



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.

May 2012 - Volume 2

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Update from the Board Meeting

The minutes from the May 30, 2012 board business meeting will be posted following approval at the June 27 business meeting. In the meantime, please read through some of the highlights from meeting.

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ACTION Work Progressing

The HNNB LHIN ACTION project is well underway. The Citizens' Reference Panel met for the first time on May 23 to learn about the role of the LHIN and to provide participants with an overview of the ACTION project and the CRP's role within it. Be sure to **read [Donna's Blog on Monday, June 4](#)** to learn how you too can share your thoughts for an improved health system.

[Read more...](#)

Seniors Benefitting from Groundbreaking Project

Local seniors living in the HNHB LHIN are starting to see changes in how care is provided in long-term care homes, hospitals and the community. Through the Behavioural Supports Ontario (BSO) Project new services, programs and training are now being introduced to provide appropriate care and support for an increasing number of seniors across Ontario and their families and caregivers, who live and cope with dementia, mental illness and/or other neurological conditions.

[Read more...](#)

1st LHIN to Become RNAO 'Best Practice Spotlight Organization'

People are benefitting from higher quality care thanks to a collaborative initiative to promote and increase the use of best practices in clinical settings. The HNHB LHIN and its partner organizations recently celebrated the LHIN's designation as a Best Practice Spotlight Organization (BPSO) by the Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario (RNAO). The goal of this initiative has been to improve people's health outcomes and experience by implementing best practice guidelines.

[Read more...](#)

New Rehab Addition at HDS Will Help Seniors Get Back on Their Feet

The new 5,750 square foot rehabilitation space opening this summer at Hotel Dieu Shaver Health and Rehabilitation Centre is designed to be innovative, bright and senior friendly. Filled with all the amenities of a modern rehabilitation centre there are several features that will be of tremendous benefit to seniors.

[Read more...](#)

Feature Tweets

Stay informed of HNHB LHIN initiatives and activities by following us on Twitter.

[Read more...](#)

Events Calendar

Check out upcoming events in the HNHB LHIN including the **Board business meeting June 27.**

[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 30, 2012

The minutes from the May 30, 2012 board business meeting will be posted following approval at the June 27 business meeting. In the meantime, please read through some of the highlights from meeting.

Highlights

- Donna Cripps shared high level learnings from a health care forum she attended in April. She noted the speakers highlighted three big changes coming to health care: 1) the ability to target therapy, 2) the empowered and engaged consumer, and 3) data driven medicine. She also shared an interesting resource she learned about that lets patients talk with other patients: www.patientslikemecom.
- Donna provided an update on the progress of the LHIN's [ACTION](#) work, specifically related to community engagement in the form of the Citizens' Reference Panel (CRP). See the story below for an update.
- Mark Farrow will be the LHIN's new Chief Information Officer (CIO) and eHealth Lead, as Murray Glendining transitions to a new role in the health care sector.
- March and April were busy months for the board as they met with local MPPs and health service providers.
- Staff were congratulated by Audit Committee Chair Bob Lawler for their hard work in achieving a successful 2011-12 audit.
- The 2012-13 Annual Business Plan which outlines goals and action plans for each priority identified in the LHIN's Integrated Health Service Plan (IHSP) was approved by the board and will be available at www.hnhblhin.on.ca shortly.

- Care and service is changing for older adults and seniors with responsive behaviours thanks to a groundbreaking provincial project, [Behavioural Supports Ontario \(BSO\)](#). Key successes were highlighted:
 - The development and initial testing of the new models of care is completed.
 - 41 staff have been recruited to the BSO Long-Term Care Home Mobile Team.
 - 15 staff have been recruited to support the community model.
 - 78 of the LHIN's 86 long-term care homes have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the mobile teams.
 - More than 600 long-term care home staff have received specialized training.
- The LHIN is making progress in improving quality of care and reducing wait times for key indicators outlined in the Ministry-LHIN Performance Agreement (MLPA):
 - There is an 11 day improvement in wait times for cataract surgeries comparing March 2012 to December 2011 - a steady improvement.
 - Wait times for Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) have been equal to or below the provincial wait time, below the LHIN target and continues a downward trend.
 - Computerized Tomography (CT) wait times have continued to improve in March 2012 and are below the LHIN target for the second straight month.
 - Through a targeted strategy, 169 patients were discharged from hospital who together had accumulated more than 30,000 Alternate Level of Care (ALC) days.

