

News release

Thursday, November 10, 2011
For immediate release



From left: Jennifer Maczek, choreographer; Joel Mihelwicz, Big Drum Media; Sharon Griffin, Director of Acute Care, PAPHR; and Val Isbister, PAPHR staff member and video participant, show off their Pink Glove Dance dolls which were presented to them by RHA board chairperson Gord Dobrowolsky in recognition of their efforts in producing the Victoria Hospital Pink Glove Dance Contest Entry.

Prince Albert Parkland RHA board recognizes Pink Glove Dance participants.

The Prince Albert Parkland Regional Health Authority honoured the participants in the Victoria Hospital Pink Glove Dance Contest entry during the regular board meeting Wednesday, Nov. 9th in Prince Albert.

“On behalf of the board of directors, congratulations to our staff, physicians, volunteers and everyone involved in producing a video that has touched so many people,” said Gord Dobrowolsky, RHA board chairperson. “We are very proud of your efforts in producing a video that tells the story of a patient, and highlights all of the health care providers who are part of her care team.

“In particular, thank you to Valerie Isbister, a cancer survivor who was the main character in the video, and to Jennifer Maczek, the choreographer, to Big Drum Media, and to Sharon Griffin, Director of Acute Care, for leading this project with enthusiasm and passion.”

Medline, the company that makes the pink gloves and sponsors of the Pink Glove Dance Contest, donated \$2,000 to the Saskatchewan Cancer Agency – Saskatoon Cancer Clinic. In addition, Prince Albert Canadian Tire store owner Malcolm Jenkins matched the donation with a \$4,000 donation of his own.

“We are touched by the generosity and support of staff, doctors and volunteers from Prince Albert Parkland,” said Scott Livingstone, CEO of the Saskatchewan Cancer Agency. “This donation will help draw attention to how together we can improve the health of people in the province through breast cancer awareness, prevention and early detection.”

Sponsored by Medline — the creator of the YouTube® sensation Pink Glove Dance and maker of the pink gloves — the national competition included 139 video submissions from hospitals, nursing homes, schools and other organizations from 40 states and Canada. In all, more than 17,000 people were featured in the videos, which are all available for viewing at www.pinkglovedance.com.

The Victoria Hospital video has been viewed more than 85,000 times on YouTube, and received more than 38,000 votes through Facebook accounts. Victoria Hospital’s winning video features hundreds of hospital staff, and followed the story of a breast cancer survivor, with participants dancing in pink gloves to Katy Perry’s hit song “Firework”. It finished in third place in the contest. Lexington Medical Center in West Columbia, S.C., won first place and Highland Hospital in Rochester, N.Y., won second place.



Malcolm Jenkins, owner of the Prince Albert Canadian Tire Store, presents a cheque for \$4,000 to Scott Livingstone, CEO of the Saskatchewan Cancer Agency. Mr. Jenkins matched and then added to the prize won by the Victoria Hospital entry in Medline’s Pink Glove Dance Contest.



The Managing Medications Team, led by Karen Kaptein, Director of Pharmacy, and Barb Levesque, Assistant Director Acute Care, provided a report on the team’s activities to improve the management of medications and reduce the risk for medication errors.

The report outlined efforts to improve staff and physician access to policies and procedures, as well as the safe prescribing of medications. The Managing Medications Team is also involved in the revision of the discharge care plan to improve communication between all of the agencies that are part of a client’s care team to provide a more client-focused approach to self-management.

One of the Region's priorities for patient safety and quality improvement is implementation of medication reconciliation processes at each step of the patient's journey. Medication reconciliation on admission is fully implemented in at Victoria Hospital and Shellbrook Hospital. The results of our second quarter audit showed an increase in successful medication reconciliations, but there is room for improvement.



Gary Dickson, Saskatchewan's Information and Privacy Commission, made a presentation about the legislation governing privacy of health information and responsibilities of health information trustees. Health trustees must ensure private information is protected and individuals have access to their own information. He outlined four predictable problems areas, including:

- Access by patients to their own personal health information;
- Client consent
- Disclosure of personal health information to third parties; and
- Security of personal health information.

Using one specific investigation about improper access of personal health information, Mr. Dickson said that are some common themes evident in many investigations involving health care providers who violate the legislation. He said the biggest threat is carelessness of trustees and curiosity of trustee staff, and that while audit capacity is important there is a need for ongoing proactive campaigns closer to the point of service.



Other notes from the regular board meeting include:

- Prince Albert Parkland Health Region has an operating surplus of \$133,891 for the month of September 2011. This brings the year to date surplus to \$1,884,207. The forecasted surplus to March 31, 2011 is \$1.542 million, which is approximately \$500,000 more than planned in the budget. After the required transfers to the capital fund for mortgage payments, long-term care reserves and the energy performance loan payments, the Region is forecast a surplus of \$505,645.
- The statistical report presented by Cheryl Elliott, Vice-President Finance, shows that the Victoria Hospital's daily census for this year averages 96 per cent of capacity for the period April 1 to September 30, 2011. Emergency room visits at the Shellbrook Hospital are lower, as expected due to closure during the week. The Brief and Social detox centre has had a 7.5 per cent increase in the number of admission. Home Care nursing visits have also increased by 11.7 per cent from the same period in 2010.

The next Regional Health Authority meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 14, 2011 in the main boardroom at 1521 6th Avenue West, Prince Albert. The meeting begins at 1 p.m.

The Prince Albert Parkland Health Region provides services and programs to about 78,000 people in one city, and 40 towns, villages and rural municipalities, as well as 12 First Nations. It is a major referral centre for health-care services for residents of northern Saskatchewan.

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