



## OUR TMH AGM/2016 SUMMARY of EVENTS

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**QUINTE WEST, ON, November 16/2016:** The chairs in the Quinte West council chambers were full as Executive Members of the Our TMH advocacy group conducted its first Annual General Meeting (AGM) as a Non Profit Corporation. This meeting was open to members and non-members of Our TMH Committee. The main theme of the meeting was to highlight the events and accomplishments over the past 11 months of 2016 as well as plans for future events and activities.

### **Opening Comments: Chairman Mike Cowan**

Mike shared that over the last 18 years, QHC has threatened to close or reduce health services at Trenton Memorial Hospital and move them to Belleville General Hospital. The last time this happened was during the summer of 2016, however, because of the support for Our TMH from you the community, we have not only stopped QHC from cannibalizing the services at TMH, we are now in a position where services and staff are being added to Trenton Memorial Hospital. Cowan said it was community pressure that helped convince provincial politicians, including provincial Health Minister Dr. Eric Hoskins to end the threat of surgery being transferred to Belleville. Cowan said one of the turning points came in June when nearly 90 people travelled to attend the Quinte Health Care annual general meeting held in Bancroft. During a major announcement Aug. 25, Hoskins also gave the green light for the construction of a community health hub to be constructed adjacent to the hospital.

Our TMH advocacy group now has over 7,000 members and the committee has targeted for the end of year 2017 to have a total 20,000 members...this will give Our TMH a stronger and more active voice on any and all future plans for Health Services at Trenton Memorial Hospital. Cowan said Our TMH will continue to monitor QHC in 2017. "We want to make TMH a more viable hospital ... it's one of the best levers to attract more doctors,"

### **Financial Report by Treasurer: Rhonda Reynolds**

Revenue raised over past year: \$28,738

Expenses incurred over past year: \$11,027. Most of the expenses are related to signs, buttons and other marketing material used at special events throughout the year.

### **Communications Committee Report by Co-Chair: Jim Leonard**

Our TMH website, [www.ourtmh.com](http://www.ourtmh.com) provides details on all past, present and future events that Our TMH advocacy group will be involved in.

Interested individuals can now become members of Our TMH Committee through our website.

### **Membership Report by Committee Chair: Mike Colasante**

The membership committee was formed in the Spring of 2016 with a goal to sign up at least 5000 members by Dec 31, 2016. As of mid-November we now have over 7500 members and have set a new

goal of 20,000 members by Dec 31, 2017. Membership is free and membership cards are available from committee members as well as online at our website [www.ourtmh.com](http://www.ourtmh.com)

**Special Events Committee Chair: Sharon Urquhart**

The purpose of this committee, formed in the Spring of 2016, was to inform the community of our advocacy group by engaging in as many social events where the citizens of Quinte West would be in attendance, generally by hosting an info booth at a number of these events including; Canada Day Celebrations, Festival by the Bay, MFRC Family Day, Scottish/Irish Festival, Brighton Apple Fest, multiple hockey games in both Trenton and Brighton as well as many other community events. Sharon also mention that there's a need for more volunteers to help out at these events.

**Regulations & Bylaws Committee Chair: Tom Kupecz**

Realizing the need for this advocacy group would be ongoing for many more years into the future, a structure was needed that would outlast its creators and would always be active and energetic in the defense of our hospital. To that end the following tasks were undertaken;

1. Create and maintain bylaws to provide clear direction for its structure and operation.
2. Incorporate Our TMH in Ontario to ensure its stability and longevity.

**Resource Committee Chair: Tom Kupecz**

From its start, Our TMH needed information to enable it to argue for the future of our hospital, TMH, and advocate for the community it serves which required the following initiatives;

Tasks:

1. Research the Ontario Health Care system to find out how it funds and regulates hospitals.
2. Find the facts about QHC-its structure, the population it serves, its history of equipping, staffing and funding its hospitals.
3. Research hospitals and health systems in Ontario and elsewhere to identify best practices.
4. Survey the TMH building to find how the space is being used and to recommend other uses.
5. Research and recommend best ways to advance the interests of TMH
6. Organize publicity campaigns to inform the public
7. Organize letter-writing campaigns to inform and influence health care officials.

**New Business:**

Mayor Harrison and Councillor Sally Freeman report that doctor recruitment is ongoing. Quinte West continues looking for appropriate real estate for a family doctor clinic. The objectives for 2017 will include working together with QHC Board of Directors and Management Team to guarantee the protection, preservation and enhancement of TMH. Our Tmh will continue to provide information back to the community and monitor the progression of the hub and any discussions about further service reductions. Continue to make this hospital effective and efficient. We must remember it is a business that takes funding from the province based on use. If testing is available at TMH, we encourage the community to utilize these services. Quinte Access provides daily transportation from Brighton to TMH and bookings on demand.

**Election of Executive Committee:**

The emcee, Tom Kupecz announced that the bylaws provide for the election of five executive board members and committee chairs.

The present board was asked to stand down.

A call for nominations of Chair, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair, Treasurer and Secretary was announced.

There being no nominations, by motion made, the following slate of previous members was re-elected by acclamation as follows,

1. Chair-Michael Cowan
2. 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair- Betty Clost
3. 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair-John Smylie
4. Secretary-Rose Beeby
5. Treasurer-Rhonda Reynolds

The emcee then put the Resolution to a Vote and on a show of hands declared the Resolution as carried by unanimous vote.

NEXT MEETING-15-November-2017