

[« Previous Page](#)

North East LHIN



e-Bulletin

Week of May 22, 2009 - Vol 3 No. 12

Newest Member of NE LHIN Team...

Tamara Shewciw is the newest member of the NE LHIN. Tamara will begin work with us on May 25 in her role as the Chief Information Officer. Tamara will be a welcomed member of our Senior Management Team and will be responsible for the development and implementation of eHealth across the entire health system in the North East LHIN. Tamara will provide leadership and strategic direction to the NE LHIN, including the coordination of key stakeholders planning and engagement related to eHealth.

Tamara comes to us from the Group Health Centre in Sault Ste. Marie where she was part of the Senior Executive team. There, Tamara championed Information and Communication Technology (ICT) throughout the organization, increasing the effectiveness of ICT and achieving the ultimate goal of optimizing clinical and business outcomes. The Group Health Centre's Electronic Medical Record (EMR) system was implemented in 1997 and is one of Canada's largest primary care databases, with over 60,000 comprehensive patient records.

Tamara is a graduate of Laurentian University in Sudbury with a Bachelor of Commerce. Tamara has over 25 years experience in ICT, with the last 17 years being in the health care sector. She participates in regional, provincial and national committees within the health ICT sector and countless speaker presentations on the successes of e-health. She is the current Ontario Local Health Integration Networks (LHIN) e-Health Lead representing the North Eastern Ontario LHIN. Welcome to the NE LHIN Tamara!

Aging at Home / ALC Announcement

On Tuesday, May 19, the NE LHIN announced \$11.4 million to ensure more seniors can continue to live independently and to allow hospital patients to receive appropriate care in the right setting.

As part of the **Aging at Home**



Strategy, the NE LHIN

announced 24 approved projects as part of the \$6.2 million allotted for Year 2 of the Strategy. The remaining 18 projects are expected to be approved in the next several weeks. The goal of the Aging at Home Strategy is to help seniors receive needed health services in the comfort and dignity of their own homes and communities, instead of in a hospital.

[Learn more](#) on the announcement and projects approved to date.

(PHOTO: Remy Beaudoin, CEO of the North East LHIN, speaks to a group of seniors along with Mathilde Gravelle Bazinet, NE LHIN Chair and Monique Smith, MPP for Nipissing at Place St-Vincent in North Bay.)

eHealth Ontario Launches Canada's first ePrescribing Program

On May 12, eHealth Ontario launched e-prescribing. ePrescribing is the process of generating, authorizing and transmitting prescriptions from doctors and other prescribers to pharmacists and other dispensers. It eliminates hand-written prescriptions by physicians and facilitates the electronic delivery of prescriptions to pharmacies.

Two sites have been selected for the ePrescribing Demonstration Project: The Group Health Centre in Sault Ste. Marie and Georgian Bay Family Health Team in Collingwood.

Through the two sites, eHealth Ontario will examine workflow, change management requirements, regulation guidelines and the impact on physicians, nurse practitioners, pharmacists and patients. The project will help inform future implementation of a province-wide ePrescribing system.

This new tool is a key component of eHealth Ontario's Medication Management strategy and is expected to dramatically improve patient safety and quality of care by reducing prescription errors.

[Learn more](#)

NE LHIN OCAN Training Kicked-off during Mental Health Week

On May 5th, seven community mental health organizations kicked off the OCAN Training for the North East LHIN Ontario Common Assessment of Need (OCAN) implementation pilot. OCAN Coordinators and their "back-ups" attended the session designed to give an overview and introduction of the OCAN tool. Participants were also provided with the necessary tools and materials to implement effective training strategies within their organizations by the Community Mental Health Common Assessment Project (CMH CAP) Education team. This information-packed three-day event gave participating organizations an opportunity to network and share ideas about this standardized, consumer led decision making tool with their peers.

It is particularly timely to have introduced OCAN's consumer-centric approach to these organizations during this year's Mental Health Week with its theme of "Now More than Ever – Invest in Yourself". As one training participant noted, "OCAN provides information sharing and ensures the consumer is not being assessed many times by multiple organizations. Using this tool allows a person the opportunity to express individual goals and work on achieving these goals together with staff."

