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North East LHIN



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HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Excerpt from “[NE LHIN News, Winter 2009](#)”

I'm beginning the New Year optimistically. Given 2009's anticipated challenges, you might be surprised.

Last year ended with sobering economic news, with unprecedented ALC pressures in our communities and with excellent comments being received from our health service providers on how best to move forward with integration initiatives within our LHIN.

I'm optimistic. To be successful in planning, funding and integrating health care services, our NE LHIN has to work in partnership. And along with vast natural resources, collaboration is one of the assets that our North East region has in abundance.

Organizations, businesses and individuals around the world are pausing to refocus in view of the deteriorating financial situation taking place on a global scale. The NE LHIN is no exception and we have positioned ourselves to face these new financial realities.

From a provincial health perspective, program development announced in the March 2008 Ontario budget was based on the assumption that the economy was growing. Today, with the significant slowdown, all government programs are being reviewed within this context, including health care. From a LHIN perspective, the financial downturn is being discussed at all levels.

Our integration strategy is all about delivering health care in a more streamlined manner so that the people who are receiving health care services are doing so within a seamless and easy to use system. Many health service providers continue to speak loudly and clearly about how best to move forward with encouraging integration activities within and between health service providers. And, we will take note of these comments at our first Board meeting on January 30, 2009.

Our efforts, in collaboration with many stakeholders, to help resolve ALC pressures across our LHIN have been focused on doing what is best for the patient – those that need care, but want to receive it outside of the hospital setting. Our five-point ALC Action Plan will be monitored on a monthly basis to ensure that it is continuing to best serve all people who both use and work in our health care system.

In collaboration with you, I am hopeful that we will move forward in 2009 in a positive way.

Yours in good health,

Rémy Beaudoin

CEO, NE LHIN

Final NE LHIN Seniors' Residential Housing/ Options Report Now On-line

The North East LHIN is the first LHIN in Ontario to commission a housing report to look at the current and future needs of seniors in terms of long-term care, retirement or assisted living, and supportive housing.

The study indicates that additional supplies of supportive housing options are required in the coming 25 years, both for a growing number of seniors, and suited to the needs of those in the more elderly age groups.

The study's overall purpose was to assess current seniors' housing needs and options within the North East LHIN, and outline future requirements at the local level for the range of services needed. Overall findings include:

- While the total population of the NE LHIN service area is projected to remain virtually constant over the next 25 years (projected to grow from 551,280 in 2006 to 556,390 in 2031 – a 0.9% total increase), the population age 65 and over is projected to increase from 90,985 to 162,260 – an increase of 71,275 seniors, or 78.3%.
- Of particular significance is the projection that population in the more elderly age group (75 and over) is expected to grow from 39,905 in 2006 to 73,710 – an increase of

84.7%.

- This projection also finds that the population within the age groups below 65 is actually expected to decline by 66,165 during this time period. Accordingly, by 2031, it is projected that persons age 65 and over will comprise 29.1% of the total North East LHIN population – almost one of every three persons and almost double the 2006 level of 16.5%.
- In order for the supply of seniors' housing to simply keep pace with projected growth in the seniors' population, an increase of 8,409 beds or units over the next 25 years, or an average addition of 336 per year, would be required across the North East LHIN's Planning Areas.
- The NE LHIN will need over 6,000 more long-term care beds if no progress is made to achieve a more balanced health care system. An investment of 6,000 – 8,000 supportive housing units could eliminate the need for additional long-term care beds in the future (over the next 25 years).
- Demand for retirement home/assisted living units in the North East LHIN is projected to rise by 76% between 2008 and 2031 to approximately 3,575 beds or units.
- The demand for convalescent care beds is anticipated to grow by 80% over the next 23 years, from a current demand of 53 beds to 96 beds by 2031.
- The demand for residential hospice beds is projected to reach 62 beds by 2031, 27 more beds than current demand estimates.

 [View full report](#)

One Week Left to Submit Your Comments and Suggestions on Integration Incentives

The deadline to submit your comments on the [three options under consideration](#), and/or to forward your thoughts on **additional** possible integration incentive options is **Friday, January 16, 4:00 pm**. Submissions will not be responded to, but will be collated for consideration by the Board of Directors at its January 30, 2009 meeting in North Bay.

 [Submit your comments](#)

NE LHIN News, Winter 2009, Now Available!

Learn more about:

- ALC Challenges and Solutions
- Seniors' Residential Housing/Options Report
- ALC Community Steering Group
- 2008 In Review
- NE LHIN Photo Contest
- e-health update

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