

Central East LHIN CEO Report

March 28, 2008

Central East LHIN Activity

The Central East LHIN Office and Network have been actively preparing for the end of the fiscal year, the execution of the Hospital-Service Accountability Agreements, and the rollout of the Priority Projects and Aging at Home Strategy programs.

Aging at Home Strategy: Submission of the Detailed Service Plan

On Friday, February 29, 2008, the Central East LHIN Aging at Home Strategy Detailed Service Plan was submitted to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. This Plan was developed in accordance to the directions approved by the Board on February 22, 2008. In the submission to the Ministry, Kate Reed, Aging at Home Strategy lead, acknowledged that "the LHIN organization and LHIN community are bursting with enthusiasm in how the Strategy will catapult the Seamless Care for Senior's priorities forward."

On behalf of the Central East LHIN, I extend congratulations to Kate Reed, Scott MacPherson, Diane Hanbury, the members of the Aging at Home Working Group and Seamless Care for Seniors Network, and whole LHIN office and network, for a Plan which holds great promise for ensuring that seniors are receiving the right care in the right settings by the right service providers.

Recruitment Process Completed for the Priority Projects

The recruitment for the priority project coordinators/managers has been completed and twelve individuals have been offered contracts by the designated transfer payment agencies. All project coordinators/managers will come together in early April for a full-day orientation session to introduce the team to the LHIN, the priority projects, and the Project Management Office.

I look forward to continuing to provide the Board with status updates on the priority projects in future CEO reports and to showcase the achievements and work of the individual projects.

Hospital-Service Accountability Agreements (H-SAA)

The CE LHIN continues to work closely with our hospitals in order to execute all the agreements by the end of the fiscal year. We have met with several hospitals to discuss plans around cost recovery and services and volumes, and continue to work with them to identify opportunities to address system pressures. The hospitals were sent their populated agreements on March 19, 2008.

Endorsement of the Lakeridge Health Corporation – Bowmanville site Re-Development

A letter sent on behalf of the Board of Directors on March 7, 2008, conveying your decision to formally endorse the application of Lakeridge Health Corporation to re-develop their Bowmanville site as an “own funds” capital project. Following a stringent review by the CE LHIN Senior Management, Finance Committee, and full Board, the endorsement of the re-development is oriented around the following two points:

1. Alignment with the CE LHIN Clinical Services Planning initiative. In particular, the proposed reconfiguration of the Operating Room/Endoscopy suite, relocation of the Intensive Care Unit, and increased Emergency Room capacity are all operational improvements that should meet current acute care needs and those anticipated for forecasted population growth in Clarington and surrounding areas. Lakeridge Health has furthermore committed, in writing, to demonstrate team approaches to address physician and staffing needs through shared medical leadership in their Emergency Departments and Critical Care Units across the Oshawa and Bowmanville hospital sites.
2. Commitment to operational cost neutrality. Lakeridge Health Corporation has committed in writing that the redevelopment will be financed in its entirety by the Memorial Hospital Foundation – Bowmanville, and will not increase volumes or operational costs without prior approval from the LHIN, Cancer Care Ontario, and the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care.

Education of Future Health Human Resources in the LHIN

On February 27, 2008, the CE LHIN attended the funding launch for a \$9.8 million investment in developing a new Health Sciences Facility to house expanding Nursing and Psychology programs. The facility will accommodate projected growth in Health Sciences programs including an expansion of collaborative Nursing partnerships with Fleming College, space for the University's Emotional Health, Behavioural Neuroscience, and Child Development research labs, and the Institute of Health Studies. This funding will allow for an expansion of the nursing and other complimentary Health Science focused programs.

The LHIN is also actively involved with the Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of Ontario Institute for Technology (UOIT). Ritva Gallant (Team Lead, Finance) teaches a course on Health Finance and has invited her LHIN colleagues to provide guest lecture support.

Kate Reed and John Lohrenz have been invited to address a fourth year health care systems engineering course at the University of Toronto to lead the students in a case study exercise of the allocation of Aging at Home funding. The best student team responses will be forwarded to the LHIN for our consideration. This teaching opportunity arose from the partnership that the LHIN has been developing with the Centre for Research in Healthcare Engineering, as described in the February 22, 2008 CEO Report.

