

THOMPSON REGIONAL HOSPITAL DISTRICT

Regular Meeting Minutes

Thursday, June 20, 2024

MINUTES of a Meeting of the Board of Directors of the THOMPSON REGIONAL HOSPITAL DISTRICT held in the Board Room on Thursday, June 20, 2024 commencing at 10:00 AM.

PRESENT: Director M. O'Reilly (Chair) City of Kamloops
Director M. Blackwell District of Clearwater
Director B. Roden Village of Ashcroft
Director R. Smith District of Logan Lake
Director J. Ranta Village of Cache Creek
Director R. Stanke Village of Clinton
Director W. Stamer District of Barriere
Director D. Lepsoe Village of Chase
Director R. Hamer-Jackson City of Kamloops
Director K. Neustaeter City of Kamloops
Director B. Sarai City of Kamloops
Director K. Hall City of Kamloops
Director D. Bass City of Kamloops
Director M. Middleton City of Kamloops
Director D. O'Connor Village of Lytton
Director M. Goetz City of Merritt
Director A. Raine Sun Peaks Mountain Resort Municipality
Director U. Tsao (Attended Virtually) Electoral Area "A" (Wells Gray Country)
Director L. Onslow Electoral Area "B" (Thompson-Headwaters)
Director J. Smith Electoral Area "E" (Bonaparte Plateau)
Director T. Thorpe Electoral Area "I" (Blue Sky Country)
Director M. Grenier Electoral Area "J" (Copper Desert Country)
Director D. Haughton Electoral Area "L" (Grasslands)
Director D. Laird Electoral Area "M" (Beautiful Nicola Valley - North)
Director H.S. Graham Electoral Area "N" (Beautiful Nicola Valley - South)
Director J. Hayward Electoral Area "O" (Lower North Thompson)
Director L. Morris Electoral Area "P" (Rivers and The Peaks)
Director S. DeMare (Attended Virtually) Squamish-Lillooet Regional District
Director V. Birch Jones (Attended Virtually) Squamish-Lillooet Regional District

ABSENT: Director J. Simpson Columbia Shuswap Regional District
Director R. McNary District of Lillooet

STAFF: Mr. J. Vieira, Acting Chief Administrative Officer/ General Manager of Operations
Mr. G. Lewis, Corporate Officer/General Manager of Corporate & Legislative Services
Ms. C. Fox, Chief Financial Officer
Mr. A. Potts, Finance Supervisor
Mr. J. Hansen, Recording Secretary

PRESS: 5 media persons

OTHERS: 11 interested persons

1 & 2 CALL TO ORDER & LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Chair O'Reilly called the meeting to order at 10:01 AM and respectfully acknowledged the Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc Territory in which the meeting was held.

3 ADDITIONS TO OR DELETIONS FROM THE AGENDA

None.

**Moved by Director Middleton
Seconded by Director J. Smith**

THAT, the Board adopt the March 21, 2024, agenda as amended.

CARRIED

4 MINUTES

4.1 Hospital District Board Meeting Minutes March 21, 2024

**Moved by Director Hall
Seconded by Director Sarai**

THAT, the minutes of the Thompson Regional Hospital District Board Meeting dated March 21, 2024, be adopted.

CARRIED

5 DELEGATIONS / INVITED PRESENTATIONS

5.1 Supporting Team Excellence with Patients Society (STEPS)

The Board received a presentation from STEPS CEO Christine Matuschewski, and President of the Board of Directors Colin O'Leary providing an overview of the different types of services STEPS offers to communities, funding and staffing challenges, and requested the TNRD Board and staff to create a joint taskforce to work with STEPS to increase residents access to primary care in the TNRD.

On question, Mr. O'Leary, and Ms. Matuschewski noted STEPS have been aiding recent graduates find vacant positions in existing clinics to maintain healthy staff levels and avoid facility closures, that their relationship with Interior Health and the Ministry of Health had had challenges, and that they

would be extremely grateful to receive annual donations from the TNRD which would allow them to properly plan and allocate resources.

The Board asked how STEPS planned to offer better healthcare services to rural areas, and use underutilized hospitals, and if they were still accepting new patients at their clinics.

On question, General Manager of Corporate and Legislative Services G. Lewis noted that under the *Hospital District Act*, the TRHD may fund hospitals and hospital facilities. Mr. Lewis also provided an example of other Regional Districts requesting their facilities be appropriately designated to allow funding under this model.

6 **BYLAWS**

6.1 **TRHD Bylaw No. 164, Capital Expenditure & Borrowing**

The Board received a report from Chief Financial Officer C. Fox, dated June 20, 2024, for the Board to adopt the Minor Capital Equipment Bylaw No. 164, which included borrowing for the Cancer Care Project required to be covered by the Thompson Regional Hospital District in the amount of \$45,140,550, plus a 1% additional borrowing to cover MFA holdbacks of \$451,406, totaling \$45,591,956. This 1% holdback would be returned at the conclusion after repayment of debt.

