



ANNUAL MEETING
June 24, 2025 @ 3:00 p.m.
43 Main Street, Cobden

MINUTES

Land Acknowledgement Statement:

We acknowledge that the land where we work and gather is the traditional unceded territories of the Indigenous nations who have lived on these lands since time immemorial. In particular, we acknowledge the Anishnaabeg (Ah-nish-in-a-bek), Huron-Wendat, Haudenosaunee (Ho-den-no-show-nee), Oneida, and Algonquin peoples. We are grateful to live and work on this land, and to work in allyship with Indigenous communities. Let us learn from the Indigenous caretakers of this land about the sacred relationships and responsibilities that we have to each other and to these beautiful lands that give us what we need to live a healthy life.

Members present in person: Tom Baumgartner, Bruce Brough, Ronald Cronkhite, Carole Devine, Nicholas Dibdin, Jean Dunning, Shari Glenn, Kim Groskleg, Miriam Hunt, Jan Paul-Barr, Mary Lou Pratt, Lesley Scharf, Wayne Stryde, Gerry van Loon

Members present on Zoom: Stephen Bird, Michel Vermette

Staff present in person: Brenda Arbery, Celine Britton, Ellen Fleming Michaud, Jerry Gervais, Nicole Murray, Lara Mylly, Kacie Reaney, Heather Robertson, Sarah Sark, Corrie Stewart, Kara Symbolic, Becky Walker

Staff present on Zoom: Sarah Byrne, Jane Coyle, Meredith Cullen, Emily Frizell, Leigh Gibson, Leslie Greene, Wilma Lee, Tim Moran, Manish Watts, Rebecca Worden

Guests present in person: Tiffanie Balkin (MCCSS), Kevin Lamarr (speaker)

Guests present on Zoom: Chris Clarke (KPMG)

1.0 Welcome and Introductions

Board Chair Jean Dunning welcomed everyone, called the meeting to order, and read the land acknowledgement statement.

1.1 Establishment of quorum for meeting: Jean called on Becky Walker, who confirmed that the number of members in attendance satisfied the requirement for quorum as per By-Law #1.

- 1.2 **Appointment of Scrutineers:** Ellen Fleming Michaud and Corrie Stewart offered to act as scrutineers for the meeting.
- 1.3 **Introduction of ConnectWell Community Health Board members:** Jean Dunning (Chair) introduced herself and the other Board members present: Nick Dibdin (Vice Chair), Mary Lou Pratt (Secretary/Treasurer), Tom Baumgartner (Past Chair), Stephen Bird, Bruce Brough, Carole Devine, Miriam Hunt, Jan Paul Barr, Wayne Stryde, Lesley Scharf, and Gerry Van Loon. She noted that Board member Michel Vermette would be joining via Zoom shortly.

2.0 **Approval of agenda**

The agenda was sent to the membership on May 23, 2025. There were no suggested changes to the agenda.

Motion: On behalf of the Board of Directors, Jean Dunning moved that the agenda for the 2025 Annual Meeting be accepted as circulated.

Seconded by: Tom Baumgartner

Any discussion: None

Decision: Motion carried

3.0 **Approval of minutes from the June 25, 2024 Annual Meeting**

The minutes of June 25, 2024 were sent to the membership on May 23, 2025. There were no suggested changes or amendments to the minutes.

Motion: On behalf of the Board of Directors, Jean Dunning moved that the minutes of the June 25, 2024 Annual Meeting be accepted as circulated.

Seconded by: Bruce Brough

Any discussion: None

Decision: Motion carried

- 4.0 **Guest Speaker Kevin Lamarr:** Jean introduced speaker Kevin Lamarr. As a member of the Algonquins of Pikwakanagan, Kevin works as their Indigenous Engagement Specialist through Health Services. Kevin was originally hired to form an Indigenous Health Circle for the Ottawa Valley Ontario Health Team in 2023 to assist in addressing gaps for Indigenous people accessing Health Care; he outlined this work in his presentation to those in attendance. Following Kevin's presentation, Jean thanked him for his insight and recommendations on how ConnectWell can work in allyship with Indigenous communities to provide better service for all.

