



LHINsight

LHINsight is the Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant Local Health Integration Network (HNHB LHIN) electronic newsletter. Please share it with colleagues, clients, friends and family.

Creating a health care system that helps keep people healthy, gets them good care when they are sick, and will be there for our children and grandchildren.

June 2010 - Volume 1

In this newsletter:

[Update from the Board Meeting - May 25, 2010](#)

[Residents Have Better Access to Foot Care Services](#)

[Assessing Individuals for Nutritional Risk](#)

[Dialysis Unit Open at Six Nations](#)

[Events Calendar](#)

Update from the Board Meeting - May 25, 2010

The minutes from the May 25, 2010 board meeting will be posted following approval at the June 29 meeting. In the meantime, please read through some of the highlights from the meeting.

[Read more...](#)

Residents Have Better Access to Foot Care Services

HNHB LHIN residents now have better access to foot care services. Through Year 2 of the provincial Aging at Home Strategy, the HNHB LHIN funded two foot care programs to help people with diabetes maintain healthy feet, healthy lives, and independence.

[Read more...](#)

Assessing Individuals for Nutritional Risk

On May 6 2010, the HNHB LHIN held a SCREEN training session with LHIN-funded meal and food service providers. SCREEN is a tool that assesses nutritional risk in individuals and links them to appropriate services, including food and meal programs.

[Read more...](#)

Dialysis Unit Open at Six Nations

On June 1, 2010, the official grand opening ceremony was held for the *Gil Martin Dialysis Unit* at Six Nations. This satellite unit of St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton is currently equipped to provide dialysis treatment for 12 patients.

[Read more...](#)

Events Calendar

Check out upcoming events in the HNHB LHIN, including the **HNHB LHIN Board of Directors special meeting on June 15 and regular meeting on June 29.**

[Read more...](#)

LHINs are the only organizations in Ontario that bring together health care partners from the following sectors – hospitals, community care, community support services, community mental health and addictions, community health centres and long-term care – to develop innovative, collaborative solutions leading to more timely access to high quality services for the residents of Ontario and HNHB LHIN communities. By supporting these important partnerships, LHINs are ensuring that Ontarians have access to an effective and efficient health care system that delivers improved health care results and a better patient experience.

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Update from the Board Meeting - May 25, 2010

The minutes from the May 25, 2010 board meeting will be posted following approval at the June 29 meeting. In the meantime, please read through some of the highlights from the meeting.

Highlights:

- This was the last official Board of Directors meeting for Janice Mills, Board Member.
 - An additional Board Meeting may be scheduled for June 15, 2010, to review hospital funding allocations.
 - Staff presented an update on the alternate level of care (ALC) rate and stocktake report for the HNHB LHIN. At the beginning of 2009-10, the ALC rate was 22.5%. By March 31, 2010, the ALC rate was 14%. As of last week, there is data to suggest that the ALC rate has dropped to 13.8%.
 - The Board of Directors approved the Audited Financial statements of the HNHB LHIN for 2009-10, prepared by Deloitte and Touche.
 - The Board of Directors approved in principle the template for the new Ministry-LHIN Performance Agreement. The performance targets are still to be negotiated with the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care.
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Residents Have Better Access to Foot Care Services

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Aging at Home Strategy, the HNHB LHIN funded two foot care programs to help people with diabetes maintain healthy feet, healthy lives, and independence.

Best Foot Forward

The Best Foot Forward program provides foot care for people who are at very high risk for foot ulcers and amputations as a result of their diabetes and chronic kidney failure, and who are unable to afford foot care service.

The program is coordinated through the HNHB LHIN Chronic Kidney Disease Centres. The units will coordinate client education programs for improved self assessment and self care. In addition, the units will provide monthly assessments of clients' feet.

Clients who have diabetes and receive in-home dialysis will receive foot care/assessment by health care professionals in coordination with the HNHB Community Care Access Centre. Chiropody care will be available if required.

Feet First: Steps for Health

This program provides assessment, treatment, and group education sessions for improved self-managed diabetes care. Clients are seniors and others with diabetes who are at moderate or high risk of developing lower limb complications.

Seniors and others in need of diabetic foot care services are referred to the program by their family doctor or health professional. Services are free and priority will be based on the severity of risk factors.

The Feet First team includes chiropodists, nursing staff and a dedicated receptionist.

For more details on the Best Foot Forward and Feet First programs, and statistics on the prevalence of diabetes in your community, please [click here](#).

Assessing Individuals for Nutritional Risk

On May 6 2010, the HNHB LHIN held a SCREEN training session with LHIN-funded meal and food service providers. SCREEN is a tool that assesses nutritional risk in individuals and links them to appropriate services, including food and meal programs. This was a follow-up session in response to ongoing training and information needs identified by meal and food service providers.

The focus of the session included:

- conducting SCREEN interviews with ease and confidence;
- using nutritional risk scores to match client need with food and meal services;
- standardized reporting; and

- standardized SCREEN data information collection.

