



NEWS RELEASE

NEW QUINTE HEALTH CARE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ANNOUNCED

BELLEVILLE, October 1, 2009 – Quinte Health Care has 12 new Directors chosen from among more than 40 applicants from across the region served by the hospital. Four of the members have served on the former QHC board.

The new Board will assume full responsibility for the governance of QHC early in 2010.

Members of the new Board will be: Tricia Anderson (Quinte West), Ethel Birkett LaValley (North Hastings), Steve Blakely (Prince Edward County), John Embregts (Brighton), John Giraudy (Prince Edward County), Mark Hanley (Quinte West), Murray Jackson (Belleville), Gary Magarrell (Belleville), Bev McLellan (Prince Edward County), John Petrie (Prince Edward County), Brian Smith (Belleville), and Matt Taff (Quinte West.)

The names of the successful applicants were announced today by the Community Advisory Council (CAC), a six-member panel of community leaders appointed last April to recommend a new governance structure for QHC and to recruit and recommend members for a new Board of Directors. Members of the CAC are: Gord Allan, Ross McDougall, Maureen Piercy, Glenn Rainbird, Dr. Michael Shannon and Lyle Vanclief.

“The roles and responsibilities of the Board of Directors in providing oversight and direction are critical to QHC’s future and I’m pleased to accept the CAC’s recommendation for members of the new board,” said **QHC Supervisor Graham Scott**.

“I recognize that it has been a difficult task to choose from among so many outstanding candidates and to achieve the right balance of qualities, skills and experience to serve the needs of the hospital at a time of great challenge and opportunity. Members of the CAC have done an excellent job on behalf of their community and I am grateful to them,” Mr. Scott added.

“We were gratified by the response to our recruitment process and impressed with the qualifications among those applying to serve on the new Board,” said CAC member **Ross McDougall**. “We are confident in this new board’s ability to provide the direction needed to continue moving Quinte Health Care forward.”

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“We are encouraging those who were not selected for the Board at this time to remain involved with QHC and to consider applying to become one of the 54 Advisory members of the corporation whose establishment was included in our recommendations for a new governance structure for our hospital,” said CAC member **Lyle Vanclief**.

(Of the total of 54 non-voting Advisory members, 18 will be named by municipal councils, 18 will be named by QHC’s Foundations and volunteer partners and 18 will be elected as Members at Large.)

The CAC still has work to do. It will provide guidelines and timing for the selection of Advisory Members and advise the Supervisor on the choice of a Chair for the Board of Directors and the selection of a recruitment firm to assist the Board in choosing a new President and Chief Executive Officer to replace Bruce Laughton, who is retiring next April after 11 years as QHC’s chief administrator. It is expected that choosing the new CEO will be the Board’s first major consideration when it assumes full responsibility in the new year.

Under the Board’s bylaws, appointment of Directors is for three year terms with a maximum of nine years. However, since it is a new Board, the initial terms of Directors will be staggered.

The orientation process for the new Board begins in the middle of October. Over the coming weeks the Board Chair will be appointed by the Supervisor and board committees will be established.

“The appointment of this new Board marks another step forward in the new beginnings of QHC as a truly exceptional institution working in partnership with the Quinte community and serving our region,” said CAC member **Maureen Piercy**.

Comments by other members of the CAC:

“Public response to the Board recruiting process represents a vote of confidence in QHC and its future.” **Gord Allan**.

“Candidates for the Board were well aware of the demands that membership will make on their time but they are willing to make this contribution in order to help ensure high standards of health care for the people of our community.” **Glenn Rainbird**.

Dr. Michael Shannon stressed that while the Council focused on the individual and collective skill sets of the candidates, the high quality of candidates from throughout the region meant public concerns over geographic considerations are also addressed in the appointments.

Biographies of all 12 designated members of the Board of Directors are attached.

Quinte Health Care (QHC) is a 285-bed hospital with four sites in Bancroft, Belleville, Picton and Quinte West. It employs over 1600 staff and over 280 doctors have privileges. QHC serves in excess of 160,000 residents living in an area of 7,000 square kilometers, including Prince Edward and Hastings Counties and a portion of Northumberland County.

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