

## PRHA holds 14th Annual General Meeting in Swan River

The Parkland Regional Health Authority (PRHA) held its 14th Annual General Meeting in Swan River on August 29, 2011. An estimated crowd of about 70 people were in attendance as the Region looked back at highlights from its 2010/2011 fiscal year (April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011).

This was the last report relating to the Region's Strategic Plan of 2006-2011. As of April 1, 2011, the PRHA is moving forward with goals and initiatives related to its new five-year strategic health plan (2011-2016.)

In looking back at the Region's year, PRHA CEO Kevin McKnight stated there were a number of notable items worth mentioning. Aside from the release of the new strategic plan, they included:

- **Accreditation**– The Region went through a comprehensive national accreditation survey in October 2010. The Region was awarded “Accreditation with Condition” in which the condition attached regarded a focused visit in March 2011. The visit was to review select organizational practices that were earlier identified by surveyors.
- **Organization Redesign**– During 2010/2011, the Region unveiled intentions to shift and enhance its internal organizational structure. The Redesign, announced in September 2010, was planned to place added emphasis on clinical and operational-based teams that will have clearly defined client-centered goals along with guiding performance measures. Work continues on the redesign as PRHA Senior Leadership works through risk mitigation strategies associated with the new structure.
- **Cataract Surgery Program**– A Cataract Surgery Program, to be based out of the Swan Valley Health Centre in Swan River, was approved for the Region in March 2011. The PRHA continues to work with provincial officials and Swan Valley Lions Clubs– who are purchasing specialized equipment for the program– in order to implement the program in 2011/2012.
- **Dauphin Regional Health Centre (DRHC) Renovations**– The Region began working through stages of the province's health facility capital planning process, after it was announced in November 2010, that the Emergency Department at the DRHC would be renovated. This follows up on some of the recommendations made within the DRHC Role Study, which was commissioned in 2009.
- **Nurse Practitioners**– The PRHA was able to recruit additional nurse practitioners to the Region in 2010/2011. Nurse Practitioners Heather Hollinda and Sheila Kringle, in collaboration with the Grandview Medical Group, began accepting patients and clients at the Grandview Medical Clinic during the year.
- **Hearing Services**– There was considerable growth and development of the Audiology Program in the PRHA during 2010/2011. Full-time audiologist Shelly La Rosa commenced her position in Parkland in March 2010 and there has been a significant increase in children's audiology services.
- **Human Resource Challenges/Opportunities**– The PRHA did face periods of temporary suspension of services due to both physician and nurse resource shortages during the fiscal year. Difficult service decisions needed to be made, especially at Swan Valley Health Centre in Swan River, in 2010/2011. The PRHA continued with recruitment and retention efforts to help alleviate the physician and staff shortages which primarily impacted the maternity unit at Swan Valley Health Centre.
- **Fiscal Challenges**– The Region continued to face budgetary challenges in 2010/2011. Pressures within the acute and long term care sectors continued to impact the Region's bottom line. However, the PRHA did finish fiscal year 2010/2011 with a relatively small deficit figure of \$278-thousand.

\*A complete listing of the Region's consolidated financial statements can be obtained by logging on to the PRHA website ([www.prha.mb.ca](http://www.prha.mb.ca)).



**Celebrating successes**- The PRHA highlighted two specific initiatives from 2010/2011 at its Annual General Meeting. At left, Twyla Gilroy, InSight Mentoring Program Coordinator, speaks about the benefits of the program (formerly known as Stop FASD Program). At right, Shawn Charlebois, Coordinator, Aboriginal Human Resources, unveils details about the program's goals and future directions.



**Nurse Practitioners**- Nurse Practitioners Sheila Kringle, left, and Heather Hollinda, right, began accepting patients at Grandview Medical Clinic.



**Hearing Services**- Regional Audiologist Shelly La Rosa helped to increase children's audiology services during 2010/2011.

## PRHA participates in rural nursing program

The Parkland Regional Health Authority (PRHA) is pleased to be a part of the rural site selection for Red River College's (RRC) Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) to Bachelor of Nursing (BN) Program. Dauphin is one of four locations selected as a rural intake site for the two-year program, which commences August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Additionally, Dauphin has also been selected for future rotations which would begin in 2015 and 2019.

The PRHA is providing classroom space and other technical supports to ensure the program- which is delivered via video-streaming technology-is once again successful in Parkland. The Region also participated in Red River College's rural LPN to Diploma Nursing program in 2007/2008.

Diane Clare, Rural Coordinator of the Red River College Nursing Program, says the program is designed to provide LPN's with the educational opportunity to complete a nursing degree.

"This program helps students meet the College of Registered Nurses of Manitoba (CRNM) graduate competencies. It helps students become knowledgeable about philosophy, conceptual framework and graduate outcomes of the RRC BN Program," Clare added.

LPNs enter the RRC baccalaureate program in the second year. The RRC BN Program offers a four year university degree over 32 months.

PRHA CEO Kevin McKnight says the program provides the Region with another key tool in ongoing recruitment and retention planning.

"The project enhances educational and career opportunities for nurses in the Parkland. We are very excited to be working with Red River College to provide opportunities like this and look forward to many successful partnerships that allow us to both augment and enhance our workforce," McKnight added.

Licensed Practical Nurses must be graduates from Assiniboine Community College past 1997. Participants must meet Red River College nursing program prerequisites. Additional rural sites for this year's rotation include Gimli, Portage and Winkler.

## Smoke Free Grounds 2012

The Parkland Regional Health Authority is working to implement its Smoke Free Grounds initiative. As of **April 1, 2012**, all work sites within the PRHA will be designated as smoke free grounds. The policy does exempt Personal Care Home, where residents are allowed to smoke in designated areas as per the 2004 Provincial Non-Smokers Health Protection Act (NSHPA).

The Region will begin ramping up communication efforts in relation to this very important healthy living initiative over the next six months.

## PRHA volunteer service award recipients 2010/2011



**Regional Group Award-** Volunteers from the Swan Valley Food Bank were recognized at the PRHA's Annual General Meeting August 29th. From front left are Sue Stober and Albert Quon. Back left are Denie Quon, Bruce Taylor, and Ron Lewicki.



**District Award Winners-** From left, Joan Nemetchek (Swan River), Dale Yeo (Roblin), Simone Worrall (Ste. Rose). Missing is Maxine Zamzow (Swan River).



**Central District Award Winners-** From left, Barbara Durston (Dauphin) and Loretta Fleming (Winnipegosis).

This quarterly information update is produced for the purpose of reaching out to the elected officials of our communities so that they are aware of and are able to share information with their constituents. It is part of PRHA's commitment to communicate with its public on health and health matters. Additional questions regarding information contained within this newsletter can be directed to Blaine Kraushaar, PRHA Community Relations Coordinator, 204-622-6237.