

**MEDICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE****Wednesday, April 14, 2004****5:00 p.m.****2J618 and 2J619**

<b>In Attendance:</b>	Dr. Lucinda Whitman	Dr. Robert Williams	Dr. Donald Tennent
	Dr. David Peddle	Dr. Tom Cantwell	Dr. Ann Sclater
	Dr. Geoff Higgins	Dr. Scott Wilson	Dr. Nebojsa Denic
	Dr. Eric Stone	Dr. Don Cook	Dr. Bill Eaton
	Dr. Wayne Andrews	Dr. Desmond Robb	Dr. Al Kwan
	Dr. Ted Callanan	Dr. Benvon Cramer	Dr. William Pollett
	Ms. Pamela Elliott		
<b>Regrets:</b>	Dr. Paul Gardiner	Dr. Barry Rose	Mr. George Tilley
	Ms. Louise Jones	Ms. Cathy Burke	Ms. Janet Squires
	Dr. George Fox	Dr. Al Felix	

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**1. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS' REPORT**

Dr. Williams presented a verbal report in the absence of Mr. George Tilley.

Dr. Williams alluded to the issues surrounding the strike and advised that there will be a full discussion later in the meeting. He commented that although the strike was causing significant problems in the short term, the major challenge to this organization this year will be coping with the delivery of health care services within the allocated budget that we would be receiving from the Department of Health & Community Services.

Dr. Williams advised that on a preliminary review it looks like we will be looking at a \$10 m problem. Final figures from the Department of Health & Community Services have not been received to date however we should receive them in the near future. The budget shortfall will be a result of the funds allocated, additional revenue measures that government has generated (ie. an increase in ambulance fees and in private and semi-private accommodate rates and based upon the collection of these rates government will reduce our budget accordingly) and a plan to save \$5m in the health care system through attrition over the coming year. We are not aware as to what our percentage of this \$5m will be but we are 43% of the board related health care budget.

This magnitude of fiscal problem will present a severe challenge to this organization. Dr. Williams advised an early meeting with clinical chiefs, program directors and executive management would need to take place soon after the budget figures are received. This issue would also come back to the Medical Advisory Committee at the next meeting in May.

**Salaried Positions**

Dr. Cook alluded to restrictions on the salaried physicians budget. Dr. Williams responded by stating that in past years the Department of Health and Community Services had approved the number of positions and they were never filled thus there was no budgetary problems. Last year most of the positions were filled and the Department overran the salaried physicians budget by some \$6m. Based

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upon this significant problem the Department of Health & Community Services have been advised that all vacated salaried positions must now be approved by the Salaried Physicians Approval Committee and Treasury Board before they are filled. This process will delay our normal recruitment process even if the positions are approved. This will be monitored closely and follow up discussion will take place at the clinical chiefs forum by the Vice-President, Medical Services' Office.

**2. PREVIOUS MINUTES**

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