

MINUTES
Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, May 7, 2025
5:00 p.m.

Pembroke Regional Hospital, Boardroom, Tower C (C142)

Attendance					
P = Present R = Regrets					
Voting Directors	P	R	Non-Voting Directors	P	R
Dean Sauriol, Chair	✓		Sabine Mersmann, President & CEO	✓	
Neil Nicholson, Vice Chair	✓		Dr. Thomas Hurley, Chief of Staff		✓
David Unrau, Past Chair	✓		Dr. Amanda Williamson, President of Professional Staff	✓	
Amy Sicoli, CHSO Designate	✓		Beth Brownlee, VP Clinical Services / CNE	✓	
Suli Adams	✓		Resources (Non-Voting)		
Daniel Burke	✓		Scott Coombes	✓	
Clay Deighton		✓	Brent McIntyre	✓	
Matthew Neadow	✓		Carolyn Levesque		✓
Les Scott	✓		Recorder		
Richard Wilson	✓		Sarah Mellish	✓	
Lisa Edmonds, Foundation Chair		✓	Guests		
Diana Gagné, President of Hospital Auxiliary	✓		Shelley Sheedy	✓	

	Agenda Items	Minutes
1.0	Board Education Session	
1.1	Medical Learners	Katie Hollahan, Medical Affairs Coordinator, Terra Bouliane, Medical Learners and Emergency Department Administrative Assistant, Dr. Amanda Williamson, President of the Professional Staff and Dr. Richard Johnson, Chief of Family Medicine, provided the Board with an overview of our Medical Learners Program and the growth it is experiencing.
2.0	Call to Order	Dean Sauriol called the meeting to order at 5:38 p.m.
2.1	Opening Prayer	Beth Brownlee led the Board in an opening prayer.
2.2	Land Acknowledgement	Dean Sauriol read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.
3.0	Adoption of Agenda Motion 1	Moved by David Unrau, seconded by Les Scott, that the agenda of the May 7, 2025 Board Meeting be accepted as presented. CARRIED
4.0	Declaration of Conflicts of Interest	A call for declarations of conflicts of interest was made. No conflicts of interest were declared.

