

# Local Health Integration Networks: Building a True System

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## Bulletin No. 7 – February 15, 2005

Today's issue brings you further details about the board recruitment process, as well as an overview of the work of the information management group of the Health Results Team and an update on the integration priority reports.

### LHIN Board Recruitment

Since the recruitment for LHIN board members and board chairs was initiated in December 2004, the ministry has received more than 800 applications from every corner of the province.

The ministry is currently working on the selection of the 14 founding LHIN boards of directors, consisting each of a chair and two members. In the coming months, LHIN boards will reach their full complement of 9 members.

For more information, please visit the **LHIN board recruitment** section of the LHIN site at [www.health.gov.on.ca/transformation](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/transformation).

The ministry is currently working on developing a community-based process to help identify and select the remaining board members and to ensure that the boards are reflective of diverse LHIN communities.

The ministry is committed to an open and transparent process as it proceeds with the recruitment and selection of LHIN board members and chairs. In keeping with the ministry's commitment, the following activities were undertaken:

- The call for applications for board chairs and members was advertised in 40 newspapers in all regions of the province, including Ontario's major francophone newspapers;

- The profiles and application process details were also posted on the Public Appointments Secretariat website;
- Information about the LHIN board recruitment process has been posted on the ministry's website since December 15th when the formal recruitment process was launched;
- Applications have been assessed using the criteria posted in the job advertisements and conflict of interest guidelines.

In keeping with government policy on appointments to government agencies, boards and commissions, appointments to the LHIN boards will be made by Order-In-Council.

### Integration Priority Reports

The 14 LHIN communities are beginning to submit their integration priority reports according to the timelines established at the LHIN Community Workshops in November and December (Visit the December 15 Bulletin for details on workshops and the integration priority reports). As we committed, once all reports have been received, they will be posted on this website so that the information and ideas can be shared more broadly. The 14 completed integration priority reports will then be made available to the respective LHIN

boards and will help form the foundation for LHIN integrated health system planning.

## Information Management Strategy and LHINs

The implementation of an information management strategy is crucial to achieving the goals and objectives of LHINs and the other health care transformation initiatives. In order to carry out their functions, which include health planning, system integration, service coordination, funding allocation, and evaluation of performance, LHINs will be a significant consumer of health information and analytical resources.

As the ministry proceeds with the planning and implementation of LHINs, it is also moving forward with an information management strategy that will be of great benefit to the local health care planning activities that LHINs will undertake. The strategy will help support the planning and related functions of the LHINs through the creation of tools and resources that support evidence-based decision making.

Within the current health care system, there are instances of inefficiencies, delays in reporting performance, and poor quality data. For example, approximately 4,000 separate indicators have been used to measure how the health care system is performing. Data standards are not comprehensive and are not consistently applied.

The ministry's information management strategy will streamline that information and cut down on waste and duplication. The strategy will address the need for timely and accurate information that will, in turn, drive informed decision making about health care.

As part of the plan to achieve this, the ministry's strategy will focus on three main areas:

- Producing better data
- Measuring performance
- Supporting evidence-based decisions.

The information management strategy is led by Adalsteinn Brown, Lead of Information Management, Health Results Team.

**Please look for the LHIN Bulletin mid-month, every month. Also, LHIN-related updates and reports will be posted on this site at the beginning of every month, if necessary.**