On question, Chief Financial Officer C. Fox, noted that based on Interior Health's best estimate of the cost for the Cancer Centre and the amount approved in the capital bylaw, the TRHD Board could decide that this would be the maximum funding they will provide.

The Board raised concerns over the fairness of the TRHD having to raise taxes to cover additional project costs when other Districts were not required, and the lack of opportunity for the TRHD to be involved in the planning process of the design to ensure proper communication was made. The Board expressed a desire to hear from Interior Health on their capital project updates before making a decision on this item.

Moved by Director Sarai
Seconded by Director Neustaeter

THAT, the Board defer consideration of item 6.1 until after item 7.1.

Carried

7 REPORTS and/or INQUIRIES

7.1 Interior Health Updates

Phase 2 Phil and Jennie Gaglardi Tower Budget Update

The Board received a presentation from Corporate Director of Business Operations Todd Mastel providing an overview and update of the Phase two Tower renovations. Mr. Mastel acknowledged the lack of communication from RIH and stated that 2024 would be a busy year for renovations, on pace to finish by Fall 2026. Mr. Mastel also noted that the Ministry of Health was providing \$40 million dollars to cover the project overruns without any major changes to the scope of the project.

Kamloops Cancer Centre Update

The Board received a presentation from Corporate Director of Business Operations Todd Mastel, and Executive Director Gerry Desilets, providing an overview of the procurement details of the Cancer Centre, fixed-price construction details, and noted the more favourable market conditions compared to the ongoing hospital renovations that started prior to COVID-19.

The Board raised concerns over the split location of cancer treatments being in both the new Kamloops Cancer Centre and the Royal Inland Hospital, the challenges of having two different health authorities running the Cancer Centre, and whether or not parking provision would be sufficient.

On question, Mr. Mastel noted that Interior Health had chosen the build plan based on its lower cost than alternatives and predicted that the Cancer Centre would have sufficient parking for the foreseeable future.

Royal Inland Hospital Project Updates

The Board received a presentation from Corporate Director of Business Operations Todd Mastel, and Executive Director Gerry Desilets, updating the Board on various topics that included rural hospitals, nurse recruitment, decreasing wait times in Emergency Departments, and an increase in positive RIH student experiences.

On question, Mr. Mastel noted that the emergency room wait times at RIH were the lowest in Interior Health, higher number of student nurses were staying at RIH due to the positive change in culture, and they were creating entry level positions in the emergency room and in intensive care to better support the understaffed departments.

The Board raised concerns over the lack of updates for certain areas and staff recruitment in various smaller hospitals, why some projects were on pause, and how the lack of family doctors forced some patients to go to the emergency room instead.

Item 6.1 Resumed

**Moved by Director Stamer
Seconded by Director R. Smith**

THAT, Thompson Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure & Borrowing Bylaw No. 164, 2024 be introduced and read a first and second time.

CARRIED

**Moved by Director Blackwell
Seconded by Director Sarai**

THAT, Thompson Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure & Borrowing Bylaw No. 164, 2024 be read a third time.

CARRIED

**Moved by Director Neustaeter
Seconded by Director R. Smith**

THAT, Thompson Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure & Borrowing Bylaw No. 164, 2024 be adopted.

CARRIED

7.2 CAO Report

The Board received a verbal report from External Relations and Advocacy Advisor C. Kelley, dated March 21, 2024, who provided an update on the following:

- Cancer Won't Wait campaign patient stories were online and available to read at Cancerwontwait.ca
- The Campaign would have a booth at Ribfest in the family fun zone at Riverside Park on August 9-11 from 11:00 AM- 9:00 PM.
- Messaging would continue to be shared to residents following the end of the campaign moving closer to the provincial election.

7.3 TRHD 2023 Financial Information Act Disclosures

The Board received a report from Chief Financial Officer C. Fox, dated June 20, 2024, to approve the Statement of Financial Information and the Directors and Committee Members Remuneration and Expense Report of the TRHD for the year ended December 31, 2023, and subsequently make them available for public inspection.

**Moved by Director Bass
Seconded by Director Blackwell**

THAT, the TRHD Board of Directors approve the Thompson Regional Hospital District Statement of Financial Information and Directors Remuneration and Expense Report for the year ended December 31, 2023 and make them available for public inspection.

CARRIED

8 NEW BUSINESS

9 ADJOURNMENT

The chair adjourned the meeting at 12:17 PM.

Certified Correct:

Chair

Corporate Officer