- 5.0 **Auditor's Report:** Finance Committee Chair Mary Lou Pratt introduced Chris Clarke, Senior Manager at KPMG L.L.G., who presented the auditor's report and reviewed the audited financial statements. He thanked the Finance Team for their hard work and support through another successful audit. There were no questions from the membership.

6.0 **Staff and Board Recognition for Years of Service**

ConnectWell CEO Sarah Sark recognized staff members for their years of service:

30 YEARS:

- Joanne Guthrie: Behaviour Program Coordinator

20 YEARS:

- Paula Coleman: Family Support Coordinator
- Kathleen Crowe: Autism Therapist
- Susan Hanssen: Medical Secretary
- Lara Mylly: Health Promoter
- Heather Robertson: Nurse Practitioner

15 YEARS:

- Brenda Arbery: Nurse – RN
- Renata Dekeyser: Clinical Supervisor
- Jacqueline Kirkland: Nurse Practitioner
- Carolyn Savage: Respiratory Therapist

10 YEARS:

- Celine Britton: Nurse – RN
- Sarah Byrne: Community Health Worker
- Mary Jean Coyles: Connections Home Visitor
- Meredith Cullen: Nurse – RN
- Jodi Halpenny: Administrative Assistant
- Jessica Messier: Behaviour Analyst
- Emma Phillips: Respiratory Therapist
- Andrea Schaefer: Peer Support Worker

RETIREMENTS:

- Joanne Morin: GFHB Coordinator (28 years)
- Brenda Powers Ross: Director, Renfrew County sites (21 years)
- Teri Rheaume: Physician (20 years)
- Laurie Ann Glenn: Nurse Practitioner (18 years)
- Dorothy Mercier: Nurse – RPN (12 years)
- Jeff Kohl: Peer Support Worker (5 years)

Jean Dunning introduced Board members who are leaving and paid tribute on behalf of the organization:

- Stephen Bird: 1 year of service
- Tom Baumgartner: 10 years of service

7.0 Report from the Chair: Jean Dunning provided a verbal report.

8.0 Report from the Chief Executive Officer: Sarah Sark provided a verbal report.

9.0 Committee Reports

9.1 **Governance Committee:** Stephen Bird presented the Governance report. There were no questions from those in attendance.

- 9.2 **Nominating Committee:** Lesley Scharf presented the Nominating Committee report. There were no questions from those in attendance. Following the report, she introduced the slate of candidates for Board member positions:
Shari Glenn: 1st 3-year term
Teri Rheume: 1st 3-year term
Bruce Brough: 2nd 3-year term
Nick Dibdin: 2nd 3-year term
Miriam Hunt: 2nd 3-year term
Motion: On behalf of the Board of Directors, Lesley Scharf moved that the candidates in the slate proposed by the Board be elected by the membership as Directors for the terms as outlined.
Seconded by: Tom Baumgartner
Any discussion: None
Decision: Motion carried
- 9.3 **Finance Committee:** Mary Lou Pratt presented the Finance Committee report. There were no questions from those in attendance.
Motion: On behalf of the Board of Directors, Mary Lou Pratt moved that the firm of KPMG be appointed as auditors for the fiscal year 2025-2026 at a fee to be established by the Board.
Seconded by: Bruce Brough
Any discussion: None
Decision: Motion carried
- 9.4 **QRS Committee:** Tom Baumgartner presented the QRS Committee report. There were no questions from those in attendance.
- 9.5 **Advocacy Committee:** Jean Dunning presented the Advocacy Committee report. There were no questions from those in attendance.
- 9.6 **North Lanark Joint Planning Committee:** Jean Dunning presented the North Lanark Joint Planning Committee report. There were no questions from those in attendance.

- 10.0 Adjournment of Annual Meeting:** Jean Dunning thanked everyone for attending and made a motion that the Annual Meeting of ConnectWell Community Health be adjourned at 4:37 p.m. She invited guests to remain and socialize while the Board retired for its post-Annual Meeting meeting.
Decision: Motion carried