

June 24, 2015

RVH welcomes new board member and celebrates its achievements

At Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre's (RVH) Annual General Meeting held June 23, the health centre welcomed a new board member, said farewell to a long-term director and celebrated its many achievements.

Joining the board for a one year term is Doug Jure, a Barrie-based strategic advisor with significant experience in the provincial government and private sector. Jure was most recently chair of the Barrie Police Services Board. The board also said good bye and thank you to Rick Horst who joined the RVH board in 2007 and was chair 2012-2014. Outgoing Medical Staff president, Dr. Don Duvall, and vice-president, Dr. Jaco Scheeres, were thanked for their dedication and commitment. In September, Drs. Sandy McDonald and Kerstin Mossman, will join the board as president and vice-president of the RVH Medical Staff Executive.

Also at the meeting, the board approved the health centre's 2014-15 audited financial statements, in which RVH achieved its fifth consecutive balanced budget - a remarkable accomplishment. The board also celebrated the health centre's many achievements within its annual highlights, *A Year in Review*.

"At this time each year, to coincide with our annual general meeting, we take a look back at our many accomplishments over the past year," says Janice Skot, president and CEO. "Last year, we expanded our services, worked on improving the patient and family experience, and celebrated our dedicated staff, physicians and volunteers. Many of our accomplishments improved patient safety, built on our strong relationships with community partners, and raised funds in support of our future priorities like advanced cardiac care, and child and youth mental health services."

In 2014-2015, RVH added women's cancer services and was named a Gynecologic Centre of Excellence, one of only eight in the province. Women's cancer patients from across Simcoe and Muskoka now have access to a full range of treatments, including surgery, radiation, and chemotherapy through the Simcoe Muskoka Regional Cancer Centre at RVH.

A major achievement in the past year was the creation of a Patient and Family Advisory Council (PFAC). The group - made up of patients, family members, RVH staff and physicians – gives direct input into policies, programs and practices affecting the patient experience.

Other major highlights of the year included:

- Expanding on-call cardiologist service to be 24 hours a day, 365 days a year and recruiting more cardiologists to make a team of seven
- Re-designing the RVH website
- Buying \$3 million in new equipment
- Winning a silver leadership award from the Institute for Public Administration of Canada for RVH's patient-centred philosophy

To read *A Year in Review 2014-2015*, please visit <http://www.rvh.on.ca/rvhagm/SitePages/rvhagm.aspx>

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