

MINUTES OF THE HYBRID MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF SUNNYBROOK HEALTH SCIENCES CENTRE (SHSC) HELD ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2023, AT 8:00 A.M.

Chair: Ms. C. Annett

Directors:

Ms. P. Baghai
Mr. C. Diamond
Mr. D. Lang
Sr. Anne Norman
Dr. A. Smith
Dr. A. Yee

Mr. R. Davloor
Mr. A. Duncan
Mr. C. Lynch
Mr. D. Simmonds
Ms. R. Taggar

Dr. S. Domb
Ms. D. Duncan
Mr. M. Mehta
Dr. S. Singh
Ms. M. Tory

By Invitation:

Ms. M. Beals
Ms. L. Brady
Ms. T. Chisholm
Dr. S. Gaiind
Mr. R. Lee
Mr. K. Patel

Ms. S. Bean
Dr. D. Cass
Ms. K. Cole
Mr. D. Gerson
Ms. J. Mahboob (**Secretary**)
Ms. K. Winter

Ms. S. Brachvogel
Dr. J. Charles
Ms. Y. Fadel
Dr. K. Hynynen
Dr. A. Nolen
Dr. A. Zaretsky

Regrets:

Dr. P. Houston
Ms. I. Oris Valiente

Ms. L. Mantia
Mr. G. Weston

Mr. K. Strain

1.0 CALL TO ORDER – OPEN SESSION

The Chair, noting a quorum present, called the hybrid meeting of the Sunnybrook Board of Directors to order at 8:00 a.m.

1.1 CHAIR'S OPENING REMARKS

The Chair welcomed Dr. Jocelyn Charles and Ms. Sylvia Brachvogel to the meeting to celebrate the Last Salute Book with the Board. Ms. Annett provided a brief overview of the agenda and recommended members joining virtually to raise their hand when they have questions. She also informed the Board that a 10-minute break is scheduled at the end of the CEO Report in the In-Camera Session.

1.2 THE LAST SALUTE

Dr. Charles, Dr. Cass, and Ms. Brachvogel were invited to share their journey with the Last Salute book and distribute copies of the Last Salute book with the Board and the Senior Leadership Team.

1.3 LAND AND ANCESTRAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Dr. Smith began with the Land Acknowledgement by recognizing and deeply appreciating the people who were here before us and also being clearly and overtly connected about the collective commitment to make the

promise and challenge of Truth and Reconciliation and anti-racism real in the communities and right here at Sunnybrook.

Ms. Annett followed with the Ancestral Acknowledgement by taking a moment to acknowledge those of the Black diaspora who were removed from their land and communities and brought to this country involuntarily, and, subjected to oppressive structures and systems causing centuries of trauma which have deeply impacted Black people and communities in Canada today.

Ms. Annett commented that as we begin our Board meeting, we invite everyone to reflect on the significance of these statements and to consider how we can ensure the sentiments expressed are more than just words, but reflect a commitment to action that will address health inequities and anti-Black and Indigenous racism.

1.4 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Chair requested approval of the agenda. So moved by Mr. Lynch and seconded by Mr. Duncan.

The agenda was approved.

2.0 CEO REPORT

A copy of the October 2023 CEO report was appended to the agenda portfolio for information. The October CEO report provided an overview of the key activities at Sunnybrook.

2.1 PATIENT STORY

Dr. Smith welcomed Mr. Gerson to present the patient story to the Board.

Mr. Gerson reported that this patient's story is about challenges in gaining access to palliative care. He noted that the story aligns with the Education Session for this Board meeting as the story is related to end of life care. Mr. Gerson started by reporting that the patient's family contacted the Office of Patient Experience (OPE) regarding concerns about their mother's ability to access palliative care services in a timely manner. Unfortunately, the patient passed away at home without the support of the palliative team. In this patient story, the patient was admitted to hospital, with a challenging initial diagnosis. This resulted in unclear messages to the patient and to the family. Upon discharge there were no clear recommendations to seek palliative care. Unfortunately, the patient's health was declining but the patient and family did not want to go to emergency to seek care where expedited access to palliative care might have been available. Instead, they opted for a referral to out-patient palliative services which had an estimated wait time of 1 to 2 weeks. The patient ultimately passed away at home before receiving any palliative care support.

Mr. Gerson commented on lessons learned from this experience and shared that the team acknowledged that as the patient's clinical status deteriorated, there was an opportunity for clearer communication between the team and the patient/family regarding the need and value for palliative care consultation. He also noted that the team recognized they needed to be more specific about why they recommended that the patient go to the ER – and that they would unlikely be able to access outpatient palliative care in the required timeframe.

