



OPEN BOARD MEETING REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

As Chair of Central Health's Board of Trustees, I'm pleased to share some highlights from our recent Board meeting.

In the spirit of [open](#) and [transparent governance](#), our Board hosted its first open meeting on December 11th in Grand Falls-Windsor. All future Board meetings will be open to the public, and beginning in [January 2019](#) the Board will host its meetings in different communities throughout the Central Health region.

The Board is committed to ongoing [engagement with communities](#), and to building strong and effective partnerships throughout the health region. I would like to recognize our new President and CEO, [Andrée Robichaud](#), for her strong leadership and commitment to relationship-building since joining us in November.

On December 1st, Central Health hosted its first physician forum. It was the [first opportunity of many](#) to create a collaborative approach to planning at the regional health authority. I want to thank all physicians, Trustees, and senior management for their [open and honest](#) conversation, and for creating a safe and respectful environment for those discussions to take place. [Four priority areas](#) were identified: [person- and family-centred care](#), improved communications, creation of a regional medical advisory committee, and improved recruitment. An action plan was developed to move these priorities forward, and a [Physician Board Liaison Committee](#) will be established to create a formal connection between the Board of Trustees and physicians. The next physician forum is being planned for February 2019.

The External Review Implementation Steering Committee met on [November 29th](#) to review the progress and discuss next steps on recommendations stemming from the review. Work has been initiated on over [90%](#) of the recommendations to date. Updates will be provided to the Minister of Health and Community Services (and to the community) on a quarterly basis, with the next report expected before [December 31, 2018](#). Updates will be available on Central Health's website.

Vice President of Patient Services and Chief Nursing Executive, Joanne Pelley, provided an update on the reestablishment of [obstetrical services](#) at James Paton Memorial Regional Health Centre (JPMRHC) in Gander. To date, [two obstetricians/gynecologists](#) have been recruited (one started work in November and the second will begin in January), and recruitment is underway for a third. Some family physicians in the Gander area have expressed interest in becoming part of the obstetrical care team, and we're very excited to have this primary care group join the team. Additional training/orientation for this group is currently being arranged. Central Health will be the first health authority to welcome [midwives](#) to its obstetrical program. To date, interviews for three midwife positions have been conducted. While a firm date to reestablish obstetrical services at JPMRHC has not been confirmed, I'm encouraged that all of the pieces and partners needed to support a safe and sustainable regional service are coming together.

[Thank you](#) for your continued interest in, and support for, safe and quality health care services. I look forward to meeting you at future open Board meetings.

Don Sturge

Chair, Central Health Board of Trustees

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Starting in January 2019, all Board meetings will be open to the public.

2019 BOARD MEETINGS

January
Gander

February
Grand Falls-Windsor

March
Botwood

April
Twillingate

May
Harbour Breton

June
Fogo

September
Lewisporte

October
New-Wes-Valley

November
Springdale

December
Gander

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[BOARD MEETING AGENDA](#)