



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.

July 2011

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Highlights from the Board Business Meeting

The minutes from the June 28 business meeting will be available following approval at the August 30 business meeting. In the meantime, please read through some of the highlights.

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NHS HIP Tripartite Committee

As requested by the Honourable Deb Matthews, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, the HNHB LHIN established the Niagara Health System (NHS) Hospital Improvement Plan (HIP) Tripartite Committee to develop the Terms of Reference for a third-party evaluation of the implemented phases of the HIP. The committee's first meeting was held July 18, 2011.

[Read more...](#)

Donna's Blog

Donna Cripps, CEO, began blogging just a few months ago. Check out an excerpt from her latest blog post, and be sure to read her next post on Monday, August 8.

[Read more...](#)

Home First: Kenneth's Story

Most seniors want to stay home or in their communities, in familiar surroundings, as they age. That's why the HNHB LHIN and the HNHB Community Care Access Centre (CCAC) and hospitals are working together on a philosophy of care planning called 'Home First.' Find out how the Home First philosophy helped Kenneth.

[Read more...](#)

Seeking Nominations for the Prime Minister's Volunteer Awards

The Prime Minister's Volunteer Awards is a new program that has been created to celebrate these Canadians who make a difference. The first call for nominations opened on July 12 and will close on September 9, 2011. Award recipients will be recognized at an award ceremony to be held in early 2012. Nominate someone today!

[Read more...](#)

Job Opportunity

Here's your opportunity to join the HNHB LHIN team! The HNHB LHIN is currently recruiting for the position of Program Assistant, Quality and Risk Management. The deadline to apply is July 29, 2011.

[Read more...](#)

Events Calendar

Check out upcoming events in the HNHB LHIN, including the **HNHB LHIN board business meeting August 30, 2011.**

[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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Highlights from the Board Business Meeting June 28, 2011

The minutes from the June 28 business meeting will be available following approval at the August 30 business meeting. In the meantime, please read through some of the highlights below.

- This was Mike Shea's first meeting as Chair.

As recommended by the Audit Committee:

- The board approved more than \$900,000 in funding for up to 12 Case Managers to support intensive case management for individuals who have been waiting as alternate level of care (ALC) for more than 40 days in LHIN hospitals.
 - The board approved more than \$350,000 to support four pilots for early detection and intervention for high risk seniors.
 - The board approved a \$338,000 expansion at Wellington Park for the addition of six Assess Restore beds and a Community Care Access Centre (CCAC) Case Manager.
 - The board endorsed the Integrated Regional Vascular Services Plan and approved \$1.9 million in funding to be phased in over three years.
 - The board endorsed the Thoracic Non-Malignant Clinical Services Plan and the development of a task force under the leadership of St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton.
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NHS HIP Tripartite Committee

On May 31, 2011, the Honourable Deb Matthews, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, requested the HNHB LHIN initiate an independent third-party evaluation of the implemented phases of the Niagara Health System (NHS) Hospital Improvement Plan (HIP). [Read the letter.](#)

The HNHB LHIN established the Niagara Health System (NHS) Hospital Improvement Plan (HIP) Tripartite Committee to develop the Terms of Reference for the evaluation. The Committee includes representation from the HNHB LHIN Board, NHS Board, and councillors of Niagara Region.

Committee Members:

- Bob Lawler, Chair, NHS HIP Tripartite Committee (HNHB LHIN Board)
- Douglas Archibald (HNHB LHIN Board)
- Bill Millar (HNHB LHIN Board)
- Paul Leon (NHS Board)
- Betty-Lou Souter (NHS Board)
- David Schram (NHS Board)
- Gary Burroughs (Niagara Region Council)
- Vance Badawey (Niagara Region Council)
- Doug Martin (Niagara Region Council)

The first meeting took place Monday, July 18, 2011. The agenda included:

- [Roles and Principles](#)
- [NHS Reviews Conducted to Date](#)
- [NHS HIP Implementation Status](#)
- [LHIN Procurement Process](#)
- [Terms of Reference Template](#)

The next committee meeting takes place Friday, July 29, from 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.

[Click here](#) to learn more about this committee.

Donna's Blog

Donna Cripps, CEO, began blogging just a few months ago. Check out an excerpt from her latest blog post (below), and be sure to read her next post on Monday, August 8.

If you've ever heard me speak, then you've likely heard me talk about how the LHIN is helping people get the 'best care, in the right place, at the right time.' I use this phrase often because it is truly what the LHIN is all about – helping seniors live independently at home where we know they want to be; helping people get care in the community so they avoid unnecessary emergency room visits and hospital stays; helping people in hospital return home sooner.

Actions speak louder than words so I'll give you an example.