Unable to attend our Board meetings? [Follow us on Twitter to stay informed through live tweets!](#)

ACTION Work Progressing



The HNHB LHIN ACTION project is well underway. The Citizens' Reference Panel met for the first time on May 23 to learn about the role of the LHIN and to provide participants with an overview of the ACTION project and the CRP's role within it.

The CRP will come together again on June 2 to learn about the current state of our health system and develop ideas for system transformation.



Be sure to [read Donna's Blog on Monday, June 4](#) to learn how you too can share your thoughts for an improved health system.

To learn more about ACTION: A Call To IntegratiOn Now, visit www.hnhblhin.on.ca or [click here](#).



Seniors Benefitting from Groundbreaking Project

Local seniors living in the HNHB LHIN are starting to see changes in how care is provided in long-term care homes, hospitals and the community. Through the [Behavioural Supports Ontario \(BSO\) Project](#) new services, programs and training are now being introduced to provide appropriate care and support for an increasing number of seniors across Ontario and their families and caregivers, who live and cope with dementia, mental illness and/or other neurological conditions.

First announced by the province last August, BSO represents a comprehensive system redesign that has successfully broken down barriers, encouraged collaborative work, shared knowledge and fostered partnerships among local, regional and provincial agencies. The result is a cultural transformation; a new way of thinking, acting and behaving.

In the HNHB LHIN, health service providers worked together to develop a local action plan that has led to: Individuals and their caregivers beginning to access community services more easily and experience better coordination of services; Individuals and their caregivers have access to enhanced crisis support in the community; and, Increased collaboration among health service providers across the continuum of care.

Read the [media release](#) and [backgrounder](#).

1st LHIN to Become RNAO 'Best Practice Spotlight Organization'



People are benefitting from higher quality care thanks to a collaborative initiative to promote and increase the use of best practices in clinical settings. The HNHB LHIN and its partner organizations recently celebrated the LHIN's designation as a Best Practice Spotlight Organization (BPSO) by the Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario (RNAO).

The goal of this initiative has been to improve people's health outcomes and experience by implementing best practice guidelines. By following a number of best practices, patient care is guided by world class research and health sciences.

Falls and pressure ulcers are major risks to patients in a variety of care settings. Over the three-year candidacy period which began April 2009, the work of this initiative focused on implementing best practices for these two areas.

Through this work, organizations across the LHIN can more efficiently assess individuals who may be at risk of falls or pressure ulcers. The information that is collected will facilitate trending and the continuous improvement of patient care for quality outcomes. The goal is to reduce patient falls and prevent and

manage pressure ulcers.

Key successes include the implementation of a risk assessment tool, the development of a toolkit to assist in the assessment of pressure ulcer risks, a common reporting system which will facilitate quarterly monitoring of patient outcomes, and the development of a LHIN-wide policy to standardize and promote best practices as patients transition between participating organizations.



In addition to the HNHB LHIN the other BPSO partner organizations are:

- Brant Community Healthcare System
- Haldimand War Memorial Hospital
- Hamilton Health Sciences
- HNHB Community Care Access Centre
- Hotel Dieu Shaver Health and Rehabilitation Centre
- Joseph Brant Memorial Hospital
- Niagara Health System
- Niagara Region Public Health
- Norfolk General Hospital
- St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton
- West Haldimand General Hospital
- West Lincoln Memorial Hospital

Read the [media release](#).

New Rehab Addition at HDS Will Help Seniors Get Back on Their Feet

Story submitted by Hotel Dieu Shaver Health and Rehabilitation Centre.

The new 5,750 square foot rehabilitation space opening this summer at Hotel Dieu Shaver Health and Rehabilitation Centre is designed to be innovative, bright and senior friendly.

Filled with all the amenities of a modern rehabilitation centre there are several features that will be of tremendous benefit to seniors. For example, the fully functional traffic light and pedestrian signal will allow our therapists to work with seniors to ensure they can cross various lanes of traffic safely and with confidence.

