

WWLHINformation

Waterloo Wellington LHIN



Waterloo Wellington LHIN eNewsletter - March 19th, 2012

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.

Upcoming WWLHIN Change Lab: Addressing Poverty, Improving Health.

The Waterloo Wellington Local Health Integration Network (WWLHIN) is hosting its next Change Lab educational event in partnership with the Waterloo Wellington Rural Health Network on April 19th.

This event is an exciting opportunity for health service providers and community partners to come together, challenge their understanding of health and poverty, and work together to inspire local action.

Keynote speaker Gayle Montgomery will share inspiring successes from community initiatives in Lambton County that address poverty and work to improve the health of local residents.

This is a casual attire event and we kindly request donations of a non-perishable food item in place of a registration fee.

Please note that the full-day Champions of Change Symposium, previously scheduled for April 19 will be postponed to this summer. Please visit the "Engaging Our Communities" section of our website for more details on Champions of Change as they become available, as well as information on upcoming Change Lab learning opportunities.

Change Lab: Addressing Poverty, Improving Health

Date: Thursday, April 19, 2012

Time: 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. (Registration at 9:30 a.m.)

Location: Centre Wellington Community Sportsplex, 550 Belsyde Ave. E, Fergus

Free parking. Lunch will be provided.

Please RSVP by Friday, April 13, 2012 by clicking this link: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/April19ChangeLab>

If you have any questions about this event please contact Suzanne Morrison, Community Engagement Coordinator at the WWLHIN by phone at 519-650-4472 ext. 226 or email at Suzanne.Morrison@LHINS.on.ca.

Guelph Independent Living Provides Flexibility to Students with Disabilities

Guelph Independent Living (GIL) will begin providing on-site assistance to students with disabilities at the University of Guelph (U of G) for the first time, starting in September 2012, thanks to funding from the United Way (UW).

Through the cooperative efforts of GIL, U of G, and the Waterloo Wellington Community Care Access Centre (WWCCAC), the agency will begin offering on-site care to students supplemental to its current seven days a week scheduled appointments from the Attendant Outreach program. With one-time funding from UW, this new service makes U of G one of only a handful of post-secondary institutions providing this service to its students.

GIL Board of Directors' President Helen Candiotta highlighted that the need for on-site assistance for students with disabilities was overdue. "Students who require attendant care on campus must live an extremely scheduled life—even daily needs such as bathroom breaks are pre-booked. This is not conducive to a student lifestyle and has resulted in numerous challenges and impediments to students who require this service."

[Click here](#) to read more.

Taking a Shot at Colorectal Cancer

In support of National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month, the Waterloo Wellington Regional Cancer Program, ColonCancerCheck (CCC), and the Ontario Hockey League's (OHL) Guelph Storm and Kitchener Rangers, have teamed up to urge Ontarians to take a shot at colorectal cancer, the second leading cause of cancer death and the third most diagnosed cancer in Ontario.

In 2011, an estimated 8,100 people in the province were diagnosed with colorectal cancer and approximately 3,250 people died from the disease.

The Waterloo Wellington Regional Cancer Program, CCC, the Guelph Storm and the Kitchener Rangers are raising awareness about colorectal cancer screening at home games in March. Several activities will take place at hockey games including official puck drops and hockey shoot outs at intermission, information tables that will offer ColonCancerCheck materials and a fun trivia game with prizes. Canadian Cancer Society volunteers are supporting National Colorectal Cancer Month by assisting at events across the province.

"I'm very pleased that the OHL is helping to raise awareness again this year with us about colorectal cancer by encouraging more people to get screened," says Dr. Craig McFadyen, regional vice president for Cancer Care Ontario and a cancer surgeon at Kitchener's Grand River Hospital. "It's critical for people to know that when it comes to colorectal cancer, a person has a 90 percent chance of being cured when the cancer is detected early."

[Click here](#) to read more.

