

Association canadienne pour la santé mentale Waterloo Wellington

CMHA WW Board of Directors

Meeting Minutes Thursday, January 26, 2023 | 6:00 – 8:00 pm Virtual – MS Teams

Present: Katharina Markowiak, President

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

Jibran Khokhar, Board Member David Pell, Board Member

Helen Fishburn, CEO

Meredith Gardiner, Director of Services

Jeff Stanlick, Director of Services

Anna Tersigni Phelan

Director Quality & Risk and Chief Privacy Officer

Guests: Camille Quenneville, CEO, CMHA Ontario

Recorder: Heather Snider, Team Lead, Administration

Regrets: None

Irene Thompson, Vice-President Dana Hardy, Board Member at Large Julia Goyal, Board Member

Somkene Igboanugo, Board Member Laura McNeilly, Board Member

Heather Eddy, Director People & Culture

Krista Sibbilin, Director of Services

Alison DeMuy, Director Strategy & Innovation

Dr. Chris DiCarlo, CMHA WW Ethicist

Agenda Item	Discussion and Actions
Board Education Session	Camille Quenneville, CEO CMHA Ontario, presented on <i>The Landscape in which CMHA Exists</i> , including the topics of Advocacy, MAiD, Governance, and Queen's Park.
	MAiD – The Board discussed the recent inclusion of mental illness under MAiD eligibility. This is a complex issue and the recent postponement of this by the federal government is welcome. CMHA's position strongly notes that MAiD should never be considered due to lack of access to necessary supports.
1.0 Welcome, Call to Order	Katharina Markowiak welcomed Board members.
2.0 Land Acknowledgement	Helen Fishburn shared a land acknowledgement.
3.0 Declaration of Conflict of Interest	No conflicts were declared.
4.0 Ethical Dilemma	Dr. Chris DiCarlo presented on the meta-analysis he conducted after the November Board Retreat, and on the donor focus group that took place in January.
Should CMHA WW accept donations from substance based	This was followed by a Board discussion, during which Board members shared information to complement Dr. DiCarlo's findings, and discussed the consequences of both accepting and not accepting donations from substance based organizations.
organizations?	The following themes emerged from the discussion:
	 A precedent has already been set through previous acceptance of donations from organizations that are substance based, or linked in a negative way to mental health and addictions (e.g., Trillium grants are funded via the Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation). It would be helpful to review our list of corporate and government donors to understand the scope of this particular issue. The science and politics around cannabis use and sales continue to evolve. There may be value to deciding not to make a decision right now. Should we decide to accept these donations, we can place conditions on this.

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Agenda Item	Discussion and Actions
	ACTION: We will provide information on past and current corporate donations and government funding for CMHA WW to the Board.
	ACTION: The Fund Development Committee will prepare a draft framework from which we can proceed, including proposed restrictions on accepting donations should we decide to do this.
	Note: an expanded summary of this discussion was provided to the Fund Development Committee for reference.
5.0 Approval of Consent Agenda	It was duly MOVED and SECONDED to approve the December 7, 2022 CMHA WW Board minutes (Jibran Khokhar, Neil Dunsmore). CARRIED .
	It was duly MOVED and SECONDED that the consent agenda be approved (Jibran Khokhar, Neil Dunsmore). CARRIED.
	Katharina noted that she will be connecting with Board members to discuss their intentions for the 2023-24 Board year.
6.0 Protective Vest Use	Helen informed the Board that we are working through the issue of whether IMPACT staff wear protective (bulletproof) vests when attending emergency calls with police.
	This is a very complex issue that involves consideration of staff safety, and consideration of the stigma clients can experience due to these types of interventions. We know this is particularly true for individuals and communities with a history of social oppression.
	Jeff Stanlick presented an overview of the issue and steps taken to date to engage various stakeholders in this decision. We are still in the process of seeking feedback, particularly from our equity-seeking communities.
	This will ultimately be a Board decision; we will update the Board as this progresses.
7.0 Helen's Update and Q&A	Helen highlighted the following issues:
	January was a busy month with budget planning, Woolwich Building meetings, government relations work and a media coverage for Blue Monday and Bell Let's Talk.
	Wait times – We are reviewing Here 24/7 data, particularly around our call answer wait times. To address concerns in this area, we are reorganizing our call triaging. We anticipate this to be adjusted by the end of February.
	Law suit – CMHA WW and Guelph Police are involved in a joint lawsuit that has been reported on in the media. As this is an active investigation, we are unable to comment.
8.0 Closing and Debrief	It was duly MOVED and SECONDED to adjourn the meeting (Somkene Igboanugo, Irene Thompson). CARRIED.
	The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.
9.0 Meeting without Management	As per the Board workplan, a meeting without management was held following the regular Board meeting.

Katharina Markowiak, President

Anthony DiCaita, Secretary Treasurer