Getting into and out of a vehicle can often times be a challenge for seniors. That's why



we've placed a car inside our new area. Patients and family members, under the guidance and instruction of our occupational therapists, will be able to practice transferring in and out of a vehicle in a safe environment. Just as important it is for

families to learn how to fold and store a wheelchair in a vehicle with our indoor car this can now be practiced in a safe environment. Located next to the car will be a driving simulator to help seniors practice their driving skills and get them back on the road after suffering a stroke or other medical condition that may have resulted in the loss of their license and independence.

The physical environment itself will feature lots of natural lighting, open concept design, warm colours and a living wall (a wall covered with vegetation and using circulating water to enhance air quality) all of which will provide a calm, friendly and motivational environment that will help maximize positive outcomes for seniors both mentally and physically.

Part of the physical environment will include an area with four different walking surfaces including gravel, grass, interlocking brick and carpet. There will also be a street curb built to scale. These features will allow seniors to practice walking on surfaces of various types and maneuvering wheelchairs and walkers up and down curb ramps and stepping on and off a curb.

The open concept design allows us to host special classes like falls prevention, yoga and Pilates specifically designed for seniors. All of which are beneficial to both the mind and body.

Of course the centre will feature the latest in rehab equipment including motorized parallel bars, electric stairs, gait analysis, treadmills and bikes that will help seniors gain strength and confidence as they work towards returning to an active, independent and productive life.

Being a senior, particular a senior who has experienced health issues, shouldn't mean a loss of independence. Our new rehab space coupled with our caring and knowledgeable clinical staff will ensure our more elderly patients will have the best chance possible to live and active, healthy and independent life.

Feature Tweets

- What's happening with ALC you ask? Successful discharge of 169 patients who had accumulated 30,000+ ALC days - that's right 30,000 - HUGE!!

- 170+ LHIN stakeholders had the vision and courage to think outside the box and come up with new approaches for BSO - talk about teamwork
- Ppl benefitting from high quality care tks 2 collab. initiative - HNHB LHIN is 1st LHIN to be RNAO BPSO: bit.ly/KWVlpO
- Today's Globe&Mail article by Andre Picard speaks 2 the importance of the HNHB LHIN's ACTION project - give it a read - <http://t.co/lrBSJfns>
- Local seniors starting to see changes in how care is provided in long-term care, hosp & community - BSO project: bit.ly/9XhBQI
- That's a wrap - what a terrific kickoff to our CRP process - can't wait for day 2 on June 2. So many great questions, ah-ha moments and WOWs

**Follow @HNHB_LHINgage to stay informed of HNHB LHIN initiatives and activities.
We want to stay informed too - let us know if you're on Twitter!**



Upcoming Events

Community Events

Tuesday, June 5-7, 2012

[Seniors Activation Maintenance \(SAM\) Program Open House](#)

3:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Flamborough and Hamilton Sites

Wedndesday, June 6, 2012

[Family Response to Substance Use](#)

1:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Simcoe

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

[Information Night: Dialysis Patients Can Travel](#)

6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Hamilton

Friday, June 8, 2012

[Urban Native Homes Charity Golf Classic](#)

11:30 a.m.

Mount Hope

Tuesday, June 12, 2012

[Life After a Brain Injury](#)

5:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Hagersville

Wednesday, June 13, 2012

[A Conversation About Integrated Transportation Options](#)

1:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Hamilton

Thursday, June 14, 2012

[Stop Concussions: Prevention and Risks of Concussion in Sports](#)

1:30 - 2:30 p.m.

Hagersville

Thursday, June 21, 2012

[Presentation and Social: Protecting Seniors from Abuse](#)

1:30 - 3:00 p.m.

Hagersville

Thursday, June 21, 2012

[Enhancing Communication to Optimize Personhood Among Individuals with Dementia](#)

1:00 - 4:30 p.m.

St. Catharines

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

[HNHB LHIN Board Business Meeting](#)

4:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Grimsby

Thursday, June 28, 2012

[Ontario Brain Injury Association: What We Do](#)

1:30 - 2:30 p.m.

Hagersville

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

Health Service Provider Events

June 2, 2012: [Clinical Day in Ophthalmology](#)

June 6, 2012: [Care of the Elderly: Perspectives for Primary Care](#)

June 11-15, 2012: [5 Days in Palliative Care](#)

June 13, 2012: [A Conversation About Integrated Transportation Options](#)

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

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