

Western Ontario Health (WOH) Update

August 2020

Western Ontario Health officially becomes an Ontario Health Team!

On July 23, Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, came to London to announce Western Ontario Health as an official OHT. We look forward to this exciting patient care journey!

More information is available in [the Ministry news release](#), [London Free Press article](#), or from your sector representative (see the list on page 2).

WOH Meeting with Ministry of Health representatives – July 9, 2020

Three patient/caregiver partners joined the WOH Coordinating Council in this meeting. As requested by the Ministry of Health, Council shared the following advice on how the Ministry of Health can best support OHTs' implementation journey over the next few months:

- Compensation for caregiver leaders, e.g., IT support, honorarium and out-of-pocket expenses. Let's shift paradigm so family and caregivers are true partners.
- Support for an OHT core team.
- Compensation for primary care leaders who currently take time out from patient care to participate.
- Continue/stabilize the funding of innovations that came out of COVID work; keep new ability to be flexible and innovative (i.e., continue to reduce red tape).
- Team/skills-based approach became focus of COVID treatment. Let's expand access to team based primary care, and let local systems design how to access team-based care in a population health environment.
- Data sharing and availability within an OHT, between OHTs, between OHTs and Ministry:
 - Implement a provincial foundational IT structure.
 - Ensure that OHT level data is available in an easy to access format.
 - Consolidating dashboards re: capacity within an OHT in real time to know where resources are needed so all sectors can know where and how to help.
- Many specialized services cross OHTs – clarity needed on how that will work in future and then move it forward province-wide.
- Ministry of Health and Ministry of Long Term Care (LTC) – find creative assistive living solutions in community for people who need LTC type support for a long period of time, e.g., spinal cord injury, quadriplegia.

Other WOH activities in July 2020

Submission of a COVID Care Pathway funding proposal to MOH

More to come if approved, but highlights of the proposal include:

- Principles: patient centred/focused, for patients of all ages, multidisciplinary, delivered through patient medical home (primary care).
- Fully integrated with primary care and specialists.

Submission of a COVID Care Pathway funding proposal to MOH (continued)

- Ensures communication between primary care, Public Health and LHSC's Urgent COVID Care Clinic (LUC3) as patients travel between care providers.
- Includes a Clinical Advisory Committee to enables QI and research.
- Expands the capacity of the current LUC3 clinic in case of community surge.

Chronic COVID management – considering learnings and longer term implications:

- Created protocol with rehab physicians to admit people with COVID who need more in depth care to Parkwood.
- Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) – how to ensure both hospital and non-hospital teams have the information they need.
- PPE hubs – how to integrate local initiatives with Ontario Health West; leverage bulk ordering where possible.
- Look at the innovations that came out of COVID and how to sustain and build on them.

Coming up in August

- Feedback on the proposed governance principles and Governance working group Terms of Reference.
- Formalizing Patient, Client and Caregiver Council's Terms of Reference.
- Finalize year one budget: budget principles, draft budget and contributors' list.
- Finalize job descriptions for OHT operations team, starting with OHT Lead.
- Introduce provincial work re: primary care and OHTs; discuss how to adapt that to WOH.

Coordinating Council	Secretariat
Linda Crossley-Hauch – Co-Chair Michael McMahon – Co-Chair	Nancy DoolKontio Janet Dang Patricia Hoffer Glen Kearns Matthew Meyer Daniel Pepe Robert Sibbald Shannon Sibbald Drina Silva Susan Vollbrecht Katey Young
Linda Sibley, Addictions Alternate: Beth Mitchell, Mental Health	
Judi Fisher, CSS Alternate: Carol Walters, CSS	
Cathy Faulds, Primary Care Gord Schacter, Primary Care	
Scott Courtice, Primary Care Organization Alternate: Gail McMahon	
Daryl Nancekivell, Home & Community Care Gillian Kernaghan and Paul Woods, Hospital Alternate: Todd Stepaniuk	
Neal Roberts, EMS Anna Foat, Patient/Caregiver TBD, Patient/Caregiver	
Steve Crawford, Long Term Care Chris Mackie, Public Health	
Craig Cooper, City of London	
Bill Rayburn, County of Middlesex	