

WWLHINnews

CAMBRIDGE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL REQUESTS ADDITIONAL TIME TO PROVIDE COMMENTS TO OPERATIONAL REVIEW TEAM

WWLHIN Honours CMH's Request – Final Report to be Released June 30, 2009

GUELPH, ON – Cambridge Memorial Hospital (CMH) has requested the Waterloo Wellington Local Health Integration Network (WWLHIN) Board of Directors to delay the public release of the Operational Review Team Final Report. CMH has requested an extension to review the draft Report and provide comment to the Operational Review Team.

The WWLHIN appointed the team in March of this year to work with CMH's Senior Administrative Team and Board of Governors to support their efforts to continue to provide high quality care, while sustaining the community hospital through fiscal challenges. The purpose of the Team was to conduct a comprehensive review enabling CMH to develop a Hospital Improvement Plan (HIP) for the hospital.

As part of their process, the Review Team conducted a series of meetings with hospital senior leaders, doctors, staff, board members as well as representatives from other local health care organizations. Team members also reviewed data related to hospital finances, board activities, patient care activities and performance reports to prepare the Final Report.

The WWLHIN Board of Directors has extended an invitation to the CMH Board of Governors to attend the Closed Session of its Board Meeting scheduled for Monday, June 8, 2009. The members of the Operational Review Team will be in attendance to answer questions and further discuss the Operational Review process.

The WWLHIN Board of Directors will conduct its Open Session at 5:00 pm on the same day as originally planned. The Operational Review Team Lead Vickie Kaminski will provide an update on the Operational Review process to the Board and public.

QUOTES

“The WWLHIN Board of Directors is committed to working in partnership with Cambridge Memorial Hospital to support a strong and sustainable hospital for Cambridge and area residents,” said Kathy Durst, Chair, WWLHIN Board. “We know that this Review has been of great interest to the local community, so we have asked the Team Lead Vickie Kaminski to provide an update on the Review process.”

“We are still committed to making the report public,” continued Durst. “We have confirmed with CMH that Ms. Kaminski will present the team’s findings and Final Report to the Board and community at a Town Hall meeting on Tuesday, June 30. This will provide an opportunity for community members to ask questions about the report and the Team’s findings.”

She added, “We understand that the community was expecting the Report findings this coming Monday. However, we appreciate their patience with our decision to honour the hospital’s request to extend their timeline to provide comment on the report to the Operational Review Team and develop the Implementation Plan.”

QUICK FACTS

On July 28, 2008, CMH entered into a Hospital Service Accountability Agreement (H-SAA) with the WWLHIN. The H-SAA outlines patient care delivery targets, and funding allocations for the two year agreement. At the time of signing the H-SAA, CMH agreed to manage an in-year deficit of approximately \$1.5 million.

In November 2009, the hospital administrative team forecasted a \$3.5 million deficit for the 2008 – 2009 fiscal year, which ended March 31, 2009. It was also predicting a further deficit of up to \$3 million for 2009 -2010. The hospital’s budget for 2008/2009 is approximately \$103.4 million.

The H-SAA requires hospitals to meet a number of performance obligations including patient care delivery targets and achievement of balanced budgets for two fiscal years, 2008-2009 and 2009-2010. This is the first time hospitals negotiated their service accountability agreements with LHINs, previously this was done with the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. The H-SAA outlines the hospital’s budget, performance targets and commitment to work with the LHIN.

The Waterloo Wellington Local Health Integration Network is responsible for planning, integrating, coordinating and providing funding to 79 health service providers including hospitals, long-term care homes, community support services, community health centres, the Community Care Access Centre and community mental health and addictions agencies in Waterloo Region, Wellington County and South Grey. The WWLHIN operates an annual health care budget of close to \$858 million.

LEARN MORE

Information on the Operational Review is posted to the WWLHIN website at www.wwpartnersinhealth.ca.

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Please note that Sandra Hanmer, CEO will be available during the weekend for media interviews, contact information below:

Sandra Hanmer
CEO

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