

Association canadienne pour la santé mentale Waterloo Wellington

## CMHA WW Board of Directors

**Meeting Minutes** 

Thursday, November 25, 2021, 5:30 – 8:00 pm The Grand Guelph Banquet Hall, 340 Woodlawn Rd W, Guelph

**Present:** David Pell, President

Anthony DiCaita, Secretary-Treasurer Neil Dunsmore, Board Member Lisa Hood, Board Member

Jibran Khokhar, Board Member

Irene Thompson, Board Member at Large Dana Hardy, Board Member

Katharina Markowiak, Vice-President

Somkene Igboanugo, New Professional on Board

Laura McNeilly, Board Member

Helen Fishburn, CEO

Anna Tersigni Phelan, Director Quality & Risk

Heather Eddy, Director People & Culture
Barbara Farrell, Director of Finance & Decision Support

and Chief Privacy Officer

Meredith Gardiner, Director of Services

Krista Sibbilin, Director of Services

Alison DeMuy, Director Strategy & Community Engagement

**Recorder:** Heather Snider, Team Lead, Administration

Guests: Margaret Eaton, CEO CMHA National

Regrets: Cavell Johnson, Board Member; Stacey Rous, Board Member

Agenda Item	Discussion and Actions	
Board Education Session – CMHA National Overview	Margaret Eaton, CEO CMHA National presented an overview of CMHA National.	
	Discussion Highlights  CMHA National represents all branches across the country. There is an openness from the federal government to advocate for mental health resources, and CMHA has recently hired government relations staff. CMHA National has also been very active in supporting Indigenous-led mental health initiatives.	
	CMHA National is aiming to guide fundamental changes to how the federal government funds mental health. Federal healthcare funding funnels directly to provincial governments, who are responsible for delegating the funding. Currently, community mental health does not receive a dedicated portion of this funding.	
	Mental Health & Addictions, the creation of a mental health transfer, and a bill outlawing conversion therapy were addressed in the recent Throne Speech. The creation of a mental health transfer would ensure better accountability between the provincial and federal governments. CMHA National is reviewing the cumulative budget of mental health funding across CMHA, and will use these findings to inform an "ask" for federal mental health funding.	
	CMHA National has had one meeting with Dr. Caroline Bennet, Minister of Mental Health & Addictions.	
1.0 Welcome, Land Acknowledgement & Call to Order	David Pell welcomed Board members and Margaret Eaton.	
	Laura McNeilly shared a land acknowledgement.	
2.0 Declarations of Conflict	None declared.	
3.0 Approval of Consent Agenda	It was duly <b>MOVED</b> and <b>SECONDED</b> to approve the October 28, 2021 CMHA WW Board minutes (Irene Thompson, Neil Dunsmore). <b>CARRIED.</b>	
	It was duly <b>MOVED</b> and <b>SECONDED</b> that the consent agenda be approved (Irene Thompson, Neil Dunsmore). <b>CARRIED.</b>	



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4.0 Governance Committee Report	Irene Thompson presented the Governance Committee Report.	
	Helen Fishburn's CEO performance review was delayed over 2020-21 due to the pandemic. The Governance Committee has suggested a condensed review take place in December 2021, with the regular review schedule resuming in Spring 2022.	
	It was duly <b>MOVED</b> and <b>SECONDED</b> to conduct a condensed CEO Performance Review in December 2021 (Irene Thompson, Neil Dunsmore). <b>CARRIED.</b>	
5.0 Resources Committee Report	Anthony DiCaita presented the Resources Committee report.	
	Shift Your Mind Proposal	
	Shift Your Mind has proposed seconding Alison DeMuy for two years to provide a dedicated resource to fully developing this mental health program. In turn, Shift Your Mind would cover the salary for those two years, and then CMHA WW would receive an additional 5% of net revenue (minus the salary) thereafter. In addition to earning more revenue, this would offer an opportunity for us to connect with multiple corporate partners, opening more doors for revenue generation.	
	Senior Leadership supports this secondment, and would ensure Alison's system work with OHTs is maintained. Alison will continue to provide oversight of Communications and Fund Development.	
	The Board discussed potential risks, including reputational risks and legal considerations.	
	It was duly <b>MOVED</b> and <b>SECONDED</b> that we pursue the Shift Your Mind revenue diversification opportunity as a means of enhancing our Fund Development program (Neil Dunsmore, Jibran Khokhar). <b>CARRIED.</b>	
	<b>ACTION:</b> Helen will provide a progress report to the Board at the six-month and one-year marks.	
	ACTION: Helen will inquire with Flow Marketing re: their commitment to JEDI work.	
6.0 CMHA WW Fund Development Update	Beth King presented an update on the CMHA WW 2021-22 Fund Development Plan.	
	The Holiday Campaign will be launched on Giving Tuesday (Dec 7, 2021) and will include a direct mail component.	
	Beth noted that we take a targeted approach to considering grant applications.	
7.0 Helen's Update and Q&A	Q&A – Helen's Board Report	
	Helen highlighted the following items from her Board report.	
	Face to face vs. virtual service delivery	
	We are noting an increase in client requests for to face services, and our phone support and virtual care numbers continue to be very high. We continue to face challenges with on-site space for staff due to the pandemic; however, we are reviewing these numbers with our Leadership Team to address client needs. We are also looking across the system at best practices and professional practices for hybrid care.	



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	House of Friendship	
	In early December, House of Friendship announced its temporary shelter was closing due to COVID funding no longer being available. Approximately 80 men have been placed into temporary housing. A permanent location has been secured, funding is being arranged, and the new shelter will open in February. The Kitchener-Waterloo community has provided critical support to this group, including CMHA WW Here 24/7 staff.	
	JEDI Lead	
	Sarah Halabi will join CMHA WW on December 8 in the role of JEDI Lead (part-time role). Sarah brings a wealth of experience to CMHA WW.	
	Percent of mental health funding in healthcare	
	Helen explained that the small portion of provincial mental health funding in the overall healthcare budget is a system problem and is exacerbated by issues around data collection. Individually recorded health events do not always reflect the reality of longer-term health issues and there continues to be stigma in the medical system re: attributing healthcare events to mental health. As well, government ministries are siloed and do not always consider the benefits of funding mental health in order to save money in other areas of healthcare. There does seem to be some openness among current governments to "try something else."	
	Mandatory Vaccination	
	The CMHA WW Required COVID-19 Vaccination policy will be in effect as of December 15. A small group of staff are engaged in individual education and support plans; however, we do expect to have some staff who will choose unpaid leave.	
8.0 Closing and Debrief	It was duly <b>MOVED</b> and <b>SECONDED</b> to adjourn the meeting (Jibran Khokhar, Irene Thompson). <b>CARRIED</b> .	
	The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 pm.	

David Pell	Anthony DiCaita
President	Secretary-Treasurer