

Board Info

Information bulletin of the meeting of the Board of Directors

Highlights of the scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors Regular meeting of Thursday, May 14, 2020 (by teleconference)

Questions period

Harriet Sugar Miller, an ALink representative, asked about the short- and long-term rehabilitation plans of Miriam Home and Services and Lethbridge-Layton-Mackay Rehabilitation Centre for young adults with disabilities, including current clients and those on a waiting list. She also asked about the timeline for rolling out those plans, whether the plans were developed in consultation with the families, and when they will be communicated to the families.

Since the the pandemic began, the CIUSSS has been following the Ministry's guidelines and providing only essential services to clients at Miriam Home and Lethbridge-Layton-Mackay. According to Gary Stoopler, Director of Rehabilitation and Multidisciplinary Services, all clients are contacted by phone on a weekly basis to have their risk factors monitored and assessed. All clients on the waiting list have also been contacted and provided with information on COVID-19, as well as social/psychological screening. Evidence-based telehealth programs are being rolled out and will meet clients' needs over the long term. The CIUSSS is considering moving some of these programs for clients on the waiting list. Families are being consulted, and surveys of clients and families are being conducted.

Mr. Stoopler thanked the foundations of the Lethbridge-Layton-Mackay Rehabilitation Centre and Miriam Home and Services for funding to purchase 80 iPads.

The Ministry has recently created a committee to develop a plan for gradually resuming activities. Richard Bond, Vice-President of the Habilitas Foundation, added that one of its programs was approved to help people with physical disabilities during the COVID-19 crisis. Other programs are being developed and a COVID-19 emergency fund has been set up to support them. Mr. Bond confirmed that Camp Massawippi will not be open this summer, but the possibility of a day camp is being explored.

Message from the President of the Board of Directors

Alan Maislin congratulated all members of staff for their excellent work during this difficult period. In this time of crisis, the advantages of being a CIUSSS have been demonstrated countless times. Everyone, including employees, professionals, foundations and advisory committees, have worked together to implement and coordinate the services that patients and residents have needed.

Report from the President and CEO

Dr. Lawrence Rosenberg agreed with Mr. Maislin that having all of the facilities under the aegis of the CIUSSS has been very beneficial during the crisis. Otherwise, coordinating services throughout the

area would have been very difficult. He congratulated all of the directors and employees, who are doing a spectacular job and are going above and beyond what is expected of them.

Although fatigue is setting in, Dr. Rosenberg pointed out that the worst of the first phase of the pandemic is behind us. Although some facilities are still in a fragile state, overall, the CIUSSS has reached a plateau. There has also been a decrease in the number of patients admitted to the Jewish General Hospital (JGH). In fact, the number of patients in Intensive Care was recently reduced by half.

The CIUSSS was the first to implement protective measures for its staff and in long-term care facilities. Moreover, of the hospitals designated by the MSSS to receive patients with COVID-19, the JGH is the only one that has not yet had an outbreak.

Since the pandemic began, the CIUSSS has been working with an artificial intelligence firm. It has developed a platform that provides daily forecasts on the number of weekly admissions to the hospital and to Intensive Care. With an accuracy rate of 98%, the firm's software has made it possible to plan the number of clinical staff and the amount of personal protective equipment that would be required. Dr. Rosenberg thanked the JGH Foundation for contributing to funding this project. During the pandemic, many ambulatory services have shifted to telehealth. With financial support from the MSSS, the Mental Health Directorate has launched a pilot project, using a platform to offer telehealth-based cognitive therapy services to a larger number of clients, including many on the waiting list. The innovative use of telehealth bodes well for the future, since COVID-19 will have an impact beyond the current crisis. The CIUSSS has also created the country's first and largest COVID-19-related biobank, putting us at the forefront of genomics research related to the virus.

Thanks are extended to the Lady Davis Institute and the JGH Foundation for getting this initiative off the ground. Dr. Rosenberg noted that serological testing will be done in the near future, and he thanked the JGH Foundation for purchasing the equipment for this initiative.

