

UNIVERSITY HEALTH NETWORK

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

*Wednesday 15 January 2003, 3:00 p.m.
Corporate Board Room, Toronto General Hospital*

- Present: Anthony Fell, Chair
David A. Brown
Carl Cardella
Tom R. Closson
Mary Ferguson-Paré
Laurie S. Hicks
Richard W. Ivey
John A. MacNaughton
Eileen A. Mercier (by phone)
John P. Mulvihill
C. David Naylor
Gerald O'Leary
Philip S. Orsino (by phone)
Bob Rae
Jordan Sullivan
- Ruth Gopaul, Recording Secretary
- Regrets: Geoffrey Beattie
Robert J. Birgeneau
Wilfred DeMajo
Amy Go
Sandra Rotman

1.0 Minutes of Previous Meeting

Upon motion duly made by Mr. John MacNaughton, seconded by Dr. C. Cardella and carried, the minutes of the meetings held on 20 November and 9 December 2002, were approved.

2.0 Chair's Report

Mr. Fell reported that he recently participated in a tour of the New Clinical Services Building, noting that tremendous progress has been made. The operating rooms were particularly impressive. The official opening of the building is scheduled for July 2003. It was suggested that a tour be arranged for interested members of the Board within the next month.

Mr. Fell also reported on the opening of the warehouse facility which he attended along with senior staff and Ministry of Health officials on January 14th.

A productive meeting was held on January 6, 2003 with Mr. Fell, Mr. Closson, Minister of Health, Mr. Tony Clement and Deputy Minister of Health, Mr. Phil Hassen to discuss the sharing of support services among hospitals.

Mr. Fell also spoke briefly about the progress being made in the MaRS project.

2.1 Sharing of Hospital Support Services

Precirculated for members' information was a draft letter addressed to the Chairs and CEOs of the teaching hospitals in Toronto, a copy of which is attached to the original of these minutes, (Appendix A)

Members of the Board agreed that the letter was well written and sends an important and timely message. A number of suggestions/changes were made by various members, which will be incorporated in the final draft of the letter.

3.0 Chief Executives Officer's Report

Precirculated for members' information was the President's Report, a copy of which is attached to the original of these minutes, (Appendix B)

Governance Legislation

Mr. Closson reported that the amendments to the former Toronto Hospital Act have been accepted and the act has been changed to the University Health Network Act. The structure and composition of our Board of Trustees has been changed so that the former 20 member Executive Committee becomes the new Board of Trustees.

UHN Research Tower

Through a special purpose trust, MaRS, in partnership with UHN, concluded a successful \$100 million bond financing, which was secured with a very reasonable rate.

MaRS has the option to buy parcel A1 and A2 until the end of the year. UHN has issued a letter to MaRS advising them that we will not look for potential buyers until after February 2004.

First Minister's Conference on Health Reform

The First Ministers' Conference has been delayed. Mr. Fell has met with Ernie Eves to discuss our common goal of long-term sustainability of an accessible, high-quality, health care system.

Lab Reform

The Ontario Regional Laboratory Services Planning process is now underway in Toronto. This process is very important to UHN, as we envision an outcome in which TML will be reconstituted as a larger regional laboratory. We continue to be hopeful that this process will also provide an avenue to secure capital funding to achieve our laboratory consolidation goals.

MOH Third Party Review

The MOH has announced that Mr. Geoff Davies and Mr. Lawrence Rosen have been named as co-investigators for the third party review of hospitals. A team from UHN met with Mr. Davies and Mr. Rosen on January 13th to provide an orientation session prior to their beginning the review of all Ontario hospitals.

MSH/UHN Information Exchange Project

In November 2002, a new computer interface was piloted between UHN and Mount Sinai Hospital. This system allows for the exchange of patient information between the computer systems at UHN and MSH. This represents a significant achievement for both staff and patients.

Patient Satisfaction Survey

Mr. Closson reviewed some of the UHN Patient Satisfaction scores that were recently reported in the Ontario Hospital Association's 2002 Acute Care Report and in local newspapers. He presented a comparison of UHN's scores with the Toronto/GTA hospital median, the teaching hospital median and the provincial average. Overall, UHN scores are very similar to other Toronto and GTA hospitals.

The data used in this report came from patients surveyed between August and October 2001. In more recent surveys the UHN results have improved. Mr. Closson will continue to raise concerns with the OHA about the timeliness of the data.

ONA Media Release

Mr. Closson circulated a copy of the ONA Media Release concerning censuring at UHN and a copy of a "Tom Talks" in response, copies of which are attached to the original of these minutes. (Appendix C)

The release identifies concerns in the areas of occupational health and safety, human resource issues, racism and discrimination, and negotiation difficulties.

Mr. Closson reported that he has been in contact with ONA Central and has also circulated a letter to all nurses at UHN. He stated that he does not think the issues raised in the censure reflect what is occurring at UHN currently. The results of the Employee Opinion Survey indicate that a major disconnect exists

between what nurses have told us and what the ONA censure alleges about UHN.

Discussion took place concerning the strategy that should be used to respond to the ONA accusations. Currently, UHN is communicating with individual nurses asking them to respond to the CEO to let him know if they feel the censure is an accurate reflection of their experience working at UHN. The results will be communicated to the Ontario Nurses' Association Board of Directors and back to UHN staff and the Board.

3.1 Alternate Funding Plans

Dr. J. Wright explained what an alternate funding plan (AFP) is, noting that currently, physicians regard this as their most important issue. He presented an overview of the numbers of physicians at UHN and how they are compensated. He described the structure used in practice plans that are mandated in the University of Toronto affiliation agreement. He described various issues that impact recruitment and retention of physicians in Toronto.

Alternate Funding Plans compensate physicians on a set of deliverables, which includes academic, as well as clinical deliverables.

Dr. Wright described the difficulties that UHN is having in getting the Ministry to move quickly to put these AFPs in place for all UHN physicians who are interested.

Due to time constraints, it was agreed that there would be further discussion at the next Board meeting.

3.2 Volunteers

This item was deferred until the next meeting.

4.0 Committees

4.1 Quality Committee, 25 November and 16 December 2002

This report was deferred to the next meeting.

4.2 Finance and Audit Committee, 03 and 12 December 2002

4.2.1 Budget 2003/2004

This portion of the meeting was held in-camera.

4.2.2 Signing Authorities Policy

4.2.3 Financial Statements, October and November 2002

This report was deferred to the next meeting.

4.3 Medical Advisory Committee, 07 November 2002

4.3.1 Medical Staff Appointments – November and December 2002

This report was deferred to the next meeting.

5.0 Other Business

UHN News

Precirculated for members' information were several issues of UHN News.

6.0 Date of Next Meeting

The Board of Trustees will meet next on Wednesday, February 19th, 2003 at 3:00 p.m. in the Boardroom, M-805, Princess Margaret Hospital

7.0 Termination

There being no further business, the meeting terminated.

Anthony Fell, Chair