

Minutes of the **Board of Trustees** meeting of **Eastern Health** held **23 February 2006**
at 3:00 p.m. - St. John's.

Present:

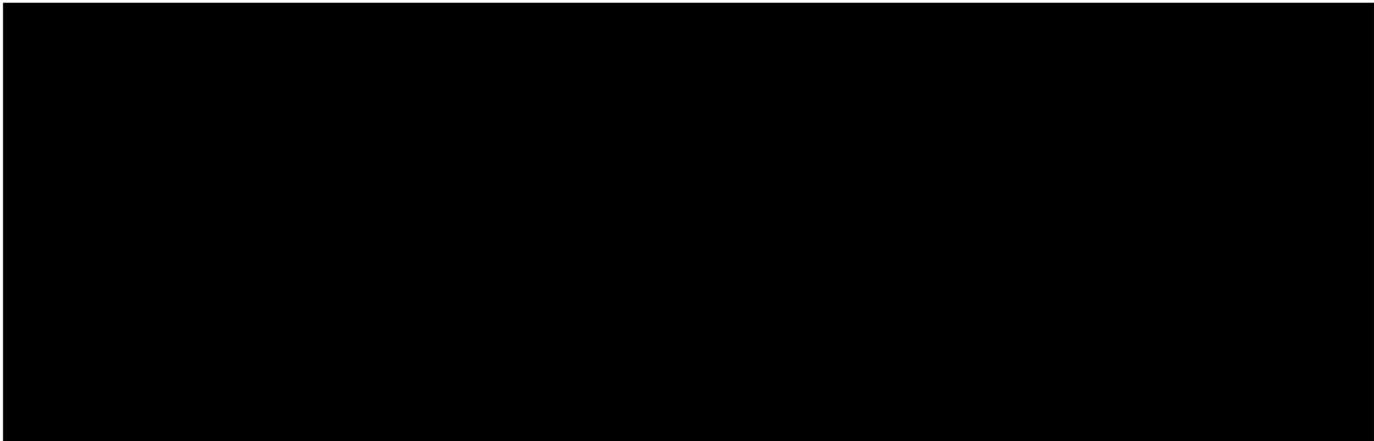
Regina Bailey	Lewis Cole	Dave Duffett
Primrose Bishop	Frank Davis	Charlotte Fitzpatrick
William Boyd	Joan Dawe (Chair)	Marjorie Gibbons
Barbara Roebothan	Earl Elliott	Hubert McGrath
Alice Collins	Ed Drover	

George Butt	Louise Jones	Wayne Miller
Pat Coish-Snow	Fay Matthews	George Tilley
Bev Clarke	Pat Pilgrim	Robert Williams
Stephen Dodge	Alice Kennedy	

Regrets:

Rowena Bryans
Paul Colbert
David Hiscock

James Rourke



3.2 ER/PR Retesting Update

Dr. Williams provided an update on the ER/PR as follows:

- Retesting for ER/PR receptors within our laboratory will not resume until the two consultants who did the quality review indicate support of our follow-up action to their recommendations.
- The Expert Panel reviewing the tests continues to meet and should complete the review of all patients by the end of February, barring any unforeseen circumstances.
- Process of notification of patients is ongoing with physician follow-up as appropriate.
- The PR/ER testing issues continues to be followed up with the Canadian Medical Oncology Association and Canadian Pathology Association and their counterparts for oncology at the national level.
- The Canadian Medical Protective Association is involved from the perspective of potential litigation involving our pathologists.
- Dr. A. Gown has been retained by HIROC and will be visiting the province in late March to review the information to determine the magnitude of the liability.
- The Newfoundland Branch of the Canadian Cancer Society continues to be updated on the situation.

3.3 Physician Recruitment & Retention

Included in the Board package was a briefing note pertaining to physician recruitment.

