



Report to the Board Community Advisory Council March 2010

Since the last board meeting the Community Advisory Council (CAC) has spent the majority of our time reviewing and providing feedback on the upcoming hospital budget (2010-2011). This process, which the CAC would like to see become annualized, included a detailed briefing from TSH followed by an in-camera discussion with the CAC after which feedback was provided back to the Board Chair. This was followed by a follow up meeting for further information on certain budget line items.

The CAC believes that our role is not to be the decision makers on budget line items but instead to provide the Board and the hospital with feedback on how particular decisions may affect the community. It goes without saying that the CAC feels that budget cuts are not the ideal scenario for any hospital, however we understand the position that TSH and other health institutions in Ontario potentially find themselves in. We applaud the planned efficiencies proposed by the hospital that do not affect patient services.

Another outcome of the budget discussion is that our next meeting will include a detailed briefing and discussion on the Urban Outreach/Family Practice Teaching Unit/Clinic for the Uninsured.

In addition to the budget process, the CAC also has developed an external communications plan aimed at awareness of the CAC with the broader Scarborough community. This includes a presentation at The Scarborough Community Council on the 9th of March.

The CAC marks its one year anniversary in June. In light of this and the lack of term and timeline details in TSH by-laws the CAC will come forward to the Board with a request to review and approve our suggestion on term limits. This will be in our next Board report.

Finally, the CAC is pleased to be asked to participate in both the Ethics Committee (1 member) and the Clinical Services Planning Steering Committee (2 members).