



MEDIA RELEASE

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CPDMH BOARD AGREES TO ADVANCE BEST PRACTICE IN BOARD SIZE AND COMPOSITION

At its meeting on October 28, the Carleton Place & District Memorial Hospital (CPDMH) non ex-officio members agreed in principle to advance best practice in Board size and composition. These changes reflect Accreditation Canada and the Ontario Hospital Association's recommendations for optimal Board function and structure. In fact, 14 of the 16 acute care hospitals in the region have already made this change.

As part of the discussion, Board Chair Marcel Pinon noted that Accreditation Canada requires that hospital boards complete an assessment of their structure, including size and committee structure, each year. "Our goal is to create a board with diverse and complementary skills. It needs to be large enough to ensure there are sufficient individuals to manage the Board's workload, but not so large as to impede effective discussion," explains Marcel Pinon, Board Chair. "Our other objective is to move away from a 'representational' approach that can create a confusion of loyalties for those appointed members."

The proposed changes would reduce the Board size from 22 members to 16 members. The reduction of ex-officio positions is recommended by Governance best practice. The positions under examination include the municipal ex-officio positions, which represent Carleton Place, Beckwith and Mississippi Mills. "We appreciate the role that these councillors have played on the Board and we will continue to engage them through other consultative channels," notes Pinon.

In fact, CPDMH is introducing several new strategies to engage all community members to widen the consultation process. For example, a new Patient and Advisory Committee will offer meaningful input on all aspects of care. A proposed Community Advisory Committee will include health care partners. Current committees such as the Redevelopment Advisory Committee, and ongoing community and Council engagement will continue to be refined to meet the needs of the municipal councils. Finally, the new CPDMH website offers more interactive opportunities.

"We are committed to meaningful dialogue and connectivity with all of our valued stakeholders, including our local Councils," sums up Pinon. "We want the entire community to be involved."

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