The following are highlights from that report:

- There is currently no physician human resource plan for the province that has been approved by the Department of Health and Community Services (DOHCS). However, the Regional CEO's are addressing the absence of such a plan.
- Eastern Health is currently utilizing a draft report prepared by the DOHCS and the Newfoundland Medical Association in July 2001. This draft plan has been modified by changing medical practices and needs since that time.
- Eastern Health recruits for specialists and general practitioners who provide services to hospitals and medical clinics within the region.
- Eastern Health is not, at this point, involved in the recruitment of fee-for-service practitioners in the community.
- A limiting factor in recruitment is the limited resources Eastern Health has to provide for practice requirements for specialist physicians (i.e. operating rooms, ambulatory clinic space, health records).
- Salaried Physicians are funded by the DOHCS. There is not enough funding to grant the positions that each of the four (4) health authorities feel they need. Positions which were funded in the past have been

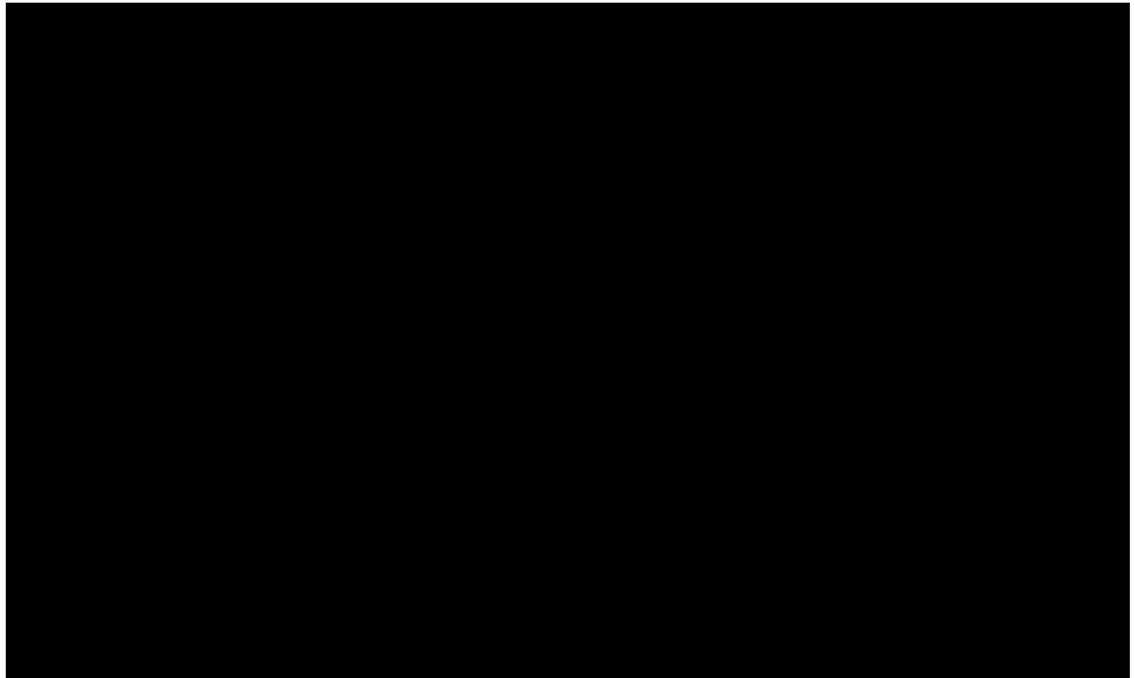
denied for funding when they become vacant, resulting in individual authorities having to make choices between positions they require and a small number of positions approved.

