



FIREFLY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES

April 25, 2025 – 5:30 p.m.

Kenora/Microsoft Teams

| | | | |
|----------|--|-------------------|----------------------|
| PRESENT: | Kim Vares | Alisha Dasti-Hill | Adrian Lizzi |
| | Jennifer Johnson | Crystal Page | Sarah-lynn Klassen |
| | Debbie Larson | Carlynnne Bell | |
| REGRETS: | Jared Ralko | | |
| STAFF: | Karen Ingebrigtson | Darcia Curtis | Kirby Parks |
| | Jenn Marquis | Michelle Gaudet | Jackie Hummelbrunner |
| | Tammy Hanstead | | |
| GUESTS: | Jennifer Churchill, CEO - Empowered Kids Ontario (EKO) | | |

Ms. Vares called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Ms. Vares welcomed Ms. Churchill to the meeting.

Ms. Dasti-Hill acknowledged that FIREFLY offices operate on the original lands and territories of the Anishinaabeg, the Mushkegowuk and the Métis peoples. Treaties 3, 5 and 9 were signed upon these lands. We strive as guests on these lands to honour our responsibilities to care for this land and uphold the Treaties that were signed therein.

FIREFLY MOMENT

Ms. Churchill provided the FIREFLY moment, honouring Ms. Ingebrigtson on her retirement in June 2025. Ms. Churchill highlighted the strong relationship between FIREFLY and EKO, noting that in 2020, EKO amended its by-laws to welcome new members, with FIREFLY becoming a valued member that same year. Ms. Churchill recognized FIREFLY's participation in EKO's longstanding scholarship program, which has been running for 10 years, and acknowledged the three successful FIREFLY applicants. In recognition of the retiring CEO's contributions, EKO made a donation in her name to Dzherelo Children's Rehabilitation Centre in Ukraine. Ms. Churchill commended Ms. Ingebrigtson for creating a profound "community of care," congratulated her on her retirement, and expressed gratitude for her leadership and friendship.

REVIEW OF AGENDA

MOTION #1 Moved by Crystal Page
 Seconded by Alisha Dasti-Hill
 That the agenda of April 25, 2025 be approved as presented.
 CARRIED

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Consent agenda items:

- 2024/2025 Board meeting attendance
- March 25, 2025 Governance and Quality Committee Meeting Minutes
- March 25 25, 2025 FIREFLY Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

MOTION #2 Moved by Debbie Larson
 Seconded by Carlynnne Bell
 That the consent agenda of April 25, 2025 be approved.
 CARRIED

ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION

None

COMMITTEE UPDATES

None

CEO and LEAD AGENCY REPORT

Ms. Ingebrigtsen highlighted the performance audit of Ontario's Community-Based Child and Youth Mental Health Program report that was included in the Board meeting package. Ms. Ingebrigtsen shared that the report work was largely focused on the operations and oversight of the Ministry, with limited contact with selected agencies across the province, including FIREFLY. The report highlights some of the areas of concern for our region including the continued separation of children's services from the Ministry of Health, local access to intensive services and issues in recruiting and retaining clinical staff.

Ms. Ingebrigtsen shared that the Throne Speech, "Protect Ontario" that was delivered on April 15, 2025, was centered on the Ford government's priorities of Ontario's economy in a climate of uncertainty, tariffs and the relationship with the United States and focused on building a stronger economy.

Ms. Ingebrigtsen highlighted the impressive FIREFLY presence at the EKO Spring Symposium that was held in Toronto on April 16 and 17, 2025. Ms. Ingebrigtsen noted that some of FIREFLY's work was celebrated, including a progressive session on redefining our episode of care in Speech Language Therapy, enhancing onboarding and orientation to improve staff retention, as well as collaborative sensory processing training, a community approach. Ms. Ingebrigtsen congratulated Ms. Goodman and Ms. Willett for winning a prize for the 2025 People's Choice Awards at the EKO symposium. Ms. Ingebrigtsen highlighted Ms. Dunford's work with communication and design, as well as her role as a "Roving Reporter" capturing news at the event. A question and answer period followed.

MOTION #3 Moved by Sarah-lynn Klassen
 Seconded by Carlynnne Bell
 That the April 2025 CEO and Lead Agency Reports be accepted as presented.
 CARRIED

FINANCE

None

OPERATIONS AND CLIENT SERVICE REPORT

Ms. Gaudet reviewed the polar graphs with the Board, highlighting progress from all four pillars. Ms. Gaudet reviewed strategic highlights and FIREFLY highlights with the Board. A question and answer period followed.

MOTION #4 Moved by Crystal Page
 Seconded by Jennifer Johnson
 That the March 2025 Service Report be accepted as presented.
 CARRIED

QUALITY OF CARE

Quarterly Quality Report

Ms. Marquis reviewed the Q4 Quarterly Quality Report to the Board. A question and answer period followed.

MOTION #5 Moved by Debbie Larson
 Seconded by Carlynnne Bell
 That the Board approves the Q4 Quarterly Quality Report as presented.
 CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

FIREFLY Ministry Risk Ratings: Ministry of Health, and Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services

Ms. Ingebritson noted that the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services have both developed new risk rating forms, noting that FIREFLY has submitted the forms. Ms. Ingebritson explained the rating process to the Board. A question and answer period followed.

IN CAMERA

Motion #6 Moved by Sarah-lynn Klassen
 Seconded by Crystal Page
 That the Board moves to in-camera at 6:17 p.m.
 CARRIED

EVALUATION

Ms. Dasti-Hill provided an evaluation of the Board meeting:

- Very efficient and smooth meeting
- Materials were presented and shared in advance
- Open for discussion
- Congratulated the Board on an excellent meeting

NEXT MEETING

Friday, May 30, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. Fort Frances

Ms. Larson will evaluate the meeting and present the Land Acknowledgment.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business, the Chairperson accepted a motion to adjourn at 6:35 p.m.



Tammy Hanstead
Recorder



Kim Vares
Chairperson

May 30, 2025

Date

May 30, 2025

Date