5.0	President and CEO's Report	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="337 212 548 243">• Epic Update <li data-bbox="337 615 781 678">• Primary Care Team Proposals in Development <li data-bbox="337 982 764 1087">• Renfrew County Partners Release the Renfrew County and District Drug Strategy <li data-bbox="337 1287 773 1392">• A Successful Go-Live for Pediatric Surgery Partnership with CHEO <li data-bbox="337 1686 781 1791">• Strengthening our Partnership with The University of Ottawa Heart Institute 	<p data-bbox="821 212 1536 579">On April 2, 2025, Sabine Mersmann, Beth Brownlee, Scott Coombes, Sarah Selle, Laurie Menard and Peter Payton had the opportunity to travel to Ottawa as participants in the Epic Roadshow hosted by The Ottawa Hospital and the existing 10 partners in the Atlas Alliance where a team from Epic presented on current and future innovations. That afternoon, an official kickoff of the Third Wave Implementation which we are now a part of was held and a new go-live date for all six hospitals involved was announced to be Saturday, October 24, 2026.</p> <p data-bbox="821 615 1511 947">The government recently held a call for proposals for new or expanded Primary Care Teams in designated areas and The Ottawa Valley Ontario Health Team worked with members of the Primary Care Network and partners on proposals for postal codes K8A and K0J. For this first round of targeted proposals, OHTs were to coordinate and submit proposals on behalf of local providers with a deadline of May 2, 2025. Results of the call for proposals are expected this summer, with implementation to start soon after.</p> <p data-bbox="821 982 1528 1251">On April 10th, the Steering Committee partners from healthcare, addiction treatment, enforcement, government, and those with lived and living experience released the Renfrew County and District Drug Strategy (RCDDS). This strategy outlines how the more than 30 partnering organizations, including our hospital, are committed to reducing substance use related harms across the Renfrew County and District.</p> <p data-bbox="821 1287 1528 1650">Our Perioperative Program celebrated a successful March 27th go-live of a new partnership with CHEO that will help reduce wait times for pediatric surgeries while providing care closer to home. Launch day saw the completion of five tonsil and adenoid procedures for five pediatric patients by a surgeon from CHEO with support from our nursing and anesthesia teams. Such close collaboration with CHEO and being able to learn from CHEO practices in order to make positive changes to our own processes will be of great benefit to our patients and their families.</p> <p data-bbox="821 1686 1528 1944">On April 10, 2025, several members of the Senior Leadership Team had the pleasure of having lunch with The Ottawa Heart Institute President and CEO Dr. Rob Beanlands and Vice President of Clinical Operations Erika MacPhee before welcoming them to PRH and providing them with a tour of our facility. This was the first time they had visited one of their outlying referral hospitals and it was great to hear their</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Renfrew County Council Welcomes PRH Delegation Trillium Gift of Life Network (TGLN) Celebration PRH Honours Retirees and Those Who Achieved Long Service Milestones Successful Stroke Education Session Marks Relaunch of Health Promotion Initiatives Spring Edition of Community Connection 	<p>vision for the future and to learn firsthand how focused they are on collaborating with healthcare partners and seeing expertise built up outside of their own organization.</p> <p>On April 23, 2025, Sabine Mersmann and Richard Wilson were joined by Neil Nicholson, from his municipal seat, to make a presentation to Renfrew County Council providing a comprehensive overview of our programs and services, a summary of all the projects that we are involved with and a highlight of our newest renovated spaces.</p> <p>On April 17, 2025 we recognized our Hospital's long-standing commitment to organ and tissue donation and celebrated the fact that, in the past fiscal year, our team's dedication to this program resulted in seven tissue donors who were able to enhance the lives of many. We were also proud to have once again received the Routing Notification Rate Award for achieving a 100% routine notification rate throughout 2023/24.</p> <p>On April 24, 2025, during an awards luncheon at the Clarion Hotel, we celebrated the retirement of 22 staff and physicians who retired in 2024 and 39 staff and four physicians who achieved long service milestones ranging from 20 to 45 years of service at PRH. In addition, 81 team members achieved milestones ranging from 5-15 years and received a certificate and pin from their manager.</p> <p>Nearly 100 local residents attended our "Understanding Stroke" session held April 24, 2025 at the Best Western Pembroke Inn and Conference Centre. The event featured a number of speakers from our staff and physician team as well as community partners who addressed a broad range of topics from the science of stroke, to stroke prevention, treatment and recovery.</p> <p>The spring edition of our public newsletter is now online and making its way to mailboxes throughout the region.</p>
6.0	Patient Story	Beth Brownlee provided the Board with an overview of a patient story.
7.0	Strategic Matters – Generative Discussion	
7.1	Update from the OHA Health Care Leadership Conference	Sabine Mersmann provided an overview of the highlights from the OHA Healthcare Leadership Conference that she recently attended in Toronto.

		<p>There were a few common overarching themes including hospitals continuing to function in an uncertain fiscal environment, physician human resources issues, and the adoption of artificial intelligence tools.</p> <p>The group also discussed advocacy and the importance of CEOs focusing time communicating with community members and building partnerships.</p>
7.2	CHSO Care for All Webinar “Why AI Matters to Catholic Health and Social Services”	<p>As part of the Board’s Formation education, the CHSO continued to provide webinars as part of its “Care for All” series. The most recent webinar was titled “Why AI Matters to Catholic Health and Social Services”. A generative discussion on the webinar as well as the risks, policies and ethics of artificial intelligence tools was held.</p> <p>Amy Sicoli joined the meeting at this time.</p>
8.0	Business/Committee Matters – Generative Discussion	
8.1	<p>CHSO Annual General Meeting Material:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CEO and Chair Report • Risk Identification Worksheet • Elements of Mission Fidelity Self-Assessment 	<p>As part of our annual reporting requirements to the Catholic Health Sponsor’s of Ontario (CHSO) Annual General Meeting, the following documents were prepared and included in the package for the Board’s review and consideration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CEO and Chair Report • Risk Identification Worksheet • Elements of Mission Fidelity Self-Assessment <p>Everyone agreed that the reports were well prepared and accurate.</p> <p>Motion 2 Moved by Les Scott, seconded by Richard Wilson, that the Board of Directors recommends that the Report from the Chair and CEO be received by the Board of Catholic Health Sponsors of Ontario as the Members.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p> <p>Motion 3 Moved by Matthew Neadow, seconded by Neil Nicholson, that the Board of Directors recommend the 2025 Elements of Mission Fidelity Self-Assessment be received by the Board of the Catholic Health Sponsors of Ontario as the Members.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>
8.2	Update from the Resource and Audit Committee (<i>if any</i>)	There was no update for this meeting.

