Rideau Community Health Services
Your Community Health Centre

Board of Directors Special Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 16, 2026
5:00pm-7:00pm
Smiths Falls Site – Community Room

Present:	Sandra Shaw (Board Chair), Juli Heney (Vice Chair), Irv Mazurkiewicz (Treasurer), Dorothy Thomson, Jackie Lord, Bridget Bygrave, Stefany Kawka, Christopher Cummings, Sandy Mark, Michele Bellows (CEO/Ex-Officio), Kristian Gundersen (Executive Assistant/Recorder)
Guests:	
Regrets:	Sharon O'Hara (Secretary)
Absent:	

	Agenda Items	Discussion
1.	**Welcome & Land Acknowledgment**	Sandra Shaw, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:00pm and confirmed that quorum was met and welcomed all in attendance. Michele Bellows provided a land acknowledgement.
2.	**Approval of Agenda**	The agenda was circulated in advance for review and was approved as presented. **Motion:** That the RCHS Board agenda for April 14, 2026 be approved as presented. **Moved by:** Chris Cummings **Seconded by:** Irv Mazurkiwicz **Carried.**
3.	**Declaration of Conflict of Interest**	None declared. Board members were reminded that as per GOV 80 – Conflict of Interest, a conflict can be noted at any time during or after the meeting if identified.
4.	**Strategic Plan Review & Approval**	S. Shaw, Chair, provided a high-level summary of the strategic planning process to date. Highlights included: • Extensive engagement occurred with leadership, the Board, partners, community members, and clients through facilitated consultations and surveys, with feedback informing the draft strategic priorities which were reviewed by the Board in January 2026. • Subsequent review and refinement of the draft priorities by the established Board Strategic Planning Sub-Committee (including Senior Leadership Team and Board representation), followed by further review and refinement by the Executive Committee, prior to recommendation for approval to the Board. • Decision by the Board to rescind approval of the plan as per the motion made on March 31st, 2026, to be followed by a special Board meeting for final review and approval of the plan. A thorough review of the draft strategic plan occurred, and the floor was opened for comments, suggestions, and amendments prior to a motion for approval being passed. The following amendments to the previously approved plan were agreed to (changes are noted in red). • Under the draft priority, "**Position the organization for strategic growth while remaining efficient, effective, and relevant**", objective #2 was revised to:

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		○ **Support efficiency and future-ready skills**: Invest in leadership development and continuous learning for all staff to ensure the organization is resilient and prepared for evolving community and system needs. • Under the draft priority, "**Expand and deepen partnerships and support systems integration to improve system-wide outcomes**", objective #2 was revised to: ○ **Advance integrated care pathways and shared service models**: Collaborate with ~~system~~ partners to co-design integrated pathways that reduce fragmentation and duplication, improve transitions, maximize capacity, and address priority population needs. • Under the draft priority, "**Advance diverse, equitable, inclusive, and compassionate care by collaborating with our communities and strengthening connected, people-centred services.**", objective #2 was revised to: ○ **Strengthen community voice and co-designing people-centered services**: Engage clients, caregivers, and community members in planning, evaluation, and improvement of services to ensure care ~~reflects~~ is responsive to lived experience and local priorities. Discussion regarding order of the strategic priorities occurred. It was noted that numbering the priorities as #1, #2, #3, may lead to the misconception that priority #1 is more important than priority #2 and #3. It was agreed that numbering will be removed, and the priority which addresses the advancement of diverse, equitable, inclusive and compassionate care should be listed first on the final strategic plan. **Motion**: Motion to approve the strategic plan as reviewed and modified. **Moved by**: Sandra Shaw **Seconded by**: Chris Cummings **Carried**.
11.	**Meeting Evaluation**	The link to the post-meeting online survey was included with the agenda.
12.	**Next Board meeting:**	Tuesday, June 9, 2026 – Smiths Falls Site (2 Gould St, Unit 118): • **Board Meeting** 5:00pm-7:00pm • **Annual General Meeting**: 7:00pm-7:20pm • **Short Board Meeting**: 7:20pm-7:30pm
13.	**Adjournment**	**Motion:** That the meeting be adjourned at 6:34pm. **Moved by:** Chris Cummings **Carried.**

Approved by:

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Sandra Shaw
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Sandra Shaw, Board Chair
9/7/2026 | 7:01 AM PDT
Date

Signed by:
Irv Mazurkiewicz
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Irv Mazurkiewicz, (Interim) Board Secretary
9/9/2026 | 1:52 PM EDT
Date