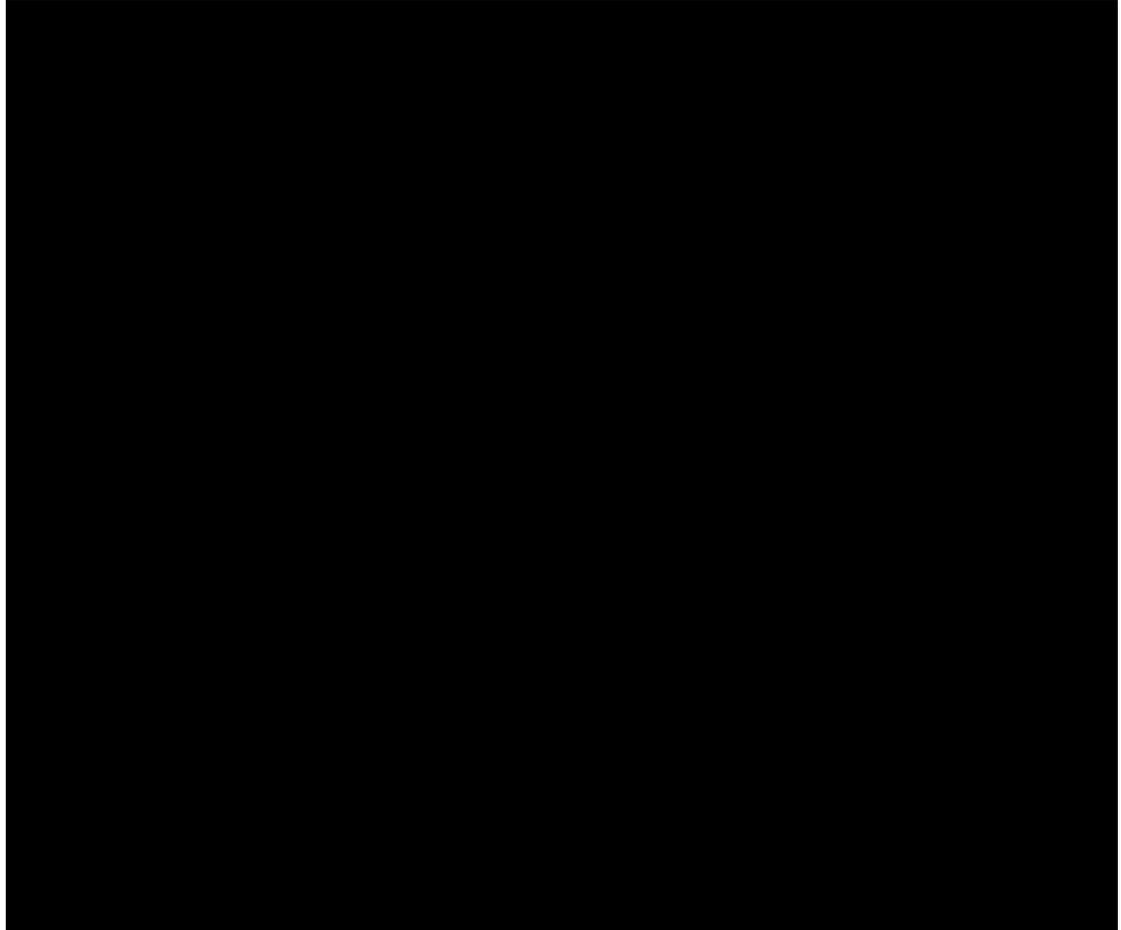
- Eastern Health has not centralized its physician recruitment and will continue to recruit within the current structures with strong linkages.

Trustees inquired regarding processes for accountability of physicians in rural communities. Clinical Chiefs are responsible for monitoring the physicians within their jurisdiction. A new agreement was recently negotiated with Newfoundland and Labrador Medical Association which proposed a closer relationship between the health authorities and the community physicians.

4. Committee Reports

4.1





4.3 Medical Advisory Committee

➤ Laboratory Medicine

Dr. Donald Cook submitted his resignation as Clinical Chief, Laboratory Medicine. Dr. Nash Denic will serve as Interim Clinical Chief for a six (6) month period.

Recruitment efforts have been unsuccessful in attracting pathologists to the Laboratory Medicine Program. Discussions are ongoing with the Department of Health and Community Services and the Newfoundland and Labrador Medical Association. As a result of this shortage, it is anticipated that some testing may be impacted resulting in the need to

send some tests out-of-province. A proposal will be prepared and presented jointly to the Newfoundland and Labrador Medical Association and the Department of Health and Community Services.

➤ **Surgery Program**

Resolution with respect to couples who are both trained as medical specialists, where one partner is required in a specialty that is in great demand and the other in a specialty where there is no demand was discussed at MAC. It was recommended that such recruitment issues be resolved at the departmental level.

➤ **Credentials**

The **Medical Advisory Committee Acute Care - St. John's** recommends the approval of the credentials as presented at the 30 January 2006 meeting.

MOTION: It was moved by Lewis Cole, seconded by Primrose Bishop, that the credentials for Acute Care – St. John's be accepted as recommended.

Carried.

The four (4) health authorities have engaged in a process to develop a common set of Medical Staff Bylaws with the intent to remove the necessity of Board approval for medical staff credentials.

Board of Trustees
Eastern Health
23 February 2006

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 22 March 2006 – Bonavista.

Joan Dawe
Chairperson
Board of Trustees

George Tilley
Secretary
Board of Trustees