Dr. Heather Keller from the University of Guelph highlighted the use of SCREEN in program decision-making and community referral. Trudy Jonkman, Wellness Coordinator, Stratford Meals on Wheels and Neighbourly Services, shared her experiences using SCREEN, and how its is being used generally to promote health, wellness and well being.

Click here to view presentations from the training session:

- [Dr. Heather Keller – SCREEN Finetuning](#)
- [Trudy Jonkman – Stratford Meals on Wheels and Neighbourly Services](#)

The SCREEN tool is currently available in English and French and will shortly be available in six additional languages: Italian, Spanish, Arabic, Chinese, Punjabi and Urdu.

Dialysis Unit Open at Six Nations

On June 1, 2010, the official grand opening ceremony was held for the *Gil Martin Dialysis Unit* at Six Nations. This satellite unit of St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton is currently equipped to provide dialysis treatment for 12 patients.

The greatest benefit of the unit to patients is the reduced travel time. Prior to the opening of this unit, residents of Six Nations and nearby areas had to travel to Hamilton or elsewhere for dialysis treatment. Now, dialysis treatment is available closer to home.

Among those who spoke at the ceremony were:

- Ruby Jacobs, HNHB LHIN Board Member
- Dr. Euan Carlisle, Head of Service, Department of Nephrology – St. Joseph's Healthcare, Hamilton
- Helen Angus, Vice President Ontario Renal Network
- Chief W. Montour, Six Nations of the Grand River

[Click here to read related articles:](#)

[Community Achievement: Grand Opening of the Dialysis Unit](#) - Six Nations of the Grand River Council Update

[Six Nations Dialysis clinic sees patients](#) - The Brantford Expositor

[New dialysis unit for Six Nations](#) - The Hamilton Spectator

Upcoming Events

Click on the dates for details.

Tuesday, June 15, 2010

HNHB LHIN Special Board Meeting

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Grimsby

Tuesday, June 15, 2010

Successful Aging Speakers' Series: Don't let your Brain Drain

1:00 - 2:00 p.m. followed by Q&A

Hamilton

Thursday, June 17, 2010

Delivering Client Centred Services in Supported and Supportive Housing

8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Hamilton

Tuesday, June 22, 2010

Senior's Health and Information Fair

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Dundas

Thursday, June 24, 2010

Stroke Education Evening

6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Fort Erie

Tuesday, June 29, 2010

HNHB LHIN Board Meeting

4:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Grimsby

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June 2010 - Volume 2

In this newsletter:

[CEO Pat Mandy Announces Her Retirement](#)

[Board Welcomes New Member Helen Mulligan](#)

[Helping Seniors Stay Healthy Through Falls Prevention](#)

[HNHB LHIN Joins the Twitterverse](#)

[Good News from Our Partners](#)

[Events Calendar](#)

CEO Pat Mandy Announces Her Retirement

At its June 15, 2010 meeting, the HNHB LHIN Board of Directors received notice from CEO Pat Mandy of her intention to retire.

[Read more...](#)

Board Welcomes New Member Helen Mulligan

Helen Mulligan is the newest addition to the HNHB LHIN Board of Directors. Her three-year appointment from the Lieutenant Governor in Council was effective June 17, 2010.

[Read more...](#)

Helping Seniors Stay Healthy Through Falls Prevention

The Falls Prevention Strategy is a LHIN-wide initiative to help seniors keep healthy and maintain independence. The goal of the Falls Prevention Strategy is to prevent, decrease the incidence, and reduce the impact of falls among seniors living in our LHIN communities.

[Read more...](#)

HNHB LHIN Joins the Twitterverse

The HNHB LHIN is now on Twitter! Follow HNHB_LHINfo and HNHB_LHINgage.

[Read more...](#)

Good News from Our Partners

In this section, we share the good news and announcements from our health service providers and partners.

[Read more...](#)

Events Calendar

Check out upcoming events in the HNHB LHIN.

[Read more...](#)

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CEO Pat Mandy Announces Her Retirement



At its June 15, 2010 meeting, the HNHBLHIN Board of Directors received notice from CEO Pat Mandy of her intention to retire.

Pat Mandy has been with the HNHBLHIN since its inception and in that time has guided the organization through its initial growth and development. During her tenure, Pat was instrumental in, among other things, the creation of two Integrated Health Service Plans (IHSP) to guide the LHIN's priorities, the development of the LHIN's Clinical Services Plan which outlines three key directions for health system improvement, the formation of the HNHBLHIN's Aging at Home

priorities, and the leadership and oversight of the day-to-day management of the organization.

Pat has also been actively involved in the development of HNHBLHIN's Aboriginal health and wellness planning as well as numerous provincial initiatives, committees and networks. Her last day will be September 3, 2010.

Read the [media release](#).

Board Welcomes New Member Helen Mulligan

Helen Mulligan is the newest addition to the HNHB LHIN Board of Directors. Her three-year appointment from the Lieutenant Governor in Council was effective June 17, 2010.



