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**PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

**Annual General Meeting: September 2023**

On behalf of the Board of Directors along with the children and families in the Region of York, we send our sincere thanks and gratitude to the York Hills team for a successful year of service to our communities. The tremendous need for our organization’s services continued this past year following years under the cloud of the pandemic. Thank you to the York Hills team for your perseverance and dedication to your craft. The York Region community is better for it.

The Board would like to acknowledge the team effort associated with our Agency’s first CCA accreditation status. The Board was happy to support the organization in this endeavour and acknowledge the leadership of the Agency in working with the accreditors in successfully achieving accreditation.

Throughout the past year, the Board has met consistently in ensuring governance support was provided to Dean and the organization. Several members of the York Hills team have presented to the Board throughout the year, and we are grateful to hear of the success of your efforts in working with children and families during these presentations. These efforts have been supported through the ongoing excellence and leadership of our CEO, Dean Rokos. Dean continues to provide the Board with outstanding vision and dedication to the York Hills team in supporting the organizational operations and working towards the goals of the strategic plan. The Board remains grateful to him for his leadership to the Board, the York Hills team and to the community. The Board is very thankful for and would like to acknowledge Diane Legris for her endless dedication to the Directors and the senior leadership team. Thank you, Dean and Diane.

As the organization and communities that we serve continue to grow, so too will the Board. The Board welcomes ongoing efforts of the DEIB committee in ensuring that diversity, equity and inclusion remain a commitment of our organization. The Board also recognizes the commitment that committees such as DEIB requires. The Board is therefore grateful to those participating in staff committees in managing the complex nature of the clients and communities that you serve.

During the previous year, the Board has been supported by a tremendous and talented group of volunteer Directors. Richard Housen (Vice President), Gleb Matushansky (Secretary), Rajiv Kutty (Treasurer), Deandra Christopher, Anne Falomo, Noura Gharibo Shaw, Donna Healey continued in their roles from the year previous providing stability and leadership. Most recently, the Board was fortunate to welcome three new members that have instantly assisted and improved the Board skillset. I wish to acknowledge and welcome Shana Kapustin, Ruben Rodriguez, and Saba Ateyah as Board members and am looking forward to working with the entire Board for the year to come.

Lastly, the Board is thankful to the Ministry of Health and the Provincial Government in assisting the Board and Agency with support, both financial and programmatically in continuing to assist our Agency given the demand on our services. The Board is also appreciative to CMHO in continuing to offer their assistance to the Board in the previous year in providing training and advocacy to children’s mental health agencies.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven Rebellato

President