

**PEMBROKE REGIONAL HOSPITAL
President and CEO Report – November 2024**

Board Education Session

For this month's education session, the Board was joined virtually by Ethicist, Dr. Hazel Markwell who provided a presentation on MAID (Medical Assistance In Dying).

PRH Celebrates Grand Opening Of Surgical Inpatient And Day Surgery Units

November 15th marked an incredibly exciting day for our hospital and for our community as we celebrated the Grand Opening of both our Day Surgery and Surgical Inpatient units.

The Grand Opening Ceremony saw representation from approximately 70 invited guests including donors, community partners, government representatives, project leaders, members of our Surgical team and others, including some of you.

Those in attendance heard special remarks from myself, Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke MPP John Yakabuski, PRH Foundation Board Chair Lisa Edmonds, Dave Unrau as Past-Chair of our Board who also gave testimony as a patient on the unit, and Dr. Colleen Haney, Chief of Surgery. We then welcomed Bishop Michael Brehl who conducted a blessing of the new space before a ribbon cutting and self-guided tours took place.

The completion of this project, valued at over \$20 million, marks a major milestone in our hospital's history as the second largest construction project we have seen through to completion, in decades, second only to the creation of Tower B in the mid 2000s.

PRH To Expand Availability of Paediatric ENT Surgeries As Part of Regional Program

We are excited to share that we are in the early stages of planning for an expanded number of paediatric ENT (Ear, Nose and Throat) surgeries in 2025 as part of the regional paediatric surgical program led by CHEO and the Kids Come First health team.

The program which was launched this past spring with funding from the province brought the CHEO Day Surgery program to two sites: Brockville General Hospital and Carleton Place & District Memorial Hospital. This will be expanded to PRH and Hawkesbury in 2025

We are currently working with CHEO to discuss next steps which will include submission of a business proposal in order to acquire the necessary funding for the expansion of services.

Epic Update

On November 13th, over 20 members of The Ottawa Hospital's *Epic* implementation team made the trip to PRH to visit some of our departments in order to get a good sense of our workflows. Managers responsible for overseeing working groups had the opportunity to meet the TOH *Epic* analysts and tour them around our hospital. The TOH analysts visited a variety of departments where they spoke with front line staff about workflows. They were impressed with our state of readiness as well as the enthusiasm everyone showed.

Visual Improvements at PRH

As part of an ongoing effort ensure the hospital's upkeep, take a minimalist approach to signage and ensure that wayfinding is clear and concise, we have a number of small projects on the go.

We have contracted a dedicated painting team which will be moving ahead with a number of paint jobs that have been identified including our Emergency Department waiting room, and the patient wing on 2nd floor which will soon be vacated. Our list of areas requiring painting has been prioritized based on a number of factors including those which are patient/visitor facing, but eventually we want to address all areas in need.

We are also moving forward with ways to improve exterior wayfinding for our patients and visitors. We've seen wonderful examples of external signage at other facilities and we will now be working with a local firm who has done similar projects to see what might be possible and where would be the best locations for clear directional signage.

We are looking to purchase more standardized closed-in containers for garbage and recycling throughout the public areas of the hospital and we are sourcing covers for our food tray carts that will provide a better aesthetic. So lots more to come!

Indigenous Training Opportunity for Our Senior Leadership Team

In partnership with the Renfrew County Administration Group which consists of leaders from PRH, Algonquin College, the City of Pembroke, the County of Renfrew, Family and Children's Services, the Renfrew County and District Health Unit, and both the Renfrew County and Renfrew County Catholic school boards, our Senior Leadership Team will be taking part in an Indigenous Training Day on November 29th.

The full day session held at the college will consist of participation in the Kairos Blanket Exercise led by Circle of Turtle Lodge followed by a discussion on Truth and Reconciliation led by Elder Aimee Bailey. We hope to take away some best practice in how we can better care for our Indigenous patients.

Take Our Kids to Work Day 2024

The Pembroke Regional Hospital Take Our Kids to Work Day 2024 that took place on November 6th was a success thanks to all team members who participated and shared details of their health care journey. The 13 Grade 9 students loved the tours of Surgical, Obstetrics, and ED/ICU. They also enjoyed the PRH Jeopardy game, the CSI cleaning activity with the help of our Environmental Services team, and other team building activities hosted by Human Resources.

Tim Hortons Holiday Smile Cookie Campaign Supports PRH

We were thrilled to learn that Tim Hortons Pembroke and Petawawa selected the Pembroke Regional Hospital as the proceed recipient for their 2024 Holiday Smile Cookie Campaign which runs November 18th to 24th.

Funds raised will go towards the purchase of a paediatric crib for our OR and our youngest patients.

Sabine Mersmann, November, 2024

Actions Taken by the Board at its November 27, 2024 Board Meeting

Approved the following appointments/reappointments:

- Six new physician for Term privileges
- One new dentist for Term privileges

Approved the new Articles of Continuance subject to the approval of the Members of the Corporation (CHSO)

Approved the revised Administrative By-Laws subject to the approval of the Members of the Corporation (CHSO)

Approved the new Conflict of Interest and Nominations Policies

Approved the revised Terms of Reference for the Board Executive Committee