

NEWS

QUINTE HEALTH CARE AND SE LHIN DEVELOP TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR REVIEW

November 24, 2008

Quinte Health Care (QHC) and the South East Local Health Integration Network are moving forward with appointment of an individual who will be charged with reviewing options for a mitigation strategy to QHC's projected operating deficit. This morning the organizations released terms of reference for the Third Party Review.

QHC's management team is preparing strategies to balance its operating deficit that will be presented to the Board of Directors of QHC for approval and taken out to the community for further discussion. Each of the strategies must be designed to ensure the hospital will continue to provide safe, high quality health care within its allocated resources. Before they are presented to the Board, it was agreed that a third party review be conducted to review, adjust, add or delete the strategies.

It is anticipated the third party reviewer will be named as soon as possible. Together, the SE LHIN and QHC have come up with a list of potential candidates for the position. These people have yet to be approached and discussions need to take place to firm up details. The deadline for QHC's balanced budget plan will be evaluated, pending appointment of the third party reviewer.

QUOTES

"We are committed to ensure we are providing the best health care to all of our communities working within our available resources," said Jack Moore, Chair, QHC Board of Directors. "The QHC Board and management team understands the status quo is not sustainable and that significant change must be made to the entire health care system."

"We are working very closely with Quinte Health Care. As system planners, as taxpayers and as potential patients, we recognize the importance of the decisions that are made. We also understand there are economic challenges for our communities, and the situation being experienced by QHC is not unique. We need to find innovative solutions – and we will best do that by working together," noted Georgina Thompson, Chair, South East LHIN.

QUICK FACTS

- The third party review will evaluate the mitigation strategies prepared by QHC, including validating assumptions and principles.

- The review will also evaluate the community engagement strategy and communications plan. The community engagement strategy will be multi-faceted and include solicited comment and input about the strategies through multiple approaches.
- Quinte Health Care is currently developing strategies to ensure the organization is in a balanced budget position by March 31, 2010.
- QHC is a 320-bed hospital with sites in Bancroft, Belleville, Picton and Quinte West. It employs over 1,600 staff and more than 280 doctors have privileges.
- The South East LHIN is responsible for planning and funding health care services for the 500,000 residents of the South East.

LEARN MORE

For more information about Quinte Health Care, visit www.qhc.on.ca

For more information about the South East LHIN, visit www.southeastlin.on.ca

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