



Winnipeg Regional
Health Authority
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WINNIPEG REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

05/06
ANNUAL REPORT





MESSAGE FROM

MR. NEIL FAST

BOARD CHAIR WINNIPEG REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority, for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2006.

This Annual Report was prepared under the Board's direction, in accordance with The Regional Health Authorities Act and directions provided by the Minister of Health. All material economic and fiscal implications known as of June 22, 2006 have been considered in preparing the Annual Report.

The year 2005/2006 was one of change at the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority, both at the board level and across the region. The biggest change is one which I'm pleased to say has resulted in a greater level of cooperation and coordination between the region and the four community hospitals.

As you know, for the past year there were ongoing discussions between the WRHA and the four community hospitals – Concordia, Grace, Seven Oaks General and Victoria General Hospitals – about the future relationship between them and the region.

As a result of those talks, an agreement was reached and as of April 1, 2006, the Region became responsible for the financial management of those sites. Discussions continue now with an eye to developing new governance/operating agreements with them.

The COO's of the four community hospitals became part of the WRHA Senior Management team, with certain WRHA programs reporting directly to them. The agreement also resulted in each of the hospitals' Board of Directors having an opportunity to name a representative on the WRHA Board. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome the new members to our Senior Management Team and Board.

Changes like these, that develop and encourage closer working relationships between the hospitals and the regions can only be of benefit to the public, in terms of the use of their tax dollars and to our patients because of better-coordinated care. Ultimately both of these must always be our goal.

We've had some other changes to our Board. A number of our members finished their terms and have left us, while a number of new members have joined. Brief biographies of all current Board Members are included elsewhere in this report. I'd like to close by thanking all of our departing Board members, Dr. Ab Chudley, Mr. Jean-Paul Gobeil, **Fr. Fred Olds**, Ms. Lorraine Sigurdson and Dr. John Wade for the time and commitment they gave this organization.

Neil Fast