

WWLHINformation

Waterloo Wellington LHIN



Waterloo Wellington LHIN eNewsletter - June 13th, Edition

The WWLHINformation eNewsletter is a bi-weekly update to keep you informed of the latest news, events, and successes in health care across the WWLHIN as we continue working together to build an integrated and sustainable health system for residents in Waterloo Wellington.

As part of the eNewsletter, we are looking for your contributions. Are you looking for a new way to share information or invite the community to health care related events? Send your news and events with links to more information and we'll include it in an upcoming edition.

Please forward WWLHINformation to others who may be interested in local health care news and events. For new readers, to subscribe or unsubscribe, please send an email to connie.macdonald@lhins.on.ca.

WWLHIN Using Social Media to Inform and Engage Community

Follow [@WW_LHIN](https://twitter.com/WW_LHIN) on Twitter and become a fan on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/WWLHIN).

Over the past year, in partnership with our health service providers, the WWLHIN has re-launched a number of communication tools. These tools share news, events, and success stories from across Waterloo Wellington with the WWLHIN's 77 health service providers, elected officials, media, and local residents.

As a result, we have heard from our health service providers that they enjoy receiving regular information about their health care colleagues. Our elected officials have shared their appreciation for receiving regular health information that impacts their constituents. Local media have covered a variety of health stories and expressed their interest in covering more through the media update. And local residents are starting to learn more about the countless initiatives being implemented to improve access to high quality care across the WWLHIN.

As outlined in the WWLHIN's 2010/2011 Corporate Communications Plan and 2011/2012 Community Engagement Plan, the next step to continue promoting the great work of our local health service providers and engage our communities is the launch of the WWLHIN's participation in social media. A great deal of work has been completed to do research on these social media tools in preparation for the WWLHIN launch.

The WWLHIN will use social media as a way to encourage more community members to participate in events, conversations, and other opportunities to contribute to the local health system. Many patients/clients/residents are using social media to talk about health care in Waterloo Wellington and we want to be there to listen and provide input where valuable. However, it is important to understand that the WWLHIN's participation in social media is not meant for the discussion of personal health information but rather to dialogue on issues and successes in the health system in a broader sense.

Lyle S. Hallman Foundation donates \$1,000,000 for Cambridge MRI



The Cambridge Memorial Hospital Foundation announced on June 7th that it received a \$1,000,000 donation from the Lyle S. Hallman Foundation to help support its fundraising drive to purchase a Magnetic Resonance Imaging Machine (MRI).

The investment from the Lyle S. Hallman Foundation is the largest donation ever from a Foundation, and highlights the Regional significance of bringing MRI technology to Cambridge. "This gift will no doubt become a catalyst to propel our fundraising campaign forward, and will inspire others to really stretch their giving. We are extremely grateful to the Lyle S Hallman Foundation's commitment to our hospital,

both through this leadership gift and through their previous donations to CMH," says Cindy Carson, Acting Executive Director, Cambridge Memorial Hospital Foundation.

In January, 2011, the government announced that it would provide operating funds for Cambridge Memorial Hospital (CMH) to run a MRI. The CMH Foundation responded by quickly developing a business plan and case to raise \$4 million to purchase the MRI. The \$4 million price tag includes the purchase of the MRI machine estimated at \$2.25 million and renovations to house this highly specialized technology estimated at \$1.75 million.

"The Hallman Foundation is proud to support this initiative as MRI technology brings a much-needed service and measurable results to our communities. The additional MRI at CMH will not only provide over 3,000 scans to patients in the region, but it will also help to reduce wait times for everyone in our Region. " says Hallman Foundation Chair, Jim Hallman. There are currently 3 MRI's in the Waterloo Wellington LHIN and bringing this additional service to CMH will help to achieve the provincial wait-time benchmark of 28 days for MRI scans. Current wait times average between 44-98 days.

Helping Seniors Home after Hospital

'Home at Last' helps to reduce ALC days by providing bridge between hospital and home



Care Coordination

At 11 a.m. Shannon's phone rings. A patient in the emergency department is ready to go home but doesn't have anyone to pick them up and help them home safely. Shannon Mayhew, the Home at Last program coordinator for Community Care Concepts of Woolwich, Wellesley, and Wilmot, immediately calls community partners to find a companion, either a Personal Support Worker or Certified Companion Aide, who is able to pick the client up to make sure they not only get home safely but that they have everything they need to recover at home.

