

Chair's Report for the Annual General Meeting – June 18, 2024

Opening Statement:

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to our Annual General Meeting this evening as it marks the end of another eventful year at the Algoma Nurse Practitioner Lead Clinic.

This year is really the first year since I joined the Board, that the Clinic has not operated under the veil of a worldwide pandemic and all the associated challenges that the pandemic brought.

We are infinitely aware of the challenges and frustrations COVID brought to the everyday lives of all of us in the community but more importantly to the work lives of the staff at the clinic. Despite those challenges, we survived, faced the challenges head on and learned lessons for the future. Let us just hope that if history holds, we will have 100 years to prepare for the next one!

We know that the provision of health care is a difficult job. We know that the challenges for Healthcare Providers in Northern Ontario in general and here in Algoma are at times, almost insurmountable. We know that one of the greatest challenges in this community is the provision of health care for orphaned patients and although a number of recent announcements have served to ease that burden, they are not a permanent fix and therefore the underlying problem remains. The Clinic remains committed to seeking the ways and means to help address the issue of underserved areas of health care and finding ways to address this situation in our community.

I would like to thank Domenic and all the Clinic staff for their continued dedication to the health and welfare of our patients of both our clinic and to the broader community through their commitment to health care excellence.

Accomplishments of the Clinic:

We continue to work with the Ministry of Health to secure a new Clinic location with expanded facilities to meet the needs of our staff and patients.

We entered into a partnership with Algoma Family Services to provide the services of a part time Nurse Practitioner to work with the AFS team to expand the mental health care for a very underserved population.

The Clinic continues to provide Women's health care through clinics hosted at our facility.

The Clinic has reserved patient openings to accept unattached newborns in our community.

The Clinic operated at a modest financial deficit.

We welcomed new staff, said goodbye to existing staff, welcomed a new Physician to be part of our clinic, and we said goodbye to existing board members, and we look forward to welcoming new board members. Such is the circle of life.

Board Members Acknowledgements:

At this time, I would like to formally acknowledge the Board Members for their contributions this year.

Doug Abbott who served as the Chair of the Board for the previous two years, Doug was a part of the HR Committee, the Nominating Committee and the Capital Expansion Committee. Doug is leaving the Board this year but has agreed to lend his building expertise to the Capital Expansion Committee.

Susan Schikofsky served as Vice Chair of the Board, served on the Nominating Committee and Women's Health Initiative.

Ryan McLeod, new to our committee this year, served as Treasurer, chair of the Finance Committee and was part of our Capital Expansion Committee.

Lisa Bumbaco lent us her expertise on our Strategic Planning and HR Committee. Lisa has elected to depart our Board at the end of June..

Debbie Graystone served on the Governance Committee, the Capital Expansion Committee and Women's Health Initiative.

Paul Cassan, also new to our board this year, served on our Governance Committee and the Nominating Committee.

Stephen Hussey is a former Board Member, and he continues to lend his expertise to the Finance Committee.

Cyress Sougart who was on our Board for a portion of the year serving on our Finance and Nominating Committee for a part of the year.

It has been my pleasure to serve as Board Chair and I look forward to a bright future for the clinic and a busy and productive year next year.