Mr. Gerson noted areas for improvement:

- Extensive work and quality improvement initiatives have been implemented by the Palliative Care Journey Committee.
- Necessary for all clinicians to understand the breadth of resources and information a palliative care consultation can provide, in order to initiate consultations earlier in patient's care journeys.

Mr. Gerson ended his presentation and answered questions from the Board members. Ms. Annett opened the floor for comments and questions for discussion from the Board members.

2.2 CEO HIGHLIGHTS

Dr. Smith encouraged Board members to read the CEO Highlights magazine appended to the Board package and highlighted the **Honours** section on page 11.

3.0 EDUCATION PRESENTATION

Dr. Smith introduced Ms. Sally Bean, the Director of Ethics, and Dr. Amy Nolen, a Palliative Care Physician, to present the Board Education Session on Sunnybrook's Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) program.

3.1 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE IN DYING (MAiD)

Ms. Bean and Dr. Nolen provided an overview of the MAiD activity in Canada, Ontario and at Sunnybrook. The session addressed relevant changes to the Criminal Code that occurred in 2021, which broadened eligibility for MAiD to persons without a reasonably foreseeable natural death. In addition to the changes that occurred in 2021, the session also addressed the anticipated future expansion of eligibility criteria to include persons with a mental disorder as the sole underlying medical condition. This change is expected to take place in March 2024. Lastly, the session provided an overview of the MAiD program risks at Sunnybrook, including program sustainability due to ongoing difficulties in recruiting additional MAiD providers.

4.0 CONSENT AGENDA

The Chair noted two items under the Consent Agenda that required Board approval.

4.1 APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of Open Session Meeting – September 27, 2023

A copy of the minutes was pre-circulated and appended to the agenda portfolio.

So moved by Ms. Duncan and seconded by Mr. Mehta.

MOTION: Upon **MOTION** duly made by Ms. Duncan and **SECONDED** by Mr. Mehta, **IT WAS RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors of Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre held on Wednesday, September 27, 2023, be hereby approved as pre-circulated.**
CARRIED.

Medical Advisory Committee (MAC) Report

The MAC met in October 2023. A copy of the report was pre-circulated and appended to the agenda portfolio for information.

The MAC reviewed the following at its October 2023 meeting:

- **Critical Incident Reporting:** There was no critical incident reported.
- **Credentials Committee:** The MAC approved the Credentials List of October 4, 2023.
- **Medication Ordering For All Patients Policy**
- **Addressing Surgical Wait Times**
- **Physician Staff Survey**
- **Patient Experience Surveys**
- **Office of Community Integration, Partnerships and Ambulatory Care**
- **Status of Five-Year Reviews and Searches**

So moved by Ms. Duncan and seconded by Mr. Mehta.

MOTION: Upon MOTION duly made by Ms. Duncan and SECONDED by Mr. Mehta, IT WAS RESOLVED THAT the Board of Directors of Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre hereby accept and approve the appointments for October 2023 as recommended by the Medical Advisory Committee.

CARRIED.

5.0 COMMITTEES

5.1 VETERANS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Veterans Advisory Committee met on October 3, 2023, and the committee report was pre-circulated and appended to the agenda portfolio. Ms. Tory reported that the committee report is self-explanatory and had no further comments.

Dr. Cass was invited to provide details on the Veterans Week events between October 26, 2023 – November 11, 2023.

Veterans Week Events

- First Poppy
- Private visit between Toronto Maple Leafs' players/alumni and Veterans
- Indigenous Veterans Day
- Announcement, Visit to Cenotaph
- Operation Raise a Flag
- Premier Doug Ford's visit to the Veterans Centre
- Remembrance Day Service

6.0 INFORMATION ITEMS

The following was presented to the Board of Directors for information. Documents were pre-circulated and appended to the agenda portfolio.

6.1 TAHSNews – October 10, 2023

6.2 Speaker Series:

- **October 30, 2023 - Perinatal Mental Health: Understanding depression and anxiety during pregnancy and postpartum**
- **November 30, 2023 - Traumatic Brain Injury: Prevention through an equity lens, mental health impacts, and recovery**

6.3 'We really have to reconsider this': Trudeau government's controversial MAiD expansion faces its toughest test yet

6.3 TAHSN MAiD Task Force

6.4 Video: MAiD debate between two Canadian Physicians

7.0 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Board of Directors of Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, December 13, 2023, at 8:00 a.m.


8.0 TERMINATION OF MEETING

There being no further business, the Chair called for a motion to terminate the open session of the Sunnybrook Board of Directors at 9:10 a.m. So moved by Mr. Duncan and seconded by Ms. Tory.

MEETING TERMINATED.



Carol Annett, Chair



Jennifer Mahboob, Secretary