



## Staff Report

**DATE:** August 9, 2017

**FILE:** NIHP

**TO:** Chair and Directors  
Regional Hospital District Board

**FROM:** Russell Dyson  
Chief Administrative Officer

**RE:** Appointment of CSRHD Board Representative to the St. Joseph's Hospital Board

### **Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to provide information as to why a Comox Strathcona Regional Hospital District (CSRHD) board representative is currently appointed to the St. Joseph's Hospital Board and potential for changes to this requirement should the status of St. Joseph's Hospital change.

### **Policy Analysis**

At its April 20, 2017 board meeting, the CSRHD board passed the following resolution:

“THAT staff prepare a report regarding future changes affecting the appointment of representatives to the St. Joseph's Hospital Board.”

The *Hospital Act* requires St. Joseph's Hospital to provide for a representative of the CSRHD board on its board of directors as follows:

“Requirements for hospitals

2 (1) A hospital, except a hospital owned by the government or by Canada, must do the following:

(a) provide for the representation of the government and the board of the regional hospital district on the board of management of the hospital to the extent and in the manner provided;”

Accordingly, St. Joseph's General Hospital Bylaw includes in its board membership section:

“one (1) person appointed annually by the Board of the Comox-Strathcona Regional Hospital District.”

### **Executive Summary**

Currently the CSRHD, through its representative on St. Joseph's Hospital Board, has input towards the overall governance of the hospital. With the construction of the new Comox Valley Hospital, St. Joseph's Hospital governance structure will begin a transition period which may ultimately impact the CSRHD's current representation on St. Joseph's board.

St. Joseph's Hospital will remain under the *Hospital Act* when acute care is transferred from St. Joseph's to Island Health at the new Comox Valley Hospital on October 1, 2017. St. Joseph's board will continue to govern The Views at St. Joseph's, the newly structured residential care organization, post-transition of acute care services. There is an intention by St. Joseph's to amalgamate with Providence Health Care, which is a non-profit organization, providing services in affiliation with the Vancouver Coastal Health Authority and the Provincial Health Services Authority. With an amalgamation, Providence Healthcare would have an affiliation agreement with Vancouver Island Health Authority (Island Health). St. Joseph's governance structure may change, if and when amalgamation with Providence Healthcare occurs.

It is anticipated that St. Joseph's will transition to the *Community Care and Assisted Living Act*; however, at this point there is no timeframe for when this will occur. Under the *Community Care and Assisted Living Act*, there is no requirement for a CSRHD board member to be appointed to St. Joseph's board. Accordingly, the type of relationship between the CSRHD and a restructured St. Joseph's residential care facility board is unclear at this time. Moving forward, ongoing dialogue with St. Joseph's representatives will be important in clarifying this new relationship and the CSRHD's role in it.

### **Recommendation from the Chief Administrative Officer:**

THAT the Chair of the Comox Strathcona Regional Hospital District Board (CSRHD) send a letter to the St. Joseph's Hospital Board requesting regular updates regarding its transition to the *Community Care and Assisted Living Act*, including timing and impact to the CSRHD.

Respectfully:

*R. Dyson*

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Russell Dyson  
Chief Administrative Officer

Prepared by:

*J. Warren*

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James Warren  
General Manager of  
Corporate Services