8.3	Update from the Board Quality and Patient Safety Committee (<i>if any</i>)	<p>Neil Nicholson reported that the Board Quality and Patient Safety Committee met last evening.</p> <p>The committee was provided with an update on infection control measures in place and how the hospital is prepared for a measles outbreak should one occur. There has been a lot of work done around providing education and training and a number of vaccination clinics were held for staff. There is also risk screening in place for patients upon entering the building.</p> <p>The committee was also provided with an update on the work being completed around repeat emergency department visits and the improvements being seen with the newly implemented chest pain protocol. When patients come into the ED with chest pain, the process is now streamlined so that the Patient Services Attendant is now able to identify these patients and fast-track their assessment.</p>
9.0	Consent Agenda	
9.1	Board of Directors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verified the minutes of the March 26, 2026 Board Meeting
9.2	Medical Advisory Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minutes from the meeting held April 16, 2025 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Received the minutes of the MAC meeting held April 16, 2025 and approved the following motions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • that the Board of Directors accepts the recommendation of the Medical Advisory Committee that the following new Courtesy applications be approved: <p><u>New Courtesy Applications</u> Dr. Abimbola, Adeniyi – Family Practice (VTAC) Dr. Asselin, Thierry – Family Practice (VTAC) Dr. Aw, Andrew – Ambulatory Clinics (Hematology) Dr. Babanorouzi, Farnaz – Family Practice (VTAC) Dr. Chen, Brian – Family Practice (VTAC) Dr. Chuang, Helen - Family Practice (VTAC) Dr. Cipkar, Christopher – Ambulatory Clinics (Hematology) Dr. Ferreyra Galliani, Mariella - Family Practice (VTAC) Dr. Gobran, Anthony - Family Practice</p>

