Strategic Plan Survey

RVH’s strategic plan is halfway through its life and it’s time to do a pulse check to ensure we are still on the right track.

During the past few weeks, your manager has been asking for input during huddles about how we can achieve each of the goals in our strategic directions. We want to know what success looks like to you and how we can make it happen.

In addition to the feedback gathered during your weekly huddles, we have also created an online survey. Please take a moment to complete the survey, located here.

Once we have compiled the feedback from both our internal and external stakeholders, we will work on finalizing this latest version of our MY CARE plan.

What does RVH have in common with only 45 other organizations in Canada and internationally? We’re a Best Practices Spotlight Organization (BPSO), as named by the Registered Nurses’ Association of Ontario (RNAO), and we’re the only one in the North Simcoe Muskoka LHIN.

First launched in 2003, BPSOs are healthcare and academic organizations selected to implement and evaluate RNAO best practice guidelines. This makes for a dynamic partnership focused on improving patient care through evidence-based practices and the creative implementation of guidelines.

Of the 47 clinical and healthy work environment guidelines in the BPSO program, RVH has already implemented 14, and plans to introduce another eight in the coming year.

Some of the guidelines we have in place include Prevention of Falls and Fall Injuries in older Adults, Breast Feeding Best Practice Guidelines for Nurses, Assessment and Management of Pain, Screening for Delirium, Dementia and Depression, Integrating Smoking Cessation into Daily Nursing Practice and Transitions in Care.

“The benefits of RVH being a BPSO are multi-faceted,” says Catherine Petch, Manager, Interprofessional Practice Program Development. “By implementing best practices, we see great results in terms of patient outcomes and quality of care. There are significant financial benefits as well. For instance, the cost associated with treating a pressure ulcer ranges between $40,000 and $90,000. If we can prevent this from happening through our implementation of RNAOs Best Practice Guideline: Assessment and Management of Stage I-IV Pressure Ulcers, significant long term cost savings will be realized.”

As an organization, RVH continually strives to deliver safe, high-quality care to our patients. In addition to the BPSO program, the Interprofessional Practice team organizes regular educational sessions such as Grand Rounds and masters classes (see photo above). In 2015, Interprofessional Practice held eight professional development events.

For more info on upcoming educational events, please see the RVH Learning Academy calendar or contact Kim Blanchard at ext. 47720.
Capital equipment plans set for 2016-2017

RVH is putting more great tools in the hands of our great people.

The 2016-2017 capital equipment process has wrapped up with just over $2.4 million set aside for both clinical and non-clinical items. The RVH Foundation also contributed over $740,000 for some items.

The capital equipment committee, chaired by Joan McKee, Director of Business Development and Supply Chain, and co-chaired by Dr. Peter Dauphinee, Clinical Director, Surgical Program, once again began this very detailed and transparent process last fall.

From the requests submitted, the 15 voting members of the committee consider not just the cost of each piece of equipment and any associated ongoing costs, but also how it relates to:

- Patient/staff safety
- New technology
- Service/operational efficiencies
- Requirement of Accreditation Canada or other regulated body
- Strategic alignment / clinical priority

Presentations by directors to the committee, which also has seven non-voting members who provide guidance, allow for robust discussions and assessment of the equipment needs.

“Allocating funds for capital equipment is a very detailed and thorough process,” says Joan McKee. "It’s critically important we have all the facts, costs, risks and benefits before we make decisions on the equipment to ensure we can continue to deliver high-quality, safe care."

Some of the clinical items approved include an automated blood bank analyzer for the Lab, a new ultrasound machine for Emergency, a bladder scanner for Surgery 2, a bariatric ceiling lift for the ICU and 20 new stretchers. The RVH Foundation funds will pay for items, including an ACL instrument set for the operating rooms, an endorectal ultrasound probe, a stress echo bed for the cardio-resp clinic and a Holter Monitor system for the cardiac program. Non-clinical items include a gantry crane for Facilities, new code white panic buttons and video storage for Security.

“Through this process, we are also able to identify capital equipment needs for coming years,” says Dr. Peter Dauphinee. “The programs present them as capital requests to keep on the radar for future years, even if we do not need them immediately. Some are fleet requirements such as beds and stretchers which wear out over time, while others are big one time replacements like CT and MRI scanners and anaesthesia machines.”

