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CATEGORY: Part VI – Build Relationships

SUBJECT: **BOARD COMMITMENT TO THE *CONNECTING CARE ACT*, 2019**

Under Article 30 of the *Connecting Care Act, 2019* (the “Act”), the Board of Directors (Board) commits the Hospital to building relationships and collaborating with Ontario Health (North) OH(N), Ontario Health Teams (OHTs), other health service providers (as defined in subsection 1(2) of the Act) and the community to identify opportunities to integrate the services of the local health system for the purpose of providing appropriate, coordinated, effective and efficient services.

The Board of Health Sciences North (HSN) recognizes that it is important to nurture relationships, develop partnerships and collaborate with: government; other provincial organizations and networks; (OH(N)); local, regional, and provincial health service providers; and non-health service partners to:

- support the activities of OH(N) in implementing the regional plan;
- further the Hospital’s Purpose and Commitments;
- promote accessibility to the health care service system;
- promote a smooth transition for patients and their families through the continuum of care; and
- identify, address and promote opportunities for integration and collaboration.

The Board, with the support of the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), will:

- i. be fully informed of the principles of health system integration, the Hospital’s rights and obligations under the Act;
- ii. designate (a) Director(s) of the Board to collaborate with OH(N) and participate on behalf of the Board in all OH(N) governance forums with health service providers and report back to the Board;
- iii. annually review the Strategic Plan and revise it as necessary to ensure it addresses the integration requirements of the Act and respects key service integration principles and objectives pursued by OH(N);
- iv. provide direction to the CEO on the Board’s expectations concerning the integration planning process and reflect this understanding in the CEO’s performance agreement;
- v. annually consider and, if appropriate, approve specific voluntary integration initiatives for consideration by OH(N), as recommended by the CEO to advance the implementation of the Strategic Plan;
- vi. establish a mechanism for dialogue with other health service provider boards and other persons and entities as required related to specific types of integration initiatives; and

- vii. periodically monitor the performance of approved voluntary integration initiatives against defined indicators.

The Board delegates responsibility to the CEO to:

- i. provide for Board education concerning the Act and OH(N)'s health services plans, including OHTs;
- ii. provide regular updates on OH(N) integration policy and activities;
- iii. prepare an annual review and update of the Strategic Plan in relation to the OH plans, OHTs and other voluntary integration initiatives;
- iv. include specific performance objectives in their annual performance plan concerning collaborating with OH(N), other health service providers (or other persons and entities) and the community toward the integration of services;
- v. collaborate with staff of related health service providers and OH(N) to identify opportunities to integrate the services of the local health system for the purpose of providing appropriate, coordinated, effective and efficient services, and inform the Board of these activities;
- vi. recommend specific voluntary integration initiatives for consideration and approval by the Board;
- vii. identify performance indicators to monitor specific voluntary integration initiatives; and
- viii. report to the Board periodically on the performance and outcomes of specific voluntary integration initiatives.

Policy Review Log

Date	Action
February 9, 2010	Issued
May 12, 2015	Revised
April 20, 2017	Reviewed
November 26, 2019	Revised
November 30, 2021	Revised
January 28, 2025	Revised