Palliative Care Resource for Long-Term Care Homes

A two-page outline of palliative care education and consultation resources has been developed for staff of Waterloo Wellington long-term care homes.

[Click here](#) to download the two-page resource and post it in your home for others to use.

Gloria Whitson-Shea Retires

As many of you are aware, Gloria Whitson-Shea, Clinical Lead, WWLHIN, will be retiring as of Friday, March 30, 2012, after an exciting and memorable career in health care.

Gloria has made a significant contribution to the people of Waterloo Wellington both in her clinical / nursing and administrative leadership roles in our local health system. Since August 2008, the system as a whole has benefited from Gloria's clinical expertise and leadership, as she was instrumental in leading a wide range of initiatives from clinical services to rural health to rehab and stroke.

Gloria has offered a positive and optimistic charge to the organization and to those in the field, as she focused on how we could work collectively to improve access to quality care for Waterloo Wellington residents. The WWLHIN has been working with Gloria to transition her projects to others within our organization. Congratulations to Gloria and best wishes for a fulfilling retirement.

Protecting Student Athletes

Ontario is taking strong action to address concussions inside and outside of the classroom.

New legislation, introduced March 6th, would help protect students engaging in school sports and health and physical education classes from the potentially serious, long-term and harmful effects of concussions. It would also ensure that students who sustain concussions are not returning to play or learn too soon, risking further complications.

The *Education Amendment Act (Concussions), 2012* is part of a new concussion strategy that will:

- provide resources to parents, teachers and school staff about the seriousness of concussions
 - build awareness beyond schools about the dangers of concussions and how they should be managed
 - establish a committee to provide advice on concussion prevention, identification and management in schools and to study how evidence-based resources can be best used.
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Ottawa Reviews Suicide Prevention Bill

Bill C-300, an Act Respecting A Federal Framework for Suicide Prevention went before the Standing Committee on Health on March 6th, 2012 in Ottawa. Tana Nash, Coordinator for the Waterloo Region Suicide Prevention Council was on hand to lend her vocal support as she testified before the committee.

The Bill was introduced by Kitchener Conestoga Member of Parliament Harold Albrecht last fall in the House of Commons. After successfully passing its first and second readings in the House of Commons earlier this year, a review by the Standing Committee was the next important phase of the process. Ms. Nash appeared before the standing committee along with M.P. Harold Albrecht, and representatives from the Mental Health Commission of Canada, the Department of Health, the Department of Veterans Affairs and members of the Canadian Forces.

"The Waterloo Region Suicide Prevention Council has been a proud supporter of Mr. Albrecht's Bill since he first introduced it, and our representation at the federal level is important recognition of the work we're doing right here in Waterloo," said Nash. "Suicide sadly touches too many people in Canada every day, but for the first time in the history of our country, we're about to recognize the problem on the national stage. We're about to embark on a dialogue that for far too long has been held in hushed tones behind closed doors. This has to change."

Minister Matthews' Statement on OxyContin Abuse

Prescription narcotic addiction has been a growing problem in Ontario. Recent studies have suggested an increase in opioid painkiller addiction as playing a contributing role in hundreds of overdose deaths.

On March 1, 2012, Purdue Pharma stopped distributing the brand name opioid formulation OxyContin into the Canadian market and replaced it with OxyNEO, a tamper-resistant tablet that is more difficult to crush and abuse.

Ontario also decided to restrict access to OxyNEO by funding it through the Exceptional Access Program and the Facilitated Access to Palliative Care Drugs mechanism. This decision balances appropriate use, patient care and the growing problem of opioid addiction in Ontario, and was based on advice from Ontario's Committee to Evaluate Drugs and extensive discussions with pain specialists, addiction experts and other health care providers.

I support these changes as a necessary response to a life-threatening problem. At the same time, Ontario is taking action to help recovering OxyContin users find addiction treatment.

Working with my colleagues Minister Wynne and Minister Hoskins, we are developing a partnership strategy to monitor the impact of prescription narcotic changes and to immediately expand access to addiction services.

