

Central Health Board of Trustees

Board Chair Report

May 2022

I'm pleased to share highlights from our open board meeting, held May 17, 2022.

Central Health has been faced with challenges around physician shortages, no different than what we see across other jurisdictions throughout Canada. While we are experiencing some significant physician shortage gaps in some of our rural health centres, this is a matter that Central Health takes very seriously and has been working very diligently on several initiatives to support the recruitment and retention of physicians and other health professionals.

To help the public gain a clearer understanding of the work that is taking place, Central Health has been hosting a series of Virtual Town Hall meetings. These online sessions provide the public with an opportunity to engage with Central Health Senior Leadership Team and physicians – to ask questions and express concerns as well as contribute with constructive ideas and suggestions.

Throughout these sessions Virtual ER and Temporary Closures was explained. Additionally, recruitment and retention updates were provided. This led to a healthy exchange of questions and answers from the well attended sessions. I truly believe all who attended left with a greater appreciation of the ongoing and dedicated efforts of Central Health staff to ensure a strong continuum of care remains in place for the people of Central Newfoundland.

May 9-15, was National Nursing Week. As Chair of the Board of Trustees with Central Health, it is an honour for me to take this opportunity, to recognize how much your high level of dedication and commitment to the well-being of patients and residents under your care is valued and appreciated.

The next open board meeting is scheduled for June 28, 2022.

Don Sturge
Chair, Central Health Board of Trustees