Report from Susan Fraser Chair, Board of Directors March, 2015

This month's report begins on a bittersweet note.

As you now know, I recently accepted Andrée Robichaud's resignation as President and CEO of Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre. She is also resigning as acting CEO of the Thunder Bay Regional Research Institute.

Andrée will be assuming the position of President and CEO of the Rouge Valley Health System in the Greater Toronto Area in mid June.

I wish Andrée well with this exciting new phase in her career; but I am, of course, disappointed that we are losing her.

Andrée has provided great leadership as we continue our journey to becoming a full-fledged academic health sciences centre. She has guided us through the development of two strategic plans, has seen our current plan virtually 100 per cent implemented or in progress, and has worked effectively with our regional health partners and with government to manage the pressures put on the health system in Northwestern Ontario and on our hospital.

We have the busiest Emergency Department in Ontario yet we are consistently at or near the top of all efficiency markers of hospitals in our province. Andrée has been an integral part of that performance.

So we are losing a great leader and we will have big shoes to fill; however, we have a strong team here and the leadership that results in our excellent performance will continue.

I also want to highlight the close of the public engagement phase of our Strategic Plan 2020 planning process.

I am happy to report that through our focus group and engagement sessions, our online surveys and our printed surveys, we have received input from more than 1,200 people in our region. I thank our community for the great response and the invaluable input that will help shape the direction of the next five years at TBRHSC.

We now go to the 5 Partners phase of the process, where on March 7 we will present the results of our engagement process to our 5 Partners group for it to prioritize our goals to achieving results under our five strategic directions of patient experience, seniors health, aboriginal health, comprehensive clinical services and acute mental health.

Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences

Centre

980 Oliver Road Thunder Bay, ON

healthy together

P7B 6V4 Phone: 684-6007

Website: www.tbrhsc.net



This will be followed by a second 5 Partners session on March 31 where the group will validate that what we have come up with as our draft plan accurately reflects the input we received from the community.

I encourage members of the community to consider becoming representatives of our 5 Partners in Health. As community representatives, you will have the opportunity not only to help determine TBRHSC's strategic priorities, but also to monitor and guide our progress over the next five years. The commitment requires the two meetings this coming March, then one meeting annually. Please email lindseyl@tbh.net or call (807) 684-6010 if you are interested in learning more.

We are Healthy Together.

Susan Fraser, Chair Board of Directors



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