At 1p.m. the companion picks the client up at the hospital, runs errands with them to make sure they have all of their medications, groceries, and other supplies they may need. Once home, they complete a home safety inspection to make sure the client is safe to stay at home. The driver stays with the person for up to three hours to help them settle in at home after hospital.

This service called 'Home at Last' is funded through the Waterloo Wellington LHIN and is coordinated by Community Care Concepts of Wilmot, Woolwich, and Wellesley. The program, offered at all hospitals in the Waterloo Wellington LHIN, helps seniors go home from the hospital more quickly, reducing Alternate Level of Care (ALC) days in hospitals, and reducing wait times for others needing hospital care.

[Click here](#) to read the full story.

Retro Advertising Sends Simple Message of Stroke Symptoms

Stroke survivors and care providers marked June as stroke month by hitting the streets, using an early form of road-side advertising to show the symptoms of a stroke and the need to dial 9-1-1 for prompt treatment.

Grand River Hospital's district stroke centre and stroke providers in Hamilton, Burlington, and Brantford organized a coordinated [burmashave](#) on Tuesday June 7th from 8 to 10am. Locally, the event occurred at Grand River Hospital's KW Site at 835 King Street West. Cambridge Stroke Recovery organized a burmashave to take place on Hespeler Road at Can-Amera Parkway.

Care providers and stroke survivors held up large signs up for passing motorists to see, providing a simple message about signs and symptoms of a stroke.

"When it comes to stroke care, the faster you recognize symptoms and seek care means improved survival for brain cells. We hope people will get the message and call 9-1-1 in the event of a stroke. As our area's stroke provider, GRH provides life-saving treatment for patients experiencing a stroke," said Tammy Tebbutt, director of GRH's district stroke centre.

[Click here](#) for more info.

Ontario Strengthening Patient Safety

Ontario is taking action to improve Ontarian's safety by proposing to set quality and safety standards for non-emergency medical transfer services.

The government has reviewed findings and recommendations from the Ombudsman on this issue. The government agrees with the Ombudsman that the industry requires effective and comprehensive regulation, as soon as possible.

At the earliest opportunity, the government plans to introduce legislation that would, if passed, regulate the industry by setting core standards and requirements on transporting passengers between health care facilities in non-emergency situations. Ontario would also enforce compliance standards to ensure these requirements are being met.

The proposed legislation will be introduced following consultations with the medical transportation services industry, health care providers and the public.

Local Seniors' Month Celebrations

June is Seniors' Month, an opportunity to recognize and value the contributions made by seniors every day in our community.

Almost one quarter of the population of Ontario, or 4.2 million people, will be over the age of 65 by 2036. The growth in seniors' share of the population will accelerate after 2011 as baby boomers begin to turn age 65.

CSC growth (10-30%, depending on the program) reflects an aging population, while facing a 28% increase in demand for subsidies for services, at a time when donations are down.

Community Support Connections – *Meals on Wheels and More* is holding several events throughout the month of June to celebrate our clientele, as well as a large majority of our 700 volunteers who are seniors themselves.

WALC SOCIAL- Some of the 300 volunteers and participants of our Wellness Active Living Club, or WALC, will be part of a social event involving physical challenges and lunch. WALC provides free, volunteer-led, gentle exercise classes at

accessible locations throughout the region.

Tuesday, June 21st from 11:00-2:00pm- Victoria Park Pavilion, Kitchener

STRAWBERRY SOCIAL- Friendly visiting clients attend our annual Strawberry Social to enjoy an outing with their friendly visiting match. Volunteers visit seniors once a week in their homes, and some matches have lasted for over than ten years.

Tuesday, June 21st from 1:30-3:30pm – Waterloo Mennonite Brethren Church, 145 Lexington Avenue Waterloo

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING- CSC's staff and Board of Directors AGM, looking at an aging population and an increase in demand for subsidies.

Thursday, June 23rd from 6:00-8:00pm- Waterloo Region Museum, 10 Huron Road Kitchener

Community Support Connections - *Meals on Wheels and More* offers a variety of supports and services to help seniors and adults with disabilities to live in their own homes with independence

OACCAC Newsletter

[Click here](#) to read the May 2011 Ontario Association of Community Care Access Centres Ontario Newsletter.

WWLHIN Board Meeting Highlights - May 2011

[Click here](#) to read highlights from the May 2011 WWLHIN Board of Directors meeting.

