

MEDIA RELEASE

New Chair and Two Directors Appointed to the North East LHIN Board

April 6, 2017 – Ron Farrell of Sundridge joined the North East Local Health Integration Network (NE LHIN) Board for his first meeting as Chair last week. Two other directors have also recently been appointed to the NE LHIN Board – Pharmacist Mark Palumbo, of Sudbury, and Elizabeth (Betty) Stone, of Haileybury, a long-time educator and former alderman.

“I want to thank Ron Farrell for taking on this new and important role with the North East LHIN. I’d also like to thank newly hired board members Mark Palumbo and Elizabeth Stone. I look forward to working with the North East LHIN on the transformation of Ontario’s health care system into one that is more accessible, integrated and patient-focused,” said Dr. Eric Hoskins, Minister of Health and Long Term Care.

As the former Chair of the North East CCAC Board, Farrell brings with him extensive governance and health care experience, particularly in the home and community sector. He recently also served on the Council of Ontario College of Pharmacists and on the Board of the Ontario Association of Community Care Access Centres.

Farrell has been involved in community health care for more than 20 years, holding a wide range of senior positions with federal, provincial and territorial governments as well as the private sector. Change management in large organizations occupied more than half his career.

“It’s an exciting time to be in health care. I’m looking forward to working on behalf of all Northerners to help transform the health care system so that it puts the needs of patients first,” said Farrell, at his first meeting as Chair of the NE LHIN Board.

He retired as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Victorian Order of Nurses of Canada and started a Chapter of CARP for Zoomers centered in North Bay and serving 4,000 members from Bracebridge to Kapuskasing. With the Canadian Red Cross he was Director General, Atlantic Zone, National Director of Strategic and Operational Planning and Chief Information Officer. Prior to that he held the position of President and CEO of the Worker's Compensation Health and Safety Board and senior positions with the Territorial government.



Ron Farrell, Chair, NE LHIN Board Director



Mark Palumbo, NE LHIN Board Director



Betty Stone, NE LHIN Board Director

Mark Palumbo brings a background in community pharmacy as pharmacist and owner of the Dowling Pharmacy for more than four decades, as well as, extensive governance experience having served on numerous health care, arts, and economic development boards including: City of Lakes Family Health Team, Foundation to Assist Canadian Talent on Records (FACTOR), Chair of Music Film and Motion (MFM), and President of the Sudbury Regional Development Corporation.

“I’ve worked in health care all my life and am looking forward to helping improve access and care coordination of the health care system for Northerners,” said Palumbo.

A university graduate, and retired teacher, Betty has as a volunteer more than four decades of involvement with multiple organizations at the governance level. These involvements specifically pertained to the enhancement of quality of life for all citizens, but most particularly those citizens with challenges. Her experience with these multiple Boards of Governance at the municipal, regional, provincial, and national levels, has confirmed to her the value of the development of generic, intentional, inclusionary collaborative partnerships. She firmly believes that the uniqueness of the North requires the solutions for the North are to be found in the North.

“I believe in collaborating to strengthen health care for all Northerners,” said Stone. “I’ve worked to help vulnerable groups such as foster children, those with developmental delays and now seniors and will look forward to lending my skills to the North East LHIN.”

FACTS

- Ron Farrell holds a Bachelor of Science from Laurentian and McMaster universities. He has been a Rotarian for 31 years, is a recipient of a Paul Harris Fellow of Rotary International, and the Queen's Jubilee Medal. Both distinctions were awarded to him in recognition of his volunteer services.
- The role of the LHIN Board of Directors is to oversee, advise on and govern the strategic direction and priorities of the LHIN.
- Directors are appointed by an Order-In-Council, through a process administered by the Public Appointments Secretariat, for a term of up to three years, and may be re-appointed for an additional term or terms to a maximum of six years.
- The Chair and the Directors are appointed based on their expertise, experience, leadership skills and the needs of the LHIN and are accountable, through the Chair, to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care for the LHIN's use of public funds and for its results in the local health system.
- The NE LHIN Board now includes: Denis Bérubé (Moonbeam), Rick Cooper (Kagawong), Ron Farrell, Chair (Sundridge), John Febbraro (Sault Ste. Marie), Santina Marasco (Sudbury), Dawn Madahbee (Aundeck Omni Kaning First Nation on Manitoulin Island), Toni Nanne-Little (Sault Ste. Marie), Mark Palumbo (Sudbury), and Betty Stone (Temiskaming Shores).
- To find out more go to www.nelhin.on.ca/boardandgovernance

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