RVH’s Senior Leadership Team has approved the capital equipment list and the procurement process, with the assistance of our purchasing partners, and equipment delivery will begin early spring – ensuring you have the tools and equipment you need to deliver safe, high quality care.

Cooking for cardiac care

On February 17, members of RVH’s cardiac team put their cooking skills on full display, as the team hosted a waffle breakfast, with proceeds supporting the Hearts & Minds Campaign. Thank you to everyone who supported the fundraiser, and to everyone who gave their time to make this event another success! Pictured left to right—Kelly McDonald, Roxanne Krystia, Mike Yrcha, Selma Mitchell, Pieter Teratege and Lindy Campbell.
Saying, ‘goodbye’ to an old friend

RVH’s Imaging Services team recently said goodbye to the 64-slice CT scanner which is now being replaced with a new state-of-the-art Siemens scanner. Before retiring, this much-loved scanner logged more than 3,200,000 scanning seconds. The last patient on the scanner was Sharon Sheard (centre) while CT Technologist, Jen Speers, (in front of Sheard) performed the final historic scan. The new scanner has just left the factory in Germany, and will arrive at RVH during the week of March 15. Christmas in March for the Imaging Services team!

Laboratory increases blood pledge

RVH has partnered with Canadian Blood Services since 2008. So many lives have been saved along the way with all the blood donations made on behalf of RVH. Last year RVH pledged 120 units/donations of blood for the year. In actuality, there were 123 units donated on behalf of RVH for 102 per cent of target! This year our Laboratory team has increased the pledge to 150 units. Canadian Blood Services is located at 231 Bayview Drive. To donate call 1-888-236-6283. Let’s help the Lab beat last year’s record!

100 acts of kindness

Students from Angus Morrison Elementary School in Angus, recently completed their class project by presenting RVH patient Colin Lomax with handmade Valentine’s Day cards to be shared among fellow patients. The class was tasked to perform 100 Acts of Kindness by their teacher, Natalie Wiersma, which included helping parents at home and walking a dog. The project culminated in making cards for RVH patients. Way to go Angus Morrison!

To walk for RVH, contact Donna Danyluk at x41610.
Foundation News: Heart of Gold launches for RVH

Heart of Gold is a social website and donation portal which harnesses the power of geomapping to demonstrate the need for Advanced Cardiac Care. The website pinpoints your location on a map and identifies factors such as distance to help and average response times in an emergency. The web-based campaign is designed to raise awareness and funds in support of Advanced Cardiac Care at RVH. We invite everyone to check out the new website and encourage you to share across social media channels. Don't forget to add your own pin to the map! Together, we will continue to transform healthcare for the people of Simcoe Muskoka. Visit www.rvhheartofgold.ca for more information.

Anna Duda is the new Senior Administrative Assistant supporting Ben Petersen, Vice President, Corporate Services & Chief Financial Officer and David Coward, Vice President, Chief Human Resources Officer. Anna joins RVH with over 20 years of experience as an administrative professional, including working for a Member of Provincial Parliament, government ministries, the County of Simcoe and the North Simcoe Muskoka CCAC. Most recently, Anna has been the Executive Assistant at Georgian College providing support to the Board of Governors. Anna holds a Bachelor of Science degree from York University and is bilingual in Polish.

Ginny Myles is the new Manager of the Medicine and Rehabilitation Ambulatory Care areas. Ginny, a Respiratory Therapist, has worked at RVH for nearly 30 years. Ginny has held many roles in the organization including: Respiratory Therapist, Clinical Educator, Smoking Cessation Coordinator and has assumed interim leadership roles both at the Manager and Director level over the years. Dedicated to lifelong learning, Ginny received her Bachelor of Health Administration from Ryerson University in 2006. She also has a passion for chronic disease management and is a Certified Respiratory Educator for COPD and Asthma, as well as a Certified Tobacco Educator.

Retirement
Jackie Garrett, an RN in Imaging Services, is retiring from RVH after 22 years. Jackie started at RVH in 1994, working in the NICU/OBS unit. In 2000, she began to work casually in Imaging Services and then moved to a permanent part-time role in 2003 and has been a valued member of the Imaging nursing team ever since. Jackie was a member of the transition team that helped move Imaging into the new building in 2012, and in her own words, she “has learned so much” and enjoyed working with everyone in the department. In her retirement, Jackie is looking forward to relaxing and spending more time with her friends and family.