

## MEDIA RELEASE

*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

February 6, 2014

Photo attached

### **New Regional Patient Transfer Service for the South East Region**

**Brockville—In partnership with the South East Local Health Integration Network (SE LHIN) and Community Patient Transfer Group (CPTG), Brockville General Hospital would like to announce the implementation of a regional provider for non-urgent patient transfers.** CPTG will provide a range of services, including stretcher, wheelchair and ambulatory medical transportation, for all hospitals and long term care homes within the communities of Belleville, Greater Napanee, Quinte West, Kingston, Brockville, Perth & Smiths Falls, and Bancroft.

For Brockville General Hospital, that means non urgent patient transfer services (NUPT) will now operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year.

“As of Monday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, CPTG is now the provider of NUPT services for BGH and our community partners,” says BGH President & CEO Tony Weeks, “as well as our regional partners. We are happy to be able to expand the service offered to our patients.”

The Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Transportation are currently looking at standardizing patient transportation across all regions. This new contract will ensure that when the standards are announced provincially within the next year, all hospitals in this region will be able to demonstrate compliance.

“The new contract enables hospitals in the South East to have the opportunity to lock into a long-term, fixed price contract, mitigating potential cost increases over the coming years,” says Paul Huras, CEO of the SE LHIN. “Our overall goal has been to establish a common non urgent patient transfer service in the South East LHIN that would ensure consistent, high-quality transfers for our patients; be easy for staff to access and work with; provide access to a wider range of NUPT services than we currently have access to; and not vary depending on patient location, hospital size or transfer volume.”

“This regional program is unprecedented in Ontario,” says David Mole, CPTG VP Communications and SE LHIN Liaison. “CPTG looks forward to servicing the needs of the South East Region, and commends our partners in health care for their commitment to community and system leadership.”

**For more information, please contact:**



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**ABOUT:**



**Brockville General Hospital**

Brockville General Hospital is a five-site community hospital that recently marked 125 years of service to the United Counties of Leeds and Grenville. The hospital offers full acute care services, including emergency and intensive care, medical/surgical care, and obstetrical care. The hospital also operates various ambulatory clinics, complex/palliative care and rehabilitation facilities, and has oversight for mental health acute care services for Leeds, Grenville and South Lanark. It is a sponsor of Assault Response & Care Centre. BGH employs over 830 staff; in addition, the hospital relies on the support of 150 physicians and almost 400 volunteers. BGH maintains a formal academic relationship with Queen's University in Kingston, and is an active member of the South East LHIN. The web site is [www.bgh-on.ca](http://www.bgh-on.ca).



**South East Local Health Integration Network**

The South East Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) is one of 14 networks established by the province in 2005 to lead the way in transforming the health system to better meet the needs of people in the South East and across Ontario. The South East region extends from Brighton on the west to Prescott and Cardinal on the east, north to Perth and Smiths Falls, and back to Bancroft. The South East LHIN is responsible for planning, funding and monitoring the performance of a spectrum of health care programs and services.

**Community Patient Transfer Group**

Throughout the past two years, CPTG has been working continuously to bring a new quality of service to Ontario, in particular within the LHIN 4 communities of Niagara, Hamilton, Haldimand Brant, Windsor, and Toronto. Service partnerships with the Niagara Health System (NHS), Hamilton Health Science (HHS), West Haldimand, Brant Health Care, and Windsor have propelled CPTG into being one of the top three largest providers in Ontario.

