

Board Highlights



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

November 2015

Board Members:

Peter Wilde, Chair
David Perrier, Vice Chair
Rhonda Church
Doug Clarke
Patrick Flinn
Jerome Grady
Sandra Hennigar
Akbar Khan
Susan Kirkland
Sheldon Lipkus
David Morrison
Michael Sherar
Dianne Swinemar

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, November 2, 2015 at 5:00 pm in the main floor classroom, Ivany Place, Bedford.

Board Learning and Development

Cathy Misener (Nurse Practitioner), Evan Bezanson and Doug Ross (Pharmacists from Lawtons) presented the results of a review of the use of anti-psychotic medications among residents as a follow up to Accreditation. An action plan to address the use of these medications and the significant progress to date was presented.

CEO Report

Work continues to reduce direct service hour (DSH) costs. Starting November 9th, Northwood will adopt the Department of Health and Wellness's (DHW) mandated definition of Direct Service Hours. This means that we will no longer be able to bill DHW for visits cancelled with less than 24 hours, and where the staff member could not be deployed elsewhere.

Northwood's leadership development initiative has been launched with a research project in conjunction with St. Mary's University. An update was provided regarding the process of discontinuing our GPS watch service.

BOARD ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Foundation Board

The Foundation will be holding their first donor recognition event on November 19th in the Shirley Burnstein Hall. The 18th Appetite for Life (AFL) event is confirmed for April 9, 2016. The Hedley G. Ivany Senior of the Year Award presented at the AFL, has been renamed to the Hedley G. Ivany Live More Award.

The Bragg Wish Fund requirements have slightly changed. This is a program that Northwood staff facilitate for long term care facilities in the Province. John Bonnell provided an update on the Bedford Community Garden/Park project.

Quality and Performance Committee

There was an unscheduled licensing visit to the Halifax site in August 2015. We continue to meet standards in all areas. A number of minor recommendations were identified.

The 'blue box' or Quality Improvement Initiatives document was updated in August 2015. New additions were identified.

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Executive Committee

Peter Wilde reported that the executive met with members of the Foundation Board to discuss ongoing communication.

A Physician Engagement dinner event is planned for November 18. This event will include a meal, a working agenda with updates and discussion on a number of issues.

Living space improvements in Halifax was reviewed as a potential advocacy item. We still have a number of three bed bedrooms in the Centre.

The Shoreham Village contact is under review by legal counsel.

H.R. Committee

Mike Sherar reported that the Committee is on track with succession planning. Each Member will be asked to review and update their respective information on the Board Profile document. Members will also be asked to complete the Annual Board Survey.

Finance and Audit Committee

Foundation revenue and expenses will be removed from the consolidated statement. Foundation financial information will now be shown as a note in the financial statements.

The Board agreed to refinance Northwood's long term debt and financing approved by Department of Health and Wellness funded capital projects. There are significant savings to move forward with refinancing at this time.

The Board accepted a recommendation to add two new Exchange servers (one in Halifax and the other at our Burnside location). With the new servers, we can have a hardware or software issue at one site without it having any effect on our ability to send and receive email.

Board Retreat

The Board retreat is confirmed for November 21st, 2015 in the Shirley Burnstein Hall. The morning session will include an exercise from the United Way entitled Living on the Edge. This exercise simulates the experience of living in poverty. The afternoon session will focus on a joint planning exercise with the Board, Foundation Board and Staff.