Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, November 28, 2018
NSHA Provincial Offices, Halifax, NS

Discussion Highlights

Nova Scotia Health Authority's Board of Directors met on Wednesday, November 28, 2018 at the NSHA Provincial Offices in Halifax. The following outlines the highlights of the Board's discussions:

- The Board approved the Annual Budget and Business Plan policies. The annual budget is used to allocate and enable the management of financial resources in the most efficient way to ensure maximum positive impact on the health of our citizens and health care teams. The business plan is a written, published document outlining priorities and financial plans that support the allocation and management of resources in the most efficient way. The business plan outlines key areas of focus which are aligned with the priorities and funding from the Department of Health and Wellness. The annual budgeting and business planning processes are underway for fiscal year 2019-20 which begins April 1, 2019.

- As part of its meeting package, the Board of Directors received a report from the President and CEO which included a narrative on key activities in support of NSHA's strategic plan and business plan, and issues being addressed; a progress report on the President and CEO's goals and objectives for current year 2018-19; and a summary report on the previously approved Board key priority indicators.

- In addition, the Board received detailed updates on the following priority areas:

  - Implementation of Collaborative Family Practice Teams
    - As of October 1, 2018 there are now 74 collaborative family practice team locations in Nova Scotia.
    - NSHA continues to work collaboratively, and as a priority with the Department of Health and Wellness to strengthen the collaborative family practice teams that exist and enhancing attachment to ensure Nova Scotians have access to a primary care provider.
  - Need a Family Practice Registry
    - Approximately 2,450 people found a family doctor or nurse practitioner each month in 2018; specifically in the month of October, 3,761 individuals found a primary care provider.
  - One Patient One Record (OPOR)

- A governance model is being developed to support the oversight of this project. The importance of this has been emphasized to the Department of Health and Wellness and options presented.
    - QEII New Generation Project
        - The projects within the QEII New Generation Project continue to move forward on-time and on budget.

    - Cape Breton Redevelopment Project
        - The project team is in place and over 20 meetings with key stakeholders have been held.
        - Functional planning is being completed.

    - Recruitment of the VP Medicine and VP/Chief Zone Operations

- The Board engaged in a lengthy and thoughtful discussion around determining priorities as part of the 2019-20 Quality and Sustainability Plan. Several service delivery models were reviewed and discussed.

- The Board received the 2018 Public Perception Study results and had a thoughtful discussion around the general perceptions, access to health care, collaborative teams, information sources, engagement and financial contributions to hospital foundations. The Board agreed that as it continues to provide governance oversight in support of Nova Scotia Health Authority's work to transform and improve the health system that greater proactive communication and public education is required.

- The Board received an update on NSHA's physician recruitment activities since the last meeting, including a report that as of October 31, 2018 ninety physicians have started practice. In addition, there was a discussion around work that is underway to support and engage with communities in local physician recruitment and retention efforts.

- A review of current physician engagement strategies were shared with and discussed by the Board. NSHA is committed to working together to improve physician engagement and understand that it will take some time to make meaningful improvement. A physician-led approach in the continued development of engagement strategies is essential.