



EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

Held in the Cafeteria of the Churchill RHA Inc.,
Churchill, Manitoba
07 October 2004 at 4:00 p.m.

MINUTES

PRESENT:

R. Penwarden, Board Chair
D. Macri, Vice Chair
V. Flett, Secretary Treasurer
J. Massan, Board Member
C. Phelan, Board Member
B. Tattuinee, Board Member
S. Kernaghan, Board Member

ALSO PRESENT:

B. Langevin, Chief Executive Officer
D. Pomietlarz, Chief Financial Officer
K. McGregor, Executive Assistant
B. Robotham, Information Management
J. Brown, Manitoba Health Liaison

SPECIAL GUESTS:

Dr. Bruce Martin, Director NMU
Reverend David Caskey
Mr. Mark Verwey, Auditor
Members of the Community

ABSENT:

S. Todd, Director of Community Programs and Planning
V. Brew, Human Resources Co-ordinator/Privacy Officer

RECORDER:

P. Gresham, Executive Assistant

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. R. Penwarden, Chairman called the Eighth Annual General Meeting to order at 1600 hours and asked Reverend David Caskey to open the meeting with a prayer.

2. OPENING PRAYER

Reverend David Caskey offered the opening prayer.

3. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Mr. Penwarden introduced the Board Members, the Management Team and other special Guests. He commented how nice it was that Dr. Bruce Martin and Mr. Joe Brown joined the meeting via Telehealth.

4. GREETINGS - TOWN OF CHURCHILL

On behalf of Mayor Spence, Verna Flett, Board Member and Town Councillor presented greetings from the Town of Churchill. She commented that the Town has a good working relationship with the CRHA and all have the same goals with building a healthy community.

5. READING OF NOTICE OF MEETING

Mr. Penwarden announced that in compliance with the Regional Health Authorities Act, the Churchill Regional Health Authority posted notice of its Annual Report to the Community for today, three weeks ago.

Therefore he declared the meeting to be duly constituted.

6. CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Mr. Penwarden reported that this past year our fiscal year 2003/2004 has been another year of changes, developments and challenges. He acknowledged the support by the government and our Minister of Health, the Honourable David Chomiak and continued support from our long-standing member of Legislative Assembly and the Minister of Culture, Heritage and Tourism, the Honourable Eric Robinson.

He acknowledged and thanked the current Board Members:

*Mrs. Doreen Macri, Vice Chair

*Mrs. Verna Flett, Secretary-Treasurer

*Mrs. Cecily Phelan, Board Member

*Mrs. Jennifer Massan, Board Member

He welcomed the two new Board Members:

*Mrs. Bernadette Tattuinee from Arviat

*Mr. Sean Kernaghan from Churchill

Mr. Penwarden reported that the board accepted the resignation in October 2003 of Reverend Jean Simailuk from Baker Lake, she will be greatly missed.

Mr. Penwarden reported that although the RHA has had to cope with major shortfalls in funding, in recent years, while struggling to maintain our high level of service to our communities, for the end of the fiscal year 2003/2004 we completed the year with a surplus of \$226,354. Our goal for the present fiscal year is to have a balanced budget.

This year, the CRHA Board has operated through a governance model, developed a comprehensive Board self-evaluation process and embarked on an in-depth strategic planning process with the Manitoba Government, Manitoba Health, Town of Churchill, Nunavut and other stakeholders to position Churchill Health center to meet the future needs of our Nunavut clients.

We are pleased to announce that on October 1st we received approval for a 2 year demonstration project with the Northern Medical Unit to enhance maternal/newborn services in Churchill by securing the services of a Nurse Midwife.

In conclusion, Mr. Penwarden acknowledged the working relationship with the Mayor and Council, the members of the Chamber of Commerce and the positive working relationship with the local chapters of the MGEU and MNU Unions. He also recognized the special component of the CRHA in partnership with the Northern Medical Unit and University of Manitoba. Mr. Penwarden announced that the CRHA has a new Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Randy Gessell. Special thanks to Dr. Bruce Martin and Dr. Wendy Smith who are working diligently on our behalf to ensure ongoing physician coverage.

Mr. Penwarden welcomed Dr. Bruce Martin from the J. A. Hildes Northern Medical Unit. Dr. Bruce Martin addressed the Community.

Dr. Bruce Martin congratulated the CRHA and the Town of Churchill for the work being done with Nunavut and the population north of 60. Dr. Martin spoke of moving into the future with regards to Primary Health Care. The Manitoba pilot project on Nurse Midwife and Nurse Practitioners will help sustain the Clinic and Outreach Programs in the north. Speciality Clinics will continue in Churchill and locum physicians are in place until December.

Mr. Penwarden welcomed Mr. Joe Brown, Manitoba Health Liaison. Mr. Joe Brown addressed the Community. He thanked the Board for the invitation and stated he enjoyed working with the Churchill Health Authority. Mr. Brown also thanked Dr. Bruce Martin for being part of the Churchill Task Force and spoke of how the Task Force has gotten off the ground. Mr. Brown commented on how good it was to utilize Telehealth.

7. AUDITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Mark Verwey, Auditor of BDO Dunwoody LLP reported on the audited statement of the financial position of the Churchill RHA as at March 31, 2004 and the statements of revenue and expenditures, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year that ended.

Mr. Verwey concluded this report and invited any questions. There was a discussion with regards to the ancillary income following a question by Mrs. Laurie.

A motion was made by C. Phelan, seconded by V. Flett to appoint BDO Dunwoody as the auditors for the year 2004/2005.

CARRIED.

8. ANNUAL REPORT/HEALTH PLAN SUMMARY

Mrs. Langevin, Chief Executive Officer, welcomed everyone to the eighth annual report to the community. She reported that this report is our annual report card. It is the outcome and accountability phase of a cyclical process that starts with a community needs assessment, and includes a five-year strategic plan which is divided into smaller segments of action items reflected in an annual operating plan.

Mrs. Langevin thanked the Board for the opportunity to work for the CRHA and for their ongoing support. She gave special thanks to the management team, staff and everyone in Churchill for their encouragement, co-operation and support. She also thanked Mayor Michael Spence, Mr. Darren Ottaway, Dr. Bruce Martin and Mr. Joe Brown as well as many others who have assisted in making her third year in Manitoba an enjoyable one.

Mrs. Langevin reported that the CRHA continue to provide a stable level of services to Nunavut, specifically the Kivalliq Region as well as enhancing services in the areas of obstetrics and in future, mental health. She explained about a Memorandum of Understanding for co-operation between the Governments of Manitoba and Nunavut identifying Health as one of the twelve sectors that may be subject to a more detailed agreement under this MOU. Arlene Wilgosh, Assistant Deputy Minister co-ordinates Manitoba Health's participation in matters related to the MOU. To facilitate discussions aimed at co-ordinating and fostering better relationships, Arlene Wilgosh has held regular meetings with stakeholders from Manitoba and Nunavut throughout the past several years. Mrs. Langevin explained that she and Mr. Penwarden attend these meetings on a regular basis.

Mrs. Langevin addressed the area of financial management and our success. Mr. Penwarden mentioned our major achievement in dramatically reducing our operating loss. This was accomplished by addressing the heavy reliance on Agency Registered Nurses to staff acute care and the huge costs involved. We engaged in an aggressive approach in recruitment of nurses and have succeeded in now being at full nursing capacity. Two other areas to cause major costly recruitment challenges have been diagnostics and pharmacy. We have been able to successfully recruit in both areas. Mrs. Valerie Brew, Human Resources Co-ordinator has been a major player in these initiatives and deserves honourable mention for her dedication to keeping all our positions filled.

By prudent monitoring and the establishment of appropriate policies and procedures of the Northern Patient Transportation Program we have been able to effectively rationalise this service to achieve cost containment, while in no way impairing on-going proper access for the community.

Mrs. Langevin reported the following highlights of the Annual Report:

- Community Health Needs Assessment has been completed
- The CRHA ended the fiscal year in a good financial position
- Completion of a new Telehealth site
- Completion of extensive renovations and upgrades to the CRHA Housing Units
- Human Resources Plan, implemented two years ago, has improved recruitment and retention
- Eight Performance Deliverable Plans were developed throughout the year and submitted to Manitoba Health.
- As the result of the efforts of the Town of Churchill and the CRHA, a high level Task Force was appointed by the Manitoba Minister of Health to develop an action framework and identify potential opportunities for reconfiguration of the Churchill Health Centre.

Mrs. Langevin recognized the valued contributions made by the community volunteers to the Churchill RHA. She thanked members of the Advisory Council who volunteered their time and make recommendations to the Board of Directors, the individual community members of the clergy, students from the school who provide time and commitment to the residents of the Dancing Sky and other seniors/elders from the community.

In closing, she thanked the Board for their support and confidence. A special thank you was given to her Executive Assistant, Pat Gresham for her hard work in organizing this meeting as well as those that assisted her. Thank you to Brian Robotham for the power point production, Dietary Staff for the catering, and the management team and their staff for their assistance in the preparation.

Thank you all for attending and for your continued interest and support of the Churchill RHA.

9. GENERAL DISCUSSION PERIOD

The meeting was open for discussion.

Mrs. Louise Laurie stated that she needed to address the Home Care Program. She wanted to be assured that there would be changes to ensure that the senior residents of the community are guaranteed home care.

Mr. Penwarden responded by assuring her that this would be dealt with at the next Board meeting.

10. CLOSING REMARKS

Mr. Penwarden thanked everyone for attending the Eighth Annual Report to the Community and adjourned the meeting at 1650 hours.

12. CLOSING PRAYER

Reverend David Caskey offered the closing prayer.

**Robert Penwarden,
Chair Churchill RHA Board of Directors**