

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

May 2, 2018

The Waterloo Wellington Local Health Integration Network (WWLHIN)'s Board of Directors held a meeting May 2, 2018. Below are highlights from the meeting. For the full agenda and briefing notes, please [visit our website](#).

Appreciation Extended to Retiring Community Leaders

Five local leaders were recognized and thanked for their significant contributions to the community.

- Dale Howat, Executive Director, Community Support Connections – Meals on Wheels and More (in attendance)
- Tim Kennel, Executive Director, Fairview and Parkwood Mennonite Homes in Cambridge and Waterloo (in attendance)
- Don Shilton, President, St. Mary's Hospital
- Denise Squire, CEO, Woolwich Community Health Centre
- Harry Whyte, CEO, Ray of Hope

2017-2018 Annual Business Plan Achievements

The Board received a report highlighting the achievement of the 2017-2018 local health system plan. A full report will be provided to the Ministry in July. Following are just a few of the highlights:

- The number of patients on waiting lists for counselling and treatment has been reduced by 50 percent through a partnership with LHIN-funded health service providers and family service organizations.
- More patients with mental health and addiction challenges are now living in safe, affordable, permanent housing as a result of a new collaborative supportive housing partnership with the Region of Waterloo and the County of Wellington.
- The addition of 12 new specialists to the region means that more patients are able to receive psychiatric consultations locally.
- Indigenous residents have increased access to mental health and addiction programs.

Read more [here](#).

Patient Experience Program Report

Since September 2017, the Waterloo Wellington LHIN's Patient and Family Advisory Committee (PFAC) members have been actively involved in health care system decision-making. In addition to 15 PFAC members, 66 additional patient and family advisors are engaged in system feedback, program design and delivery, and organizational development.

A Patient Declaration of Values Forum was held on March 27 to develop an updated values statement in partnership with other PFACs, or similar patient and caregiver groups, across Waterloo Wellington. The event was successful in bringing together 64 participants representing 20 health service providers. There will be ongoing engagement with PFACs and the public over the next few months regarding what patients value most in the local health system.

Read more [here](#).

New Community Partnerships Will Support Vulnerable Residents

Two partnerships with the City of Guelph and the County of Wellington will support the delivery of new and existing community services for some of the most vulnerable residents of the community.

The partnership with the City of Guelph will allow paramedics to apply their skills and training beyond the traditional role of providing emergency response services. It is anticipated that the implementation of Community Paramedicine in Guelph will assist patients with chronic conditions and reduce the risk of 911 calls.

The partnership with the County of Wellington for Mental Health Supportive Housing services will help reduce the risk of homelessness and eviction for some of the most vulnerable residents of the community.

Read more [here](#).

Integrated Health Service Plan Will Focus on Health Equity in Waterloo Wellington

In the coming months, the Waterloo Wellington LHIN will be launching a comprehensive community engagement strategy to support the development of the Integrated Health Service Plan 2019-2022. The plan will reflect what patients, clinicians and providers have told the LHIN is important to them, as well as broader provincial priorities to improve the health and wellbeing of all Ontarians.

The Integrated Health Service Plan will support delivery on the current local health strategy by focusing on the creation of sub-region health profiles. These will be created by:

- Assessing sub-region population needs through a health equity lens
- Assessing sub-region service capacity to meet population needs
- Understanding the patient experience in each sub-region
- Advancing targeted improvements in local and provincial priority areas

Read more [here](#).

Wellbeing Waterloo Region Update

In 2016, a community-wide initiative was launched by partners, including the Waterloo Wellington LHIN, to positively impact wellbeing in Waterloo Region. With input from over 5,000 residents and focused population consultations, three areas of focus were identified:

- Affordable Housing: Everyone has a place to call home.
- Healthy Children and Youth: All children and youth have the foundation to thrive and reach their potential.
- Social Inclusion: A welcoming region that embraces diversity, reduces isolation, enhances relationships, and enables belonging.

One of the key activities of Wellbeing Waterloo Region is a community-wide survey that is currently underway to establish a benchmark for future development.

Read more [here](#).

Our next Board meeting will take place on July 27, 2018.

Connie MacDonald

Executive Lead, Patient Experience, Communications & Community Engagement
Waterloo Wellington Local Health Integration Network (WWLHIN)
519-748-2222 ext. 3235
connie.macdonald@lhins.on.ca