

GRAND ROUNDS

It has been another year of growth as an organization and tremendous success in meeting the health care needs of our community, according to the report details presented by the senior management team to the Board of Directors and at RVH's Annual General Meeting on June 28.

The highlight of the report states that the fiscal year (which ended on March 31, 2012) goes down in the history books as the 22nd consecutive year with a balanced budget.

"We are well positioned going forward into the next few years as we prepare ourselves for the ongoing financial challenges of operating a community hospital," comments RVH's CEO and President, Randy Penney.

Other accomplishments include the approval of a \$12-million expansion of our hemodialysis unit. The current 12-station dialysis unit is running at full capacity, therefore this project is key in providing necessary life-saving treatments to patients of our catchment area. Planning is in full swing for the two-storey addition at the back of the hospital to house a state-of-the-art nephrology centre for 20 hemodialysis stations, peritoneal dialysis and renal insufficiency clinics.

We implemented many small-scale equipment upgrades throughout the facility over the year, with one major upgrade to house the new Digital Mammography unit. Last spring, the RVH Foundation kicked off the Digital Mammography fundraising campaign at its annual Caring for Tomorrow Charity Golf Tournament and, to date, we have raised more than \$350,000 on our way to the \$700,000 goal.

Patients are already benefitting from this improved service with shorter exam times, digitized scans, lower levels of radiation, and more detailed images of the breast tissue which results in fewer call-back exams, plus an overall safer work environment for our mammography technicians.

RVH's medical staff has risen to the many challenges and demands to maintain our services and high quality of care of our community. On the physician recruitment front, RVH and the Renfrew and Area Health Services Village have successfully welcomed four new general practitioners, a general surgeon and an internist.

The mentoring efforts of our family doctors are a large factor in the success of the program, says Penney, adding, "The recruitment campaign is ongoing to address doctor shortages and plan for the future retirement of a number of local family doctors."

Over the next year, RVH is working on the Quality Improvement Plan (QIP) outlined by a committee that focuses on specific areas that have been identified for improvement. The plan supports the hospital's four strategic directions: 1. Quality Care, 2. Strength in People, 3. System Integration, and 4. Financial Performance.

"The goal with the plan, as with any initiative at RVH, is to improve safety, effectiveness, access and continue to provide high-quality patient-centred care," says Julia Boudreau, Vice President of Corporate Services at RVH.

"The past fiscal year has been one of growth and development at RVH. We are proud of the progress achieved in providing exceptional care and services to our community. As a board we recognize the leadership of our management team and the dedication of our physicians, staff and volunteers, and we thank the surrounding community for its continuing support," says Andy Boldt, chair of the RVH Board of Directors.



The 2012–2013 RVH Board of Directors appointed at the June 28 AGM: Front: Randy Penney, Secretary, Dave Lesaux, Barb Symington, Barbara Westgarth, Treasurer, Chris Ferguson and Richard Lester. Back: Andy Boldt, Chair, Martin Gosling, Sandi Heins, Bill Welsh, Vice Chair, Keanan Hunt and Dr. John Collins. Missing from the photo: Murray Burwell, Dr. George Hermanson, Dr. Cathy MacDonald.