

Caring Communities – Healthier People: Making a Difference

Health Check-In

November 2008

Plans for a new Humber River facility

Architects have been selected to start the plans for a new state-of-art hospital at Keele Street and Wilson Avenue in Toronto. The new [Humber River Regional Hospital](#) facility will offer a comprehensive range of services to support inpatient and outpatient programs. Highlights of the new Hospital include: expanded emergency services; increased specialized outpatient services; modern, high-tech diagnostic equipment for better patient diagnosis and treatment; and updated infectious disease containment systems to monitor and prevent a broad range of infections.

A look to the future

An Ophthalmology Working Group with representation from acute-care hospitals in our LHIN and clinicians has been collaborating to develop recommendations and options for services delivery. The Working Group has leveraged the findings from an earlier report from our Wait Times group that proposed the consideration of consolidating cataract surgeries at two centres to form a North-South collaborative. The plan will be presented to the hospitals and LHIN staff within the current fiscal year.

Southlake named one of 75 top employers in GTA

In recognition of efforts to create a positive and rewarding work environment for employees, Southlake Regional Health Centre was named one of the top 75 employers in the Greater Toronto Area by Mediacorp Canada Inc. The announcement was made in the Oct. 18 edition of the Toronto Star.

Community Accountability Agreements

LHINs will soon oversee new Multi-Sector Accountability Agreements (M-SAAs) for the community sector. The Ministry-LHIN Accountability Agreement (M-LAA) requires that the LHIN negotiate Service Accountability Agreements with community health service providers for two years ending March 31, 2011. Central LHIN will complete negotiations with health service providers to sign two-year agreements, by March 31, 2009. The M-SAAs will take effect on April 1, 2009

Talking to Seniors and Caregivers

Community Support Service providers in our LHIN have been busy organizing sessions with over 700 seniors and caregivers. The discussions focused on the supports for seniors to live independently in the community. The top needs identified to assist seniors to remain in their own home, include:

- *Transportation*: the shortage of services and the lack of coordination in LHIN
- Assistance with *personal care* and the need for longer home care hours
- *Home maintenance*: including housekeeping, lawn care and garbage removal
- *Caregiver support*
- *Caregiver education*: learning about safety and accident prevention is important

North York Hospital Achieves Wait Times First

North York General Hospital has become the first hospital in Ontario to have every single cancer surgery patient receive their operation within the targets set out in the Ontario Wait Time Strategy. The Ontario Wait Time Strategy is designed to improve access to health care services and reduce the time that Ontarians wait for services in five key areas: cancer care, cardiac procedures, cataract surgeries, hip and knee total joint replacements, and MRI/CT scans.

York Region EMS to refer seniors in need of service at home to the CCAC

Thanks to Aging at Home funding, paramedics in York Region now have a mechanism to refer seniors who may benefit from supportive services to help them remain in their homes to the Central Community Care Access Centre (CCAC). The project, known as [Community Referrals by Emergency Medical Services](#) (CREMS), is a collaboration between York Region and the Central CCAC with funding through the provincial Aging at Home strategy.

Join us at our next public Board meeting

November 25th from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at [Reena](#)
927 Clark Avenue West, Thornhill

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