

**Report from Nadine Doucette
Chair, Board of Directors
September 9, 2015**



Board of Directors

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together

I am pleased to provide to you my first report as your Board Chair, which comes after an unusually busy summer at Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre (TBRHSC).

I was honoured to accept the position at the June Annual General Meeting. At that same meeting we welcomed two new Board members, Georjann Morriseau and Gary Whitney.

I want to acknowledge the great contribution outgoing Chair Susan Fraser made to TBRHSC during her nine years on the Board, the last three as Chair. My thanks also to departing Board member Sharon Cole-Paterson for her service, as well as to all Board members continuing on in their role.

I am excited to begin this phase of my relationship with TBRHSC and particularly excited that one of the first developments I can report on is the release of our new five-year strategic plan. TBRHSC's Strategic Plan 2020 builds on the work completed in our successful 2015 plan and emphasizes our ongoing commitment to our philosophy of Patient and Family Centred Care. Over the next five years we will make concrete progress in five strategic directions – Patient Experience, Seniors' Health, Comprehensive Clinical Care, Aboriginal Health and Acute Mental Health – that will strengthen and improve the excellent care and services we provide our community and region.

This summer also saw the major announcement of the provincial government's committed support of our proposal to provide a full range of cardiovascular services and surgeries on site here at TBRHSC. Our exciting new partnership with University Health Network will bring world class cardiovascular care to Thunder Bay and Northwestern Ontario. This is a game changer. Once up and running lives and limbs of people from our communities will be saved in circumstances where they otherwise would have been lost.

Our search for a President & CEO continues. Search firm Promeus Inc. is working with the CEO Search Committee and is collecting and assessing candidates and expects to begin the interview process in October. In the meantime, we continue under the capable guidance of our Interim President & CEO, Dr. Bill McCready and Senior Management team.

TBRHSC is participating in a new program using telemedicine technology to provide critically ill patients across Northwestern Ontario with enhanced support. The Regional Critical Care Response (RCCR) Program uses the Ontario Telemedicine Network's videoconferencing to connect 11 of the Northwest community Emergency Departments and Intensive Care Units (ICU) to critical care trained physicians, nurses and respiratory therapists at TBRHSC. The RCCR Program can be accessed 24/7 for adult patients who are critically ill or medically unstable. The new service, with lead sponsor Meno-Ya-Win Health Centre in Sioux Lookout, was highlighted at a media event between the two sites earlier this summer.

Finally, I want to thank all our staff and volunteers for all you do to provide quality care to our patients and families. It's an exciting time for TBRHSC as we embark on our new five-year plan. I look forward to working with you to continue our success.

We are Healthy Together.

Nadine Doucette, Chair
Board of Directors

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