

November 15, 2017

South East LHIN announces Patient and Family Advisory Committee members

NEWS

After receiving a tremendous response following an open, public recruitment process, the South East Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) is pleased to announce that selection of the Patient and Family Advisory Committee (PFAC) has been finalized.

Working together to improve the health care system, committee members will be active participants, not only in regionally-focused PFAC meetings but also on local sub-region planning tables. With a commitment to broader patient engagement from planning stages through to delivery of patient and family-centred care, the Committee has been formed to advise, collaborate and co-design with the South East LHIN, including its leaders and staff, health system policies and practices.

The advisory committee reflects the South East LHIN's commitment to partnering and listening to patients and families, ensuring that changes in the health care system reflect the needs and opinions of those it serves. The South East PFAC also includes advisors representing the Indigenous and Francophone communities.

The 15-member committee is represented by the following five sub-regions and advisors, respectively:

- Quinte - Shirley McLaren; Larry Zadow; and Rhea Pretsell.
- Rural Hastings - Lynn Maxwell; Edna McKim; and Marie Savage.
- Rural Frontenac, Lennox & Addington - Richard Stillwell; Marie Turnbull; and Dionne Nolan.
- Kingston - Don Mann; Donna Shetler; and Anne Newman.
- Lanark, Leeds & Grenville - Ginette Henderson; Doug Hone; and Laurie Gauthier.

The first meeting, held in October, provided advisors with information on the intent of PFAC and their roles, and also offered an opportunity to provide feedback to the South East LHIN on a presentation of the Older Adult Strategy. The next meeting, scheduled to be held in January 2018, will be to select co-chairs and begin identifying key areas for patient, family and caregiver feedback.

Should individuals be interested in volunteering for the PFAC, the South East LHIN will continue to accept Expressions of Interest to keep on file in order fill any potential future vacancies. For more information on *Patients First*, the South East LHIN PFAC and submission requirements, please visit our website at www.SouthEastLHIN.on.ca/CommunityEngagement/PatientsFirst.

QUOTES

“We are pleased to have selected members to represent the South East LHIN Patient and Family Advisory Committee, and believe they will ensure a strong patient, family and caregiver voice to help lead improved health outcomes and experiences.”

- *Paul Huras, CEO, South East LHIN*

“I feel that it is a privilege to be part of a dynamic group such as the PFAC – always learning more about our health care system and the patient experience – and to be a member of a dedicated volunteer community that is reaching for, and working to, improve a system that has the potential to be the best in the world. My hope is that we will continue to see progress in all areas of truly putting the patient first.”

- *Don Mann, Patient and Family Advisory Committee member*

QUICK FACTS

- Expanding patient engagement across the health care system is a key commitment in the *Patients First Act*.
- Provincially, the development of a Minister’s Patient and Family Advisory Council is part of a broader approach to enhance patient engagement across Ontario, which includes fully integrating the patient voice in policy and program planning.
- Regionally, as part of the Patients First Act, 2016, all 14 Local Health Integration Networks are establishing Patient and Family Advisory Committees with a mandate to provide advice and feedback on how to better the patient experience. In addition, committee members will advise on engagement and communication with patients, their families and caregivers, leading to improved patient and health system outcomes.
- Advisors are volunteers with experiences and perspectives about the health system that will help ensure the issues and priorities of patients, family members, and caregivers are clearly heard and understood.

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