

News Release

South East LHIN Issues Integrated Health Services Plan for 2013-2016

Belleville, ON (February 13, 2013) – Donna Segal, Board Chair of the South East Local Health Integration Network (LHIN), today issued the LHIN's Integrated Health Services Plan (IHSP), a strategy for the delivery of health care across the south east from 2013 to 2016.

The plan, *Better Integration, Better Health Care*, is the third IHSP developed by the LHIN since its inception in 2006, and will be the guiding document by which the LHIN and its 124 Health Services Providers work together to develop programs and initiatives to address the health care needs of its residents.

With the IHSP3, the South East LHIN has set an ambitious agenda over the next three years revolving around three strategic priorities:

- Developing a regional system of integrated health care across the care continuum, from primary care and public health through to community, acute and long-term care;
- Improving the patient experience with a focus on the transition points in care; and
- Focusing on the unique health care needs of Aboriginal and Francophone populations.

Building upon the lessons learned through IHSP1 and IHSP2, the IHSP3 outlines a plan that addresses the unique priorities for the delivery of health care here in the south east, while at the same time seeks to advance the broader objectives of the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) province-wide. It has benefitted from extensive public engagement; detailed discussions with this region's clinical and medical community; and the generous input of an expert reference panel comprised of Dr. David Walker, Don Drummond, Dr. Duncan Sinclair, and Dr. Heather Stuart.

The South East LHIN team began developing the framework for *Better Integration, Better Health Care* in April 2012. Since then the document has undergone rigorous review, revision and re-shaping to ensure it addresses those key health care components that are of paramount importance to residents and the LHIN's Health Service Provider (HSP) partners – as well as reflecting the province-wide priorities of the MOHLTC.

A draft version of *Better Integration, Better Health Care* was reviewed by the MOHLTC and positively received, while noting their appreciation that IHSP3 clearly outlines support for and planned implementation of Health Links, which are essential to health system transformation.

Health Links are part of Ontario's Action Plan for Health Care, by delivering faster access and a stronger link to family health care, and providing the right care, at the right time, in the right place.

Health Links bring together health care providers within a defined community to coordinate health care services for people who need them the most: seniors and patients with complex conditions.

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"This IHSP3 acknowledges the economic realities that must be accommodated as we explore new ways of improving access to sustainable high-quality care. It also sets forth a carefully-constructed and well-considered strategic plan that encompasses the changing needs of residents throughout our region."

Donna Segal, Board Chair, SE LHIN

"The South East LHIN's IHSP3 accurately reflects what we heard from our community and our health care partners, along with the hard information captured in our extensive regional capacity and planning research. It will serve us well as we continue to refine and improve the delivery of quality care for all residents in all corners of this region."

Paul Huras, CEO, SE LHIN

LEARN MORE

To download a copy of the South East LHIN 2013-2016 *"Better Integration, Better Health Care"* Integrated Health Services Plan, please click [here](#).

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