

Richard Reznick Begins as SEAMO CEO CEO's Priorities Outlined to the Governing Committee

Yesterday, Dr. Richard Reznick, Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences and Director of the School of Medicine, attended the SEAMO Governing Committee meeting for the first time in his role as CEO of SEAMO.

Following a welcome by SEAMO's independent Chair, John Hudson, Dr. Reznick outlined the priorities he wished SEAMO Governors and management to address. Reznick reminded Governors that the funding received by SEAMO is money for physician compensation and SEAMO's role is to allocate to departments so that they can best meet the programmatic needs of the University and Hospitals.

Pressing issues for SEAMO include the need to develop a robust process for the adjudication of requests for positions. SEAMO has limited flexibility and currently lacks a coherent process for determining the relative merit of competing requests. SEAMO and its member organizations must quickly address this gap.

In his remarks, Reznick noted that management has identified problems with capture of all patient encounters through claims submission. The failure to fully report to the Ministry presents risks to the organization. Similarly, he expressed a wish to see appropriate increases in SEAMO's clinical profile.

Dr. Reznick addressed the need to establish processes for the allocation of SEAMO's academic funds. Governors allocated \$1.8MM annually to a Medical Education Fund and \$3.6MM annually to a Strategic Research Development Fund. Management is now developing guidelines for the use of this money. The research profile of the Centre and of the clinical faculty must be enhanced. Similarly, the Education Fund must address the growing needs and complexity in medical education and postgraduate training and the accreditation of both.

A small Recruitment Fund has been used for contingencies on an *ad hoc* basis. Reznick told Governors that establishment of rules and priorities for the allocation of this money were required.

Lastly, Dr. Reznick asked Governors to address the allocation of the "Flow-through" funding increase of approximately \$4MM annually. This is now before the Resources Committee and decisions on the allocation method must be made quickly.

Acknowledging the significant number of complex issues facing SEAMO, the new CEO asked that these be addressed in an urgent fashion with the objective of concluding this agenda by the end of the calendar year.