OCAN Training sessions pilot organizations across the NE LHIN will continue until early July, after which they will "Go Live" with the tool. For more information about the NE LHIN OCAN Pilot and the CMH CAP, contact the Support Centre at 1.866.909.5600/416.314.7365 or cmhcap@ontario.ca

Regional Addictions and Mental Health Advisory Panel (RAP) Hold First Meeting

On Thursday, May 14, the inaugural meeting of the newly formed **Regional Addictions and Mental Health Advisory Panel (RAP)** took place in North Bay. The RAP's membership and associated gaps was reviewed as were the terms of reference for both the RAP and three of its task forces, and discussions took place regarding the communications process for RAP work.

Earlier this year, the NE LHIN and the Northeast Mental Health Centre (NEMHC) agreed to implement the RAP, recognizing the need for both regional and local mental health providers to communicate, engage in coordinated planning, and work within the NE LHIN's Integration Strategy.

The RAP will operate through task forces comprised of appropriately qualified individuals drawn from throughout the region, with staff support organized and deployed to ensure effective use of all participants' time. RAP will make every effort to keep the planning process transparent allowing for a high degree of communication between RAP and communities throughout the north east.

More information on the RAP will be posted to the NE LHIN website within the next week.

H1N1 Virus

The North East LHIN continues to post all available information on the [H1N1 virus on our website](#). In addition, the Ministry has established a toll-free Healthcare Providers Hotline, 1-866-212-2272. Individuals can also register to receive the latest information directly by accessing www.publichealthontario.ca.

Year-end Reports Now Available

Year-end reports (combined Annual Reconciliation Report/4th Quarter (ARR/Q4)) are now available on the Web Enabled Reporting System (WERS) for the following sectors:

- Community Mental Health and Addiction
- Community Support Service
- Community Care Access Centre

The ARR/Q4 and audited financial statement are due June 30, 2009 and is to be submitted on WERS. In addition, a signed and certified hard copy of the ARR/Q4 and audited financial statements are to be mailed to the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care; and your NE LHIN PCA Consultant. The Ministry's mailing address can be found on the "Read Me" section on the ARR/Q4 or at www.mohltcfim.com.

For clarifications and/or questions, please contact your NELHIN PCA Consultant.

Engage 2009 – Participate Today

The North East LHIN has launched a region-wide engagement approach to seek input and to help determine local health care priorities as part of its Integrated Health Service Plan (IHSP) refresh.

Engage 2009 will use a variety of ways to seek people's input, from all corners of North East Ontario in setting priorities that are reflective of our region's local health care needs. The on-line forum on the NE LHIN website is now active. Health care professionals and citizens from across the region can post their thoughts on health care and engage in a discussion with fellow citizens.

As part of the robust information gathering and exchange, the NE LHIN will be holding engagement sessions of a wide variety to see people's input, for example, open houses, focus groups, surveys, blogs, and more.

Engage 2009 will be active until September 30, 2009. Submit your thoughts on our region's health care priorities today – www.nelhin.on.ca/engage2009.

NE LHIN Dr. Hudson Visit

Dr. Alan Hudson, Lead, Access to Services and Wait Times and Chair of eHealth Ontario will be visiting the North East LHIN on Thursday, May 28, 2009 and will provide an update via from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the North East LHIN Office, 555 Oak Street East, 3rd Floor Boardroom, North Bay, Videoconference locations as well as Teleconference Availability.

This is the third annual visit to our LHIN. Dr. Hudson is visiting LHINs across Ontario to provide information and obtain advice on:

1. ongoing initiatives related to Ontario's Wait Time Strategy;
2. the progress being made on ER/ALC; and
3. the new eHealth Ontario agency which Dr. Hudson chairs.

This event will be available through videoconferencing. If you would like to participate, please self-register your specific video-site directly by calling OTN at 1-888-346-6784 quoting event number: #7555257 or online at <https://schedule.otn.ca/tsm/portal/nonclinical/details.do?request.requestId=7555257>.

In addition, a maximum of 10 teleconference lines are available on a first-come first-served basis. The dial-in number for the event is: 905-415-3132.

Please RSVP with Lianne Bettiol, Executive Assistant at: lianne.bettiol@lhins.on.ca or 1-866-906-5446 ext. 213. by May 22, 2009.

NE LHIN Photo Contest

The NE LHIN is holding a photo contest between now and September 30 and is inviting people living in North East Ontario to submit photographs of people and places across the region. Images entered may be used by the North East LHIN in its newsletter, website and other editorial and promotional materials. The three photos judged the very best will earn one of three prizes of new digital cameras. Images should reflect and support the North East LHIN's vision of Health and Wellness for All!

Entries which reflect the vibrant people, life and landscapes of North East Ontario will be received with interest. Complete contest details, and how to submit your entries, are available at www.nelhin.on.ca.

