

## Improving Access to Health Care for Families in Tweed and Trenton

*New Ontario Government Investing In Community Health Centres*

April 8, 2013

### NEWS

Ontario is improving access to health care for families in both Tweed and Trenton by expanding their community health centres.

New capital investments will support the expansion of the Gateway Community Health Centre in Tweed and build a new Belleville Quinte West Community Health Centre in Trenton. The improvements will allow the centres to provide more health services and increase the number of clients they assist.

Community Health Centres help strengthen rural communities by serving people who face barriers accessing health care, including geography, child care, housing and poverty.

Ensuring access to the right care, at the right time and in the right place supports [Ontario's Action Plan for Health Care](#), and is part of the new Ontario government's efforts to build a strong economy and a fair society for the benefit of all.

### QUOTES

"Community Health Centres play a vital role in helping Ontarians get the care they need, close to home. This investment in new capital funding for the Gateway Community Health Centre and the Belleville Quinte West Community Health Centre will ensure improved access to high-quality health care and other services for local residents living in or near Tweed and Trenton."  
— Deb Matthews, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care

"Rural communities have unique health care needs. This is why the programs and services offered by the Gateway and Belleville Quinte West Community Health Centres are essential, and will be further enhanced with the construction of new facilities. This will result in more programs and services available to more clients, strengthening the rural community it serves."  
— Jeff Leal, Minister of Rural Affairs

"Gateway Community Health Centre promotes the best possible health and well-being for those it serves. The expansion is good news for our rural community where access close to home is important."  
— Donna Douglas, Board Chair, Gateway Community Health Centre

"Today's announcement of a capital investment to create a permanent site for the Quinte West centre means people living in the area will have improved access to services they need. Their complex health care needs and often limited access to health care will be effectively addressed through our permanent site. We are very excited to move forward with our plans to achieve a permanent ongoing site for service delivery to our clients and the community."

— Michael Piercy, Chair, Board of Directors, Belleville Quinte West Community Health Centre

“Today’s announcement reflects the success and growth of the Community Health Centres in rural Ontario and within the South East LHIN. These organizations will play an instrumental role moving Health Links forward in the South East region and assist in the better co-ordination of care for high-needs patients. This investment will enable the Community Health Centres to continue providing the right care, at the right time, in the right place for the residents.”

— Paul Huras, CEO, South East LHIN

## QUICK FACTS

- The Gateway Community Health Centre in Tweed and the Belleville Quinte West Community Health Centre are two of 17 sites across the province that will benefit from community capital improvement projects this year.
- There are 101 community health centres throughout Ontario providing quality care to more than 300,000 people.

## LEARN MORE

The [Association of Ontario’s Health Centres](#) is the voice for community-governed primary health care in Ontario.