Ms. Mulligan brings to her new role a wealth of knowledge and expertise. After earning her certificate from the Brantford General Hospital School of Nursing, Ms. Mulligan spent more than 35 years as a Registered Nurse, working in paediatrics, intensive care and emergency, and geriatrics. Throughout her career, she pursued further education in gerontology and various management certificates. She has also served on a number of boards and committees in varying capacities, including, Board Chair of the Grand River Community Health Centre (2008-10), Board Chair of the Brant County Health Unit (2008-09), Board member and Past Chair of Brant County Ambulance Committee (2000-06), and Board member and Vice Chair of South Dumfries Non-Profit Housing (2000-06).

Ms. Mulligan's experience demonstrates her deep commitment to community involvement. She has been involved with the Community Physician Recruitment Committee - Brant, Brantford Community Foundation, Willett Program Advisory Committee and Ontario Trillium Foundation.

Read the [media release](#).

Helping Seniors Stay Healthy Through Falls Prevention

The Falls Prevention Strategy is a LHIN-wide initiative to help seniors keep healthy and maintain independence. The goal of the Falls Prevention Strategy is to prevent, decrease the incidence, and reduce the impact of falls among seniors living in our LHIN communities. The focus of Year 2 of the Aging at Home strategy was on falls prevention. Approved programs include: a travelling falls prevention clinic, exercise programs, home modifications, foot care, and continence care.

In 2008-2009 in the HNHB LHIN, falls among seniors age 65 and over resulted in approximately 12,000 visits to an emergency department or urgent care centre and led to about 3,500 hospitalizations. The average length of a hospital stay for a fall was 17.8 days (*Source: IntelliHealth Ontario, Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care.*)



[Click here](#) to view maps that highlight the concentration of falls both LHIN-wide and in smaller geographic areas.

The HNHB LHIN is one of 16 sites across the province that has been given the opportunity by the Registered Nurses Association of Ontario (RNAO) to become a Best Practice Spotlight Organization (BPSO). Through a three-year candidacy period, the LHIN is focusing on the following Best Practice Guidelines (BPGs):

1. [Prevention of Falls and Fall Injuries in the Older Adult](#)
2. [Risk Assessment and Prevention of Pressure Ulcers](#)
3. [Embracing Cultural Diversity in Health Care: Developing Cultural Competence](#)

Health service providers across sectors are working together to implement these BPGs. [Click here](#) for more information and for a list of participating organizations.

Numbers and Rates of Falls Among Seniors 65+ in the HNHB LHIN (2008-2009)				
	Visits to Emergency/Urgent Care		Hospitalizations	
	Number of People	Rate per 1,000 Population	Number of People	Rate per 1,000 Population
Hamilton	4,224	54.3	1,225	15.7
Niagara	4,508	58.6	1,298	16.9
Haldimand & Norfolk	971	54.5	296	16.6
Brant	1,038	54.1	364	19.0
Burlington	1,292	46.2	379	13.5
HNHB LHIN	12,033	55.4	3,562	16.4
<i>Source: IntelliHealth Ontario, Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care</i>				

HNHB LHIN Joins the Twitterverse

The HNHB LHIN is now on Twitter! We want to join the conversations where they happen.

The HNHB LHIN has two accounts:

[HNHB_LHInfo](#)

Follow this account to get the latest news about LHIN initiatives and activities, read media releases and

newsletters, and learn about what's happening in health care in your community. *This account is managed by communications.*

HNHB_LHINgage

Follow this account to share your thoughts and ideas about health care and the health system, and learn about the ideas, resources and best practices that shape our work. *This account is managed by the community engagement team.*



Good News from Our Partners

A Day of Life

A Day of Life is a short film designed to help individuals and their families understand and transition into long-term care. The video includes three main topics:

- Managing personal and financial affairs
- What to expect when living in long-term care
- How to prepare yourself for a successful transition to long-term care

This video was filmed at Grandview Lodge long-term care home in Dunnville. Visit the [A Day of Life](#) website or [Haldimand County](#) website.

Innovative Focus on Leadership Key to Moving Forward

This [article](#) about Shalom Village in Hamilton appeared in The Morning Report from the Ontario Long-Term Care Association (OLCTA).

HHS Improvements: Easy as ABC

In this Hamilton Spectator article, Murray T. Martin, Hamilton Health Sciences President and CEO, talks about the HHS Access to Best Care plan. [Click here](#) to read.

West Lincoln Memorial Hospital Welcomes New CEO

On June 16 2010, Vickie Baird joined the hospital as new CEO. [Click here](#) to read the announcement from WLMH Board Chair, Robert Whitenect.

Upcoming Events

Thursday, July 1, 2010

Canada Day

HNHB LHIN Office **CLOSED**

Please Note:

Tuesday, July 27, 2010

HNHB LHIN Board Meeting - CANCELLED

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