Expansion of Patient/Employee Safety and Infection Control

In February 2008, the LHIN received approval for \$120,000 in base funding for fiscal year 2007/2008 under the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care's Patient/Employee Safety and Infection Control initiative. Funding was allocated to Rouge Valley Health System and Whitby Mental Health Centre to support the recruitment of Infection Control Practitioners. This recruitment was one element outlined in Operation Health Protection (launched June 2004) by the Ministry to address public health issues. Increasing the number of qualified Infection Control Practitioners ensures that necessary capacity and expertise is established to prevent and, where necessary, control infectious diseases. The goal of the Ministry's funding is to increase the ratio of Infectious Control Practitioners to one Practitioner per 115 beds.

Increases to Registered Practical Nurse funding to Long Term Care sector

In addition to the \$790,500 in additional funding to flow to long-term care homes from the LHIN announced in the February 22, 2008 CEO Report, the Ministry will be providing an additional \$882,770 in funding for January 1 to March 31, 2008 as weighted by a Case Mix Index according to the level of need in each home. This funding will be annualized in 2008/09.

In conjunction with the initial investment, this funding increase ensures the creation of one new full-time RPN position in each Long-Term Care home across the province, resulting in 1950 more hours of RPN care to residents at each home.

Results of the 1A Status granted to Peterborough Regional Health Centre

As indicated in the February 22, 2008 CEO Report, the LHIN granted 1A prioritization status to Peterborough Regional Health Centre for the week of February 7 to February 14, 2008. The application of 1A prioritization is a less than desirable solution to solving the challenges in providing appropriate patient care outside of the hospital environment. However, in the case of Peterborough's request, it appears to have been an appropriate response. The hospital has informed the LHIN, in writing, that the 1A Status classification assisted in the placement of a total of sixteen ALC patients, as well as three patients to Alternative Community Beds.

The LHIN continues to seek appropriate sustainable short- and long-term solutions to the challenges of Alternate Levels of Care with its Network Planning Partners, and with LHIN and Ministry Colleagues across the province. The ALC Task Group is compiling a comprehensive report and project charter which will be presented to the Board in Q1 2008/2009 which will address the issue at the local level. LHIN Senior Management and staff are also involved in provincial discussions to develop a comprehensive action plan for Ontario.

Incident Management: Leak at Lakeridge Health - Oshawa

On March 4, 2008, the LHIN was notified by Lakeridge Health that a water pipe fitting burst on a hot water line in a common area adjacent to the Sterile Processing Department's surgical supplies area in the basement of the Oshawa site on February 29, 2008. Facilities and Environmental Services staff immediately contained and removed the water while the leak was isolated. In order to allow for the disposal and replacement of single-use

surgical supplies, all scheduled surgeries were cancelled beginning late March 3 through March 4. Birthing services were also suspended due the inability to perform emergency caesarean sections during the surgery disruption.

There is a remote possibility that a fungus may have grown in the supply area as a result of water damage. Although the risk to patients is remote, there were a total of 76 patients who received surgeries between February 29 and March 3 who may have been exposed.

The hospital notified Durham Region EMS and other area hospitals of the leak and the suspension of scheduled surgeries. The hospital also notified all patients who received surgery at Lakeridge Health Oshawa between February 29 to March 3 of the risk of infection. To date, no infections have been reported to the LHIN as a result of this incident.

Ergonomic Assessments at the CE LHIN Office

In the promotion of workplace wellness, the LHIN staff were offered ergonomic assessments of their workstations during the first week of March 2008. The LHIN engaged Wellness Works, a company that provides disability management and prevention services including comprehensive assessment, injury prevention, and occupational rehabilitation programs. LHIN staff benefited from assistance in modifying their workstations for maximal comfort and to minimize body strain, and learned proper workday stretching routines.

Interim Staffing Announcements

On March 14, 2008, the CE LHIN Board and Staff said farewell to Nizar Ladak, who has accepted the position of Vice President and Chief Information Officer at North York General Hospital. Ritva Gallant (Team Lead, Finance) and John Lohrenz (Team Lead, Business and Performance) have jointly assumed the role of Acting Senior Director, Performance, Contracts, and Allocations, on a shared basis. They will remain in the acting role until a permanent replacement for the Senior Director position is in place. The recruitment process is expected to take between three to five months and will be conducted jointly with the Erie St. Clair LHIN who are also searching for a new Senior Director, Performance, Contracts and Allocations.

Janet Boland, Office Administrator, has assumed the position of Acting Business Support Manager, until such time that a permanent replacement is in place. Janet Boland and Karen Ouellette (Financial Analyst), will jointly

lead the 2007/08 Audit preparations. Ajay Thusoo has been contracted to provide additional Business Support services. The Audit Committee may recall that Mr. Thusoo assisted the LHIN last year in preparations for the 2006/07 Audit.