

NLC Summary Notes

Date Apr. 1, 2019 **Time** 8:30a.m.–4 p.m.

Co-Chairs	Mr. David Lehberg; Mr. Robert Adkins	Canadian Blood Services Board of Directors
Attendees	Ms. Donna Hartlen	GBS / CIDP Foundation of Canada
	Ms. Josie Sirna	Thalassemia Foundation of Canada
	Mr. Craig Earle	Canadian Partnership Against Cancer
	Mr. Steve Raper	Regional Liaison Committee, BC & Yukon
	Ms. Aida Fernandes	IMAGINE SPOR
	Ms. Denise Evanovitch	Canadian Society for Transfusion Medicine
	Ms. Elizabeth Myles	Kidney Foundation of Canada
	Ms. Ashley Oakes	Aplastic Anemia and Myelodysplasia Association of Canada
	Mr. Richard Thompson	Immunodeficiency Canada
	Mr. Mohamed Dhanani	Ryerson University
	Dr. Calvino Cheng	Nova Scotia Health Authority
	Ms. Stephanie Perilli	Regional Liaison Committee, Prairie and Northwest Territories
	Ms. Gina Parker	Stem Cell recipient family
	Mr. Fraser Eaton	Regional Liaison Committee, Atlantic
	Mr. Paul Wilton	Canadian Hemophilia Society

Guests

Regrets Ms. Whitney Goulstone
Mr. Willy Van Klooster
Ms. Heather Mingo

OPENING REMARKS

David Lehberg and Ron Vezina welcomed the members to Ottawa and introduced the new committee co-chair Bob Adkins.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Bob Adkins introduced himself and spoke of his life-long connection to the blood system, and his passion for the cause.

David Lehberg welcomed four new official members to the committee: Dr. Craig Earle, Canadian Partnership against Cancer; Mohamed Dhanani, Ryerson University, Gina Parker, an advocate and stem cell family recipient rep, and Paul Wilton, Canadian Hemophilia Society. Round Table introductions of all members followed.

REVIEW OF AGENDA

The meeting agenda was reviewed. Dr. Craig Earle approved the motion, Steve Raper seconded. All members in favour.

REVIEW OF SUMMARY NOTES FROM SEPTEMBER 2018

Summary notes were reviewed, no changes or edits were required.

Fraser Eaton approved the motion. Dr. Craig Earle seconded. All members in favour.

BOARD REPORT

David Lehberg updated the members on key matters the board has been focusing on since the NLC last met, including the board's continued focus on the organization's plan to increase the amount of plasma the organization collects for Canadian patients.

David noted that the PPP portfolio has also remained a central issue for the board, particularly exploring how the program fits and operates within the context of an increasingly complicated health care system.

He was happy to share that Health Canada has provided enhanced funding to further best practices in interprovincial sharing of organs, and in so doing, recognized Canadian Blood Services' work in that space.

BRAND RENEWAL WORKSHOP

Moira MacIntosh led the committee through a look back at the development of Canadian Blood Services' new brand, and an analysis of the data collected through the first six months post launch. The committee then divided into groups and discussed the following:

- How can the new brand be applied to the National Liaison Committee
 - New lens for recruitment
 - Influence on presentation topics and discussions

- How does the new brand enable engagement with Canadian Blood Services health care partners and stakeholders?
- What new opportunities now exist, how do we continue to evolve together?

Results of the table discussions were shared in plenary, and a consultation report has been developed and shared with the project team.

PLASMA BUSINESS UPDATE

Jean-Paul Bedard and Elizabeth Stucker provided an update on Canadian Blood Services work, and plan, to collect more plasma from donors within Canadian Blood Services' existing voluntary, non-remunerated system.

They talked about the plasma situation worldwide, and provided an update on the state of sufficiency in Canada. They also shared that Canadian Blood Services has approved 2019-2020 funding to start increased plasma collection with three proof-of-concept sites (locations to be determined).

The NLC will continue to be engaged on this topic as it evolves in the months and years ahead.

PLASMA PROTEIN PRODUCT UPDATE

Dr. Isra Levy provided an update on learnings gleaned through the product transitions to date, and introduced a new member of his team, Sylvain Grenier, Director of Plasma Protein Products Formulary. Sylvain talked about the work ahead for managing the Canadian Blood Services formulary and modernizing the product selection process. The National Liaison Committee will continue to be updated as needed and engaged in discussion as this work unfolds.

HEPATITIS E CONSULTATION

Dr. Sheila O'Brien addressed the NLC about an emerging issue that Canadian Blood Services is monitoring - the potential impact of Hepatitis E on the blood supply. The issue is being put through the Risk Based Decision Making protocol, and the NLC was consulted as part of the stakeholder consultation aspect of that process.

Dr. O'Brien provided an overview of how the virus is transmitted, where we typically see it globally, the recently completed surveillance report showing the prevalence in Canada and the risk mitigation options currently under consideration.

NLC members were then divided into groups to discuss those options, and which (if any) they favoured. This consultation will inform the project team and executive management.

MEN WHO HAVE SEX WITH MEN DEFERRAL AND RESEARCH UPDATE

Dr. Sophie Charge addressed the committee and provided an update on the status of Canadian Blood Services' recently submitted request to Health Canada to reduce the deferral period for MSM from one year to three months.

She also spoke about the research projects underway, which are gathering data to help inform what the next potential evolution of the MSM deferral policy could look like.

She then invited the primary researcher for one of those projects, Dr. Justin Presseau, to provide a more detailed look at his project focusing on the potential to develop an MSM plasma donation pilot in London, Ontario.

NLC ISSUES FOR THE BOARD

David Lehberg invited participants to highlight issues of key strategic importance for the board and opened the floor to any comments.

CLOSE

Before closing the meeting, David and Bob thanked the members for their contributions, candor and commitment to the NLC .

Meeting adjourned at 3:35 pm.