

Chair of the Board Report

2017-18 Annual General Meeting June 20, 2018

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Southlake Regional Health Centre, I am delighted to welcome you to our Annual General Meeting for the year ending March 31, 2018.

The focus of this meeting is really a celebration of our collective vision and good governance.

First, let me begin by telling you all that I am very honoured to have served as your Board Chair for the past two years. In reflecting on my second and final year as Chair, it's obvious to me we have much to be proud of in fiscal 2017-18.

Our year was a watershed moment for our space and funding needs. The board supported a more vocal advocacy approach around our capacity challenges, recognizing our space is far too small, with funding inadequate to meet the needs of the 1.8 million residents across York Region and south Simcoe County who rely on Southlake for care. The Board is pleased with the response to date by the Ministry with a base funding increase for patient care previously only funded as temporary 'surge' beds, as well as a commitment for the expansion of 12 additional inpatient mental health spaces to provide a lifeline to patients desperately needing treatment. The Board will continue to advocate on behalf of the hospital and its community.

Notwithstanding our challenges, the Board also assured the financial stability of Southlake, ending the year with a balanced budget. This outcome was achieved over several years through the efforts of staff, physicians, our senior team and board members. The Board acknowledges the sacrifices that were required to achieve this financial stability and thanks everyone for their part in getting to this stage.

Southlake saw the vital need for a hospice to serve York Region. The Board took on that leadership challenge and the *Margaret Bahen Hospice* became a reality in November 2017. Eighty patients, with their friends and families by their sides, have benefitted from the hospice already.

This year, the Board saw the progress of our investment in the shared health integrated network system partnership, known as SHINE, with Markham Stouffville Hospital and Stevenson Memorial Hospital. This collaborative initiative is the first of its kind in the province and is a major leap forward to enable seamless access to patients' health records at all three organizations while also minimizing the financial cost of its implementation. Better access to information means better diagnoses, and faster, more effective treatments. After all, this is our shared purpose.

Intrinsic to the role of the Board, we began development of our next *Strategic Plan 2019-2024* to oversee the development of priorities through the next five years, including a new capital funding plan to build the essential spaces needed to care for patients. Continuing our commitment to engage patients and caregivers, representatives from our Patient and Family Advisory Council are valued members of our *Board Strategic Planning Steering Committee* that will drive the future of Southlake. This is important, foundational work with implications for health care programs and services for generations to come.

The Board conducted a national search for a new CEO. We're thrilled we recruited Arden Krystal as our new President and CEO from British Columbia. The Board, with Arden and Chief of Staff, Dr. Steven Beatty, are leading critical changes to provide better health care in our increasingly complex world.

Please join me in recognizing our fellow Board members who tirelessly volunteered their time to the important role of governing Southlake. Today, we express our gratitude to the many contributions of John Sabo, Tim Hammill and Kathy Proudfoot, who are leaving the Board. John, Tim and Kathy, your expertise and wise counsel is greatly appreciated and positions Southlake for continued success.

The Southlake Foundation is a great champion and partner. Together, members of the Foundation Board, Hospital Board, as well as physicians and staff, work diligently to secure donations and community support that enable us to provide world-class care. The Board is delighted to see the increased support the foundation has received from within the hospital and from the community. Donor support is the life blood of our hospital and we are all immensely grateful for that support.

Our community is so fortunate to have this level of care at its doorstep. As for me, it has been a privilege to have served as the Board Chair and I am excited about Southlake's future.



Chair of the Board
Southlake Regional Health Centre