

CEO UPDATE Q & A July 2016

On June 1st, 2016, Blaise MacNeil passed the 1 year anniversary of his 5 year term as TADH's President and CEO. This interview captures how his first year went, what he hopes to see for TADH, and fun tidbits about our CEO.

Q: You came to Timmins from Nova Scotia. What's the biggest difference between Ontario and Nova Scotia?

A: I am not sure if there are differences but this is what I miss most, besides my children. In N.S. where we lived, I could always see the ocean and fresh seafood was readily available.

Q: How have you found your first year in Timmins and at TADH to be?

A: I have thoroughly enjoyed my first year at TADH. Everyone has been helpful and friendly. The senior team is by far the most experienced I have ever worked with and I have benefited greatly from their advice. The Board has been very supportive and truly has the best interest of TADH and the community front and center in their minds.

Q: What's the best, worst, and strangest thing you've noticed or experienced since settling in Timmins?

A: I would have to say the best thing I have experienced is the friendliness of the folks I have encountered. The worst thing I have experienced, really not that bad, was running into the bank for 2 minutes to the ATM and returning to my car to find a parking ticket. I never even saw the issuing officer! The strangest thing I experienced was going for my first round of golf and being asked to advise the Pro Shop if I spotted a bear that was cruising around the course. You don't hear those things in N.S.

Q: What's been the biggest challenge and success you've faced as CEO of TADH so far?

A: I think the biggest challenge facing TADH will come as no surprise which is the working capital deficit. It will likely be a challenge well into the future. I think it is a little premature to talk about big success; however, if I had to pick one it would be successfully integrating into the management team.

Q: Your office knows you cheer for the Pittsburg Penguins (he wore his jersey to work numerous times during the Playoffs) but are there any other sports you follow and teams you cheer for?

A: Yes I am a Pens fan as I like their style of play. There are no team sports I follow more than hockey; however, I am a golf fan and I follow the PGA through the summer.

Q: When you're not busy running the Hospital, what do you like to do in your spare time? Any hobbies?

A: In the summer I enjoy playing golf and swimming when I can. I love to travel especially to warm places in the winter. Up until this past year or so I had been trying to run one marathon a year. My last full marathon was the Marine Corp Marathon in Washington D.C. in October 2014.

Q: What do you hope to see for TADH in the next year/future plans?

A: In the near term I see more of the same, lots of pressure to do more services while receiving less money. In the longer term I see TADH evolving into a regional hub for the district with a more integrated service profile.

Q: And lastly, what is your favourite flavor of Skittles (he really likes Skittles!)?

A: Green of course.