

**Meeting of the Board of Directors
held on February 23, 2009, at the Lakeshore General Hospital site**

This bulletin is a brief report on the main topics of interest that were discussed during the meeting of the Board of Directors of the West Island HSSC. A copy of the minutes approved by the Board may be obtained from the Executive Directorate.

During their last meeting, the members of the Board of Directors of the West Island HSSC discussed the recovery plan, adopted an internal health promotion policy and assessed the recent visit to Lakeshore General Hospital of Yves Bolduc, Minister of Health and Social Services.

Recovery Plan

Robert Stocker, the Board's Treasurer, announced a projected shortfall of \$7.4 million by the end of the year. According to Mr. Stocker, the increase in services, namely in oncology and hemodialysis, partially explains this situation.

He presented a recovery plan that will be submitted to the *Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux (MSSS)* and the *Agence de la santé et des services sociaux de Montréal*. The plan allows for a reduction in spending in the amount of \$8 million.

In answer to a question from Sheila Laursen, the Board's Vice-President, Suzanne Turmel said she was hopeful that the MSSS would support the HSSC's efforts to improve its services. "Our team did good work, the Executive Director stated. We have met 95 % of the targets set by the Ministère and this will be a forceful argument for future discussions."

Expanding and Renovating the Emergency Department

In her report to the Board, Executive Director Suzanne Turmel said she was confident that the MSSS would soon announce the financing needed to expand and renovate the Emergency Department of Lakeshore General Hospital. Health and Social Services Minister Yves Bolduc briefly visited the HSSC last February 19 at the request of local MPs who wanted him to see the current state of the Emergency Department.

Keeping Fit

Members of the Board adopted a health promotion policy submitted by France Remete, Director of the HSSC's Public Health Directorate. This policy advocates an approach based on prevention and the adoption of healthy lifestyle habits.

The trustees also adopted an internal sustainable development policy to support eco-friendly initiatives. "Our aim is to make the HSSC a green and healthy organization, and these two policies will help us achieve this goal," said Ms. Remete.

Working Capital

Treasurer Robert Stocker filed a written request to the Agence de la santé et des services sociaux de Montréal to obtain a short-term loan of \$7 million that would be allocated to the HSSC's working capital. The HSSC expects a positive response from the Agence.

Feeling Beautiful... Inside and Out

Evelyn Meaney, President of the Users' Committee, described the popularity of the *Look Good... Feel Better* program for women receiving radiation therapy or chemotherapy. Since the program's implementation, more than 500 women have attended cosmetic workshops designed to help them counter the effects of these therapies on their appearance. The *Look Good... Feel Better* program has been proven to boost the morale of its participants.

Fundraising Event

Sally Brown, a volunteer at Lakeshore General Hospital and member of the Board, announced that a Mexican fiesta will take place next April 24 to help finance activities. Those who are interested in lending a hand should contact the Auxiliary office.

Next meeting. The next meeting will be held on March 30 at the Lakeshore General Hospital site.