Dr. Rosenberg noted that much of his time, as well as that of Francine Dupuis, is devoted to meetings with the Ministry and with elected officials at all levels of government. Discussions on reopening hospitals have begun. Dr. Rosenberg and the relevant directors also responded questions by providing the following information:

- The number of COVID-19 cases in long-term care facilities varies from one CHSLD to another. There has been a decrease in some residences and an increase in others.
- In addition to the CHSLDs, the CIUSSS has five government-subsidized private CHSLDs, two private residences (where beds are purchased and cared for by its employees), and five intermediate resources (also private, but where the CIUSSS purchases beds and provides employees). There are also 29 private retirement homes (RPAs), which the CIUSSS is responsible for certifying. During the pandemic, the CIUSSS has been assisting those in need. These private residences will resume their responsibilities as soon as possible.
- The level of infection prevention and control varies from one private residence to another. When this becomes a problem, the CIUSSS has no choice but to become involved.
- Physicians have been providing assistance to private seniors' residences that are struggling.
- Reopening the JGH for surgery will be done gradually, with the pace varying from one department to another. A three-phase plan has been approved by the MSSS.
- Department heads must submit their plans for outpatient clinics, including a telehealth program to be approved by Dr. Rosenberg.
- The training program for medical residents will have to adjust to this new reality.

Calendar of meetings of the Board of Directors

Meetings of the CIUSSS Board of Directors for 2020-2021:

- Thursday, September 17 (regular session)
- Wednesday, November 4 (annual public information meeting)
- Thursday, December 3 (regular session)
- Thursday, February 4 (regular session)
- Thursday, March 25 (regular session)
- Thursday, May 6 (regular session)
- Tuesday, June 15 (regular session)

COVID-19 status report

Francine Dupuis, Associate CEO, noted that the JGH has not been as strongly affected by COVID-19 as anticipated. However, seniors' residences remain fragile. Frontline, mental health and rehabilitation employees who were deployed to help in private and private/publicly funded CHSLDs will also have to resume their regular operations.

The CIUSSS is concerned that those who have come to provide assistance—such as the Canadian Armed Forces, the Heart Institute, the Red Cross and paramedics—will soon have to leave.

Public Health has deployed buses for screening in neighbourhoods most affected by the pandemic: Snowdon, Côte-des-Neiges and Parc-Extension. Symptomatic and asymptomatic individuals can be screened without an appointment. The impact of deconfinement on the JGH remains uncertain. As for private residences, there are insufficient human or financial resources to assist them, although this has been achieved. The MSSS is assessing the specific changes that need to be made to avoid a recurrence of the problems that have been experienced in recent weeks.

Ms. Dupuis reported that anyone who tries to cross the Canada-United States border illegally is sent back to the U.S. In residences for asylum seekers, about a hundred people have not yet found apartments, but the number is decreasing daily. Discussions are taking place with the CIUSSS du Centre-Sud-de-l'Île-de-Montréal to offer these places to women who have experienced conjugal violence.

Côte-St-Luc and Notre-Dame-de-Grâce have been significantly affected by COVID-19. Although screening buses have not been deployed in these neighbourhoods, Ms. Dupuis confirmed that if Public Health adds buses, a request will be made for them to be deployed there.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF CIUSSS WEST-CENTRAL MONTREAL

A calendar of meetings of the Board of Directors is available at www.ciuss-centreouestmtl.gouv.qc.ca/en/home/. Click on CIUSSS West-Central Montreal | Board of Directors

Board-Info is produced by the Department of Communications and Media Relations for the Office of the President and CEO. All of the information in this bulletin has received official approval.

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on:

Monday, June 15, 2020, at 7:30 a.m.
Donald Berman Jewish Eldercare Centre

For more information about the Board of Directors, please visit www.ciuss-centreouestmtl.gouv.qc.ca/en/west-central-montreal-health/conseil-d-administratio