



Healthy Choices – Healthy People

Media Release

Five Hills Health Region

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For Immediate Release
June 9, 2011

Regional Health Board Approves 2011-2012 Operating and Capital Budgets

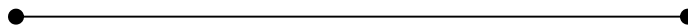
An operating budget surplus of \$186,000 for the 2011 12 fiscal year was approved by the Board at its May meeting. This balanced budget is aligned with the priorities of the Ministry of Health and the Strategic and Operational Direction of the Board.

The region's operating revenue will increase to \$138.4 million. When compared to the actual revenue for the year ending March 31, 2011 this is an increase of \$4 million. The increase results primarily from additional provincial funding for salaries and related benefits. The operating expense for compensation is \$89 million.

Cheryl Craig, CEO is pleased that the operating budget maintains regional services with a greater focus on the patient experience. She explained, "The achievements of another balanced budget as well as meeting our targets in our strategic and operational plan are high priorities. Our priorities include patient safety through reducing falls of residents in long term care, reducing medication errors through a process of medication reconciliation, improving customer satisfaction and increasing our surgical volumes."

During the year, the region will be introducing new client focused initiatives in support of clinical practice redesign in our communities as well as the concept of patient and family centred care.

The Board also approved a capital budget of \$9.2 million. The most significant expenditures include building improvements and building service equipment (\$6.0 million) and medical and surgical equipment (\$1.6 million).



To arrange a telephone interview with Cheryl Craig, CEO between 1:30-2:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 9, please call:

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