		(VTAC) Dr. Hilton, Tara - Family Practice (VTAC) Dr. Hu, Tina - Family Practice (VTAC) Dr. Ibrahim, Fadi - Family Practice (VTAC) Dr. Iyengar, Abhinav – Ambulatory Clinics (Hematology) Dr. Jia, Meng - Family Practice (VTAC) Dr. Kaicker, Jatin - Family Practice (VTAC) Dr. Liang, Eric - Family Practice (VTAC) Dr. Lipszyc, Deborah - Family Practice (VTAC) Dr. MacDonald, Cathy - Family Practice (VTAC) Dr. Martin, Brent - Family Practice (VTAC) Dr. MacLean, Jessica - Family Practice (VTAC) Dr. Mavriplis, Cleoniki - Family Practice (VTAC) Dr. McCurdy, Arleigh – Ambulatory Clinics (Hematology) Dr. Mithani, Sharin - Family Practice (VTAC) Dr. Morrison, Cynthia - Family Practice (VTAC) Dr. Multani, Jasmine - Family Practice (VTAC) Dr. Myers, Jesse - Family Practice (VTAC) Dr. Norris, Brandon - Family Practice (VTAC) Dr. Parameswaran, Pirathapan - Family Practice (VTAC) Dr. Pau, Daniel - Family Practice (VTAC) Dr. Penney, Sarah - Family Practice (VTAC) Dr. Peter, Sadeer - Family Practice (VTAC) Dr. Richards, Tiffany - Family Practice (VTAC) Dr. Saldanha, Lisa - Family Practice (VTAC) Dr. Sanghera, Mandeep - Family Practice (VTAC) Dr. Siebert, Alexandra - Family Practice (VTAC) Dr. Simkhovitch, Peter - Family Practice (VTAC) Dr. Tallaa, Meshari - Family Practice (VTAC) Dr. Vaid, Shaun - Family Practice (VTAC) Dr. Wen Xio Wei, David - Family Practice
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		<p>(VTAC) Dr. Wong, Ellen - Family Practice (VTAC) Dr. Wong, Linda - Family Practice (VTAC) Dr. Wong, Vivian - Family Practice (VTAC) Dr. Zumrova, Andrea- Family Practice (VTAC)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> that the Board of Directors accepts the recommendation of the Medical Advisory Committee that the following new Term applications be approved: <p><u>New Term Applications</u> Dr. Edmison, Abby – Emergency Medicine Dr. Mendonca, Cassandra – Critical Care (ICU) Dr. Ross, Malory – Emergency Medicine Dr. Stoness, Mackenzie – Emergency Medicine</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> that the Board of Directors accepts the recommendation of the Medical Advisory Committee that the following Associate applications be approved: <p><u>New Associate Applications</u> Dr. Quenneville, Doniya – Hospitalist Medicine</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> that the Board of Directors accepts the recommendation of the Medical Advisory Committee that the following Active Reapplications be approved: <p><u>Active Reapplications</u> Dr. Abutu, Nathaniel – Obstetrics & Gynecology Dr. Canniff, Wayne – Surgery (Ophthalmology) Dr. Castillo, Heather – Family Practice Dr. Chang, Malcolm – Surgery (Orthopedics) Dr. de Jesus, Chris – Surgery (Orthopedics) Dr. El Fitori, Adel – General Surgery Dr. Holder, Natasha – Surgery (Orthopedics) Dr. Koudra, Fahamia – Family Practice</p>
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		<p>(Otolaryngology) Dr. Singh, Sukhbir Sony – Obstetrics & Gynecology Dr. Yacoub, Ashraf – Obstetrics & Gynecology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> that the Board of Directors accepts the recommendation of the Medical Advisory Committee that the following Courtesy Reapplications be approved: <p><u>Courtesy Reapplications</u> Dr. Jones, Jeff – Surgery (Otolaryngology) Dr. Meziane, Hyjr – Family Practice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> that the Board of Directors accepts the recommendation of the Medical Advisory Committee that the following Active Reapplications Requesting Move to Term be approved: <p><u>Active Reapplications Requesting Move to Term</u> Dr. Lianeri, Margarita – Hospitalist Medicine</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> that the Board of Directors accepts the recommendation of the Medical Advisory Committee that the following Term Reapplications Requesting Move to Associate be approved: <p><u>Term Reapplications Requesting Move to Associate</u> Dr. Benoit, Jean Marc – Emergency Medicine</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> that the Board of Directors accepts the recommendation of the Medical Advisory Committee that the following Associate Reapplications be approved: <p><u>Associate Reapplications</u> Dr. Al Karmi, Rani – Surgery (Ophthalmology)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> that the Board of Directors accepts the recommendation of the Medical Advisory
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		<p>Committee that the following Midwifery Active Reapplications be approved:</p> <p><u>Midwifery Active Reapplications</u> Hardesty, Suki – Obstetrics & Gynecology (Midwifery)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> that the Board of Directors accepts the recommendation of the Medical Advisory Committee that the following Midwifery Term Reapplications be approved: <p><u>Midwifery Term Reapplications</u> Chartrand-Hudson, Emily – Obstetrics & Gynecology (Midwifery) Fisher, Lia – Obstetrics & Gynecology (Midwifery) Payne, Joanne – Obstetrics & Gynecology (Midwifery) Viveiros, Candice - Obstetrics & Gynecology (Midwifery)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> that the Board of Directors accepts the recommendation of the Medical Advisory Committee that the following Dentist Courtesy Reapplications be approved: <p><u>Dentist Courtesy Reapplications</u> Dr. Harle, Bruce – Surgery (Dental) Dr. Lam, Raymond – Surgery (Dental) Dr. MacGregor, Alanna – Surgery (Dental) Dr. Ritchie, Kathryn – Surgery (Dental)</p>
9.3	Board Nominating Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes from the meeting held April 9, 2025 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Received the minutes from the Nominating Committee meeting held April 9, 2025
9.4	Foundation Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Received the Foundation Report
9.5	Auxiliary Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Received the Auxiliary Report
10.0	Open Forum	<p>Dean Sauriol noted that the Board can expect to receive an email with an electronic vote at the end of the month from the Nominating Committee due to our reporting deadlines with the CHSO.</p> <p>Everyone who was able to assist or participate in the recent PRH Foundation Heroes Run for Healthcare was thanked for all of their support.</p>

11.0	Next Meeting	<i>Next Board Meeting on Wednesday, June 11, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. – Boardroom, Tower C (C142)</i>
11.1	Board Committee Meetings Calendar	The calendar was attached for information.
11.2	Attendance Record	The attendance record was attached for information.
12.0	Adjournment Motion 4	Moved by Les Scott, seconded by Neil Nicholson, that the meeting be adjourned by 6:25 p.m. CARRIED



D. Sauriol, Board Chair



S. Mersmann, President & CEO