Here's one local resident's story; let's call him Omar. Omar went to the emergency room at St. Joseph's Hospital in Hamilton, where it was determined that he needed to see a doctor who specializes in internal

medicine (General Internal Medicine (GIM) specialist). Typically, patients who go to the ER and need to see a GIM specialist are admitted to hospital so the ER physician can ensure the patient gets the care needed. Instead, Omar was able to go home because he was referred to an outpatient clinic – General Internal Medicine Rapid Access Clinic (GIMRAC) – where he had an appointment the next day.

At the clinic, Omar had a chest pain work up, including x-ray and heart stress test, and received the results. He was seen by a GIM specialist and a pharmacist reviewed his medications. All of this happened in one place, in four hours total, without having to be admitted to hospital.

This is just one example of how the LHIN is helping people get the best care, in the right place, at the right time.

[Read the full July 2011 blog post.](#)



[Sign up to receive Donna's Blog](#)

Home First

Helping People Return Home After a Hospital Stay

Most seniors want to stay home or in their communities, in familiar surroundings, as they age. In 2008, the HNHB LHIN heard this loud and clear from seniors themselves in 'Let's Talk' conversations that occurred throughout the LHIN. According to a Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) report, at least 85% of those over age 55 plan to remain in their present home for as long as possible.

That's why the HNHB LHIN and the HNHB Community Care Access Centre (CCAC) and hospitals are working together on a philosophy of care planning called 'Home First.' For patients in hospital, the goal is to help people return home from hospital and stay safely at home with community supports. For people living in the community, the goal is to avoid hospital admission or premature admission to long-term care.

Kenneth's Story

Kenneth's family understands the rigours of caring for aging parents all too well. His daughter-in-law Ramona worked through the long-term care home placement process with Kenneth's wife three years ago. Ramona found herself faced with the same prospect for her father-in-law, whose steady health care decline culminated in a near death experience and an admission to hospital.

Working together, CCAC and hospital staff can ensure that people have the maximum number of options available to them and that they have time and support to make life-changing decisions. Sometimes, individuals can come home and stay at home with appropriate supports in place. Other times, they may come home just long enough to be able to say goodbye to their home as they prepare for their move to a long-term care home.

"Our case manager was a ray of sunshine on a cloudy day and I will never forget what she did for us," says Ramona. "We have set the framework for a wonderful future for my in-laws. Our family is eternally grateful to the CCAC and we thank our case manager from the bottom of our hearts."

Ramona says they were lucky to be assigned to a CCAC case manager when her father-in-law was admitted to hospital. She felt her case manager saw the need as her family did to get Kenneth to a nursing home quickly and they agreed about the home first philosophy. The CCAC case manager led Kenneth's family through a process that would have been difficult to navigate otherwise, making sure they had the support and information they needed.

Seeking Nominations for the Prime Minister's Volunteer Awards

Communities rely on strong support from a number of sources, including volunteers, businesses and not-for-profit organizations. That support could include activities like raising funds for community projects, giving employees time to volunteer or creating a new after-school program for at-risk youth, to list only a few examples.

Every day, local businesses, not-for-profit organizations and thousands of individuals volunteer their time, energy and skills to improve the well-being of families and communities across the country. They help make Canada stronger by creating change and inspiring hope.

The Prime Minister's Volunteer Awards is a new program that has been created to celebrate these Canadians who make a difference. A total of 17 awards will be given at both the regional and national level. Recipients will be eligible to identify a not-for-profit organization to receive a grant for \$5,000 (regional award) or \$10,000 (national award).

Those chosen for the awards must be nominated. The first call for nominations opened on July 12 and will close on September 9, 2011. Award recipients will be recognized at an award ceremony to be held in early 2012.

Do you know an individual or group, a business or not-for-profit organization that is making a difference in your community? Recognize their contributions and show your appreciation by submitting a nomination.

To learn more about the Prime Minister's Volunteer Awards, please visit <http://www.pm.gc.ca/awards> or call 1-877-825-0434.

Job Opportunity

Here's your opportunity to join the HNHB LHIN team!

The HNHB LHIN is currently recruiting for the position of **Program Assistant, Quality and Risk Management**.

The deadline to apply is 9:00 a.m. on Friday, July 29, 2011.

[Click here](#) to read the posting.

Upcoming Events

Community Events

Monday, August 1, 2011

Civic Holiday

HNHB LHIN Office CLOSED

August 22-26, 2011

[Brain Waves Summer Program for Kids](#)

Brantford

Tuesday, August 30, 2011

[HNHB LHIN Board Business Meeting](#)

4:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Grimsby

For more community events, [click here](#).

Health Service Provider Events

September 9-10, 2011: Cardiology Update 2011

September 15-16, 2011: Geriatric Assessment Training Program

September 30, 2011: Annual McMaster Update in Thromboembolism and Hemostasis

For more HSP events, [click here](#).

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