[Click here](#) to read more.

Minister Matthews' Statement On Sandoz Drug Supply

Ontario is taking action to address the effects stemming from production and distribution issues at the Sandoz Canada plant in Boucherville, Quebec. Sandoz produces several critical drugs that are used routinely to treat patients in hospitals and other care settings.

Sandoz notified the ministry on February 28 of the supply implications of issues at its production facilities. Sandoz is focussing their production on key surgical and pain medications and has committed to inform customers of projected drug allocations so that they may plan accordingly.

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care immediately contacted health care sector partners to develop a plan to address any potential drug shortages. This plan includes:

1. An assessment of the inventory of drugs and potential effects on services
2. A redistribution plan to move available supplies of drugs across the province to where they are most urgently needed
3. Provincial coordination of procurement of affected drugs
4. A plan for service delivery in the event of drug shortages, including the identification of alternatives
5. Ongoing communications with the health care sector

[Click here](#) to read more.

Ontario-wide Cancer Screening Survey

A team of researchers from the University of Toronto, York University, and Cancer Care Ontario, are studying how to increase colon, breast and cervical cancer screening participation among people living in Ontario who are either never or under screened. Learn more about the project and the team at: www.getscreened.ca.

As part of this provincial project, an online survey has been developed and is being promoted broadly to all Ontarians. The survey is short and will only take approximately 5 minutes to complete. It includes questions that explore present cancer screening practices, reasons why people do not get screened and what changes would encourage people to get screened for cervical, breast and colon cancer.

The survey is available at: www.getscreened.ca/screeningsurvey.

Resource Matching and Referral - March 2012 Project Update

[Click here](#) to read the latest Resource Matching and Referral Project Bulletin.

WWLHIN Board and Committee Meetings

The WWLHIN Board of Directors holds regular meetings throughout the year. For the most up to date schedule of meetings, please check our [website](#), as meeting dates, times and locations are subject to change.

Regular meeting times are now during the day from 12:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Meetings may include a closed session and public are welcome to attend meetings starting at 2:00 p.m. The regular meeting location is the WWLHIN Office at 50 Sportsworld Crossing Road, Suite 220 (East Building) in Kitchener.

Dates, times, and agendas are also posted for the WWLHIN's Finance and Audit Committee. [Click here](#) for more information.

OACCAC March Newsletter

[Click here](#) to read the March 2012 Ontario Association of Community Care Access Centres (OACCAC) Newsletter.

WWLHIN Social Media: Feature Tweets and Posts

Follow [@WW_LHIN](#) on Twitter and become a fan on [Facebook](#). Many thanks to our fans and followers for their feedback. Use the #access2care hashtag to share your good news.

- @**MemoryMats**: @[WW_LHIN](#) Check us out! vimeo.com/33892182 We are here to help with the fight to [#EndAlz](#) RETWEET&FOLLOW if you Believe!!
 - @**Deputy_BLarkin**: Powerful dialogue on healthy communities with stakeholders led by @[WW_LHIN](#) & @[EnergyontheSt](#). Sense positive & bold change on horizon!
 - @**SouthgateEcDev** RT Waterloo Wellington @[WW_LHIN](#) latest eNewsletter: bit.ly/zoujLs
 - @**EnviroWeezy**: [#FF](#) Thank you for another great week @[SchlegelVillage](#) @[MemoryMats](#) @[Beth_Hirshfeld](#) @[OLTCAnews](#) @[WW_LHIN](#)
 - @**CSCMOW**: Thanks for the RT's about [#MarchforMeals](#) @[WW_LHIN](#) and @[CarlaVerwijns](#)
 - @**MosaicUpdates** : Thank you @[Mike_Gillespie](#) @[FoodBankWatReg](#) @[WW_LHIN](#) for the retweets!
 - @[SarahChristilaw](#): @[WW_LHIN](#) Thanks for the suggestions! I feel like I need to learn a whole new language
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