phil Otto and Revolve staff to create a revitalized Northwood brand. Mr. Otto is scheduled to present to the Board on March 30th.
- The Minister of Health recently met with Donna MacDonald and Ms. Simm to discuss what is needed as part of the Provincial Dementia Strategy.
- The first Bragg Wish was granted on February 7th.
- The Foundation is working with Marjorie Lindsey to launch Northwood's Mental Health Strategy
- John O'Keefe was interviewed by Coast magazine for an article on the Sexual Health of residents
- New staff portal on the Northwood website was launched.

Ms. Simm also provided a high level overview from the February 2, 2015 CEO Report including:

- Margaret Szabo from In Care Living has been seconded to assist with preparation for the upcoming Home Support RFP process
- Recruitment remains a top priority.
- Janet Simm and Josie Ryan met with Ruby Knowles, DHW regarding the existing three bed Resident rooms in Halifax and the bad debt issue n LTC.

Under the **Housing Strategy** Strategic Direction:

The following recommendations related to Northwood's Housing strategy were approved:

Our niche is:

1. Affordability
2. Vulnerable populations who need access to safe/supportive environments.

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3. Adults over 20 years of age
4. Populations that do not adversely affect our sense of safe/supportive environments.
5. Including housing options along the continuum.
6. Target populations/opportunities for Northwood to respond to unmet needs for unique Housing options in the affordable caveat with defined population:
  - i. Retired Artist Community
  - ii. Disabled Young Adults
  - iii. LGBT
  - iv. Elderly who find it difficult either physically or socially to live in a fully independent setting.

## **BOARD ADVISORY COMMITTEES**

### **Foundation Board**

Ms. Simm reported the Foundation has a list of projects that support our Strategic Directions. Funding for a mental health strategy that will initially serve In Care Living residents and eventually expand to support tenants was received through a donation from Marjorie Lindsey, the result of significant relationship building.

### **Quality and Performance Committee**

**Accreditation Debrief:** Janet Simm reported that out of the 667 standards that we were measured against, we met 643; achieving a 96.4% compliance rate. We are waiting for the surveyors' official report and the official Accreditation decision.

### **Executive Committee**

A draft CEO performance process review document was received and was tabled for discussion at the March Executive meeting. Executive Requirement policies were reviewed and a number of minor changes proposed.

### **H.R. Committee**

A role description for the Chair, Vice Chair and Committee Chairs was developed. Succession planning for the Chair and Vice Chair will be discussed at the March 30th meeting. Two candidates submitted their application to join the Board.

The Human Resources Committee will now focus on the Board Skillset document to identify any gaps for future appointments to the Board.

### **Finance and Audit Committee**

We continue to be in a healthy financial position.

Five firms have expressed interest in responding to an Audit RFP. The Finance and Audit Committee will review responses to the RFP at their March meeting.

### **Communications Plan**

The Board approved an updated Communications Plan 2014 – 2019.