

BULLETIN 6

MARCH 2007

SETTING HEALTH CARE STRATEGY FOR THE NEXT 10 YEARS

If you could measure passion in numbers, then it's evident that residents and health care providers within the Central West LHIN are very passionate about health care. Over ninety people filled a conference room to capacity in Brampton on March 5th to share their views on the province of Ontario's 10Year Strategic Health System Plan.

Hosted by Linda Jeffrey, MPP for Brampton Centre, and Adalsteinn Brown, Assistant Deputy Minister, Health System Strategy Division, Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, the session provided attendees with insight into the transformations that have taken place in Ontario's health system and a snapshot of the priorities we will need to focus on in the future to deliver a sustainable health system in the long term.

"This is a tremendous opportunity for people in our community to contribute to the provincial health care plan by making sure the government knows what their priorities are when it comes to health care close to home," noted Jeffrey.

Reinforcing our local perspective was Joe McReynolds, Board Chair, Central West LHIN, whose presentation on the LHIN's Integrated Health Services Plan (IHSP) yielded a list of health care priorities identified by residents and health care providers through months of extensive community engagement activities.

A focus on maternal/child services, mental health and addiction services, palliative care/end of life services, rehabilitation services, and services for seniors, are key priorities that have already been captured in the Central West LHIN's three year health care plan for the region.



Discussion sessions yielded enthusiastic participation from attendees

During the discussion sessions, attendees were asked what they expect our health care system should do for Ontarians in ten years, what principles or values should provide the foundation for the health care system, what the priorities should be in building a stronger health care system and a healthier Ontario, and what roles and responsibilities users of the system, patients, health care providers, employers, local

communities and government should have in shaping the health care system of the future.

Both McReynolds and Central West LHIN CEO Mimi Lowi-Young maximized the opportunity to move from table to table during the sessions to listen in and contribute to the dialogue about the province's **10 Year Strategic Plan**.

"I was impressed by the level of energy in the room," said McReynolds, noting "The feedback provided throughout the evening really confirmed for me that the Central West LHIN's health services plan is on the right track."

This public regional consultation session was just one of many being hosted across the province. The provincial government's health plan is designed to build a health care system that delivers on three priorities – keeping Ontarians healthy, reducing wait times and providing better access to doctors and nurses.

If you missed the opportunity to participate in the March 5th session and would like to provide input into Ontario's 10 year plan, please visit www.ourplanforhealth.ca.



Brampton Centre MPP Linda Jeffrey welcomes a capacity audience



Adalesteinn Brown shares insight into Ontario's 10 Year Strategic Plan



Board Chair Joe McReynolds highlights Central West LHIN's key priorities



www.centralwesthin.on.ca