



**Report from Susan Fraser
Chair, Board of Directors
May, 2015**

Board of Directors

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April saw the official unveiling of the long awaited cyclotron at Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre (TBRHSC) and Thunder Bay Regional Research Institute (TBRRI).

This is a critical development for our hospital and research institute. It will provide better, more reliable care to cancer patients in Northwestern Ontario and will allow our TBRRI researchers to conduct cutting edge work to advance cancer care universally. Northwestern Ontario patients could further benefit from that work by being participants in the clinical trials associated with any new care developed by TBRRI.

We celebrated the official opening with our partners. I want to reiterate our thanks to the federal government's FedNor program, the provincial government's Northern Ontario Heritage Commission, the City of Thunder Bay, the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Foundation's Exceptional Cancer Care Campaign, our staff who pushed this project forward and the entire community and region for their support.

As TBRRI Chair Dr. Gary Polonsky said in his remarks, this is a game changer.

April also saw the celebration of National Volunteer Week from the 12th to the 18th. Our Hospital benefits from the volunteer time of people in our region from all walks of life and aspects of the community. We could not operate as we do and offer the services we do without this critical component. I want to again thank all our Volunteers – including our volunteer Board members – for their dedication and loyalty to our institution.

The Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Foundation celebrated the end of its hugely successful Exceptional Cancer Care Campaign April 26. With an original goal of raising through community donations \$5.9 million of the \$32 million required to bring exceptional cancer care to the region, the community responded with more than \$7 million donated. This generous support has helped purchase the equipment needed to provide exceptional cancer care to Northwestern Ontario.

Last month I also had the pleasure of presenting on our Board's decision to web stream our Board meetings to increase access and transparency in our operations at the Governance Centre of Excellence of the Ontario Hospital Association. The organization was intrigued by our decision and the reasons behind it and the presentation generated significant interest among the attendees.

As I reported last month, the public engagement phase of the development of our new strategic plan has ended. The work of the steering committee and staff at the hospital continues as they refine the goals and develop objectives. We remain on track to unveil our 2020 Strategic Plan in late June.

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Board of Directors

Finally, this will be our last board meeting with Andrée Robichaud as our President and CEO. She will soon take up her new duties with the Rouge Valley Health System. I want to thank her again, on behalf of the Board, for her work over the past five years and wish her the best in her new challenge.

I also want to wish our incoming interim President and CEO Dr. Bill McCready the best as he takes up his new duties. We are very appreciative that he has agreed to take on this additional responsibility and are confident he will be very successful as he guides the hospital through this period of transition.

We are Healthy Together.

Susan Fraser, Chair
Board of Directors

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