

## WWLHIN*news*

### **WWLHIN Increases its Commitment to Support a Strong and Sustainable Community Hospital for Cambridge and Area Residents**

GUELPH, ON - The Waterloo Wellington Local Health Integration Network (WWLHIN) announced today an important initiative that increases its commitment to work with Cambridge Memorial Hospital (CMH) to ensure a strong and sustainable community hospital for the residents of Cambridge and area.

To assist CMH in achieving a strong operating position, the WWLHIN will be appointing an Operational Review Team to work with the hospital. The appointment of the Team will help CMH in its efforts to continue to provide high quality care, while sustaining the community hospital through fiscal challenges.

The purpose of the Team is to conduct a comprehensive review leading to the development of an Improvement Plan. Implementation of the plan will enable the hospital to continue to provide high quality care programs for local residents, while achieving a balanced operating position by March 31, 2010. The review will also identify further opportunities for CMH to collaborate with other health care partners within the WWLHIN. The final Operational Review report will be made public once it is shared with internal stakeholders.

#### **QUOTES**

“The administrative team at Cambridge Memorial Hospital has been looking at a number of strategies to continue in their efforts of delivering high quality patient care, while at the same time meeting their commitment to balance their budget,” said Sandra Hanmer, CEO, WWLHIN. “The appointment of the Operational Review Team will provide the hospital with additional assistance to support their success in maintaining service quality and sustainability of the community hospital.”

She added that the WWLHIN team has been working with the hospital administrative team and the Board of Directors over the past several months to discuss their deficit and strategies to address it.

“Hospitals, like all organizations, must develop action plans to use their limited human and financial resources as efficiently as possible,” said Hanmer. “Through this approach, we can review a number of initiatives outlined by the Operational Review Team, which will focus on the delivery of quality care for residents living in the WWLHIN area, while allowing the hospital to balance its budget.”

“The plan’s development will also focus on programs and services that fit within the WWLHIN's system-wide mandate for health care delivery in Waterloo Wellington,” says Hanmer. “The development of an Implementation Plan is about planning for the future and having a sustainable health care system for the residents of Cambridge.”

“During these challenging economic times, hospitals, community partners and the LHIN must work together on behalf of the patients we serve,” says Hanmer. “We’ll be working closely with all of our health service providers to ensure the delivery of high quality programs and services continue.”

## QUICK FACTS

On July 28, 2008 CMH entered into a Hospital Service Accountability Agreement (H-SAA) with the WWLHIN. The H-SAA outlines 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. The hospital administrative team is now predicting a \$3.5 million deficit for the current fiscal year, which ends March 31, 2009, and 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 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 funding to 78 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 \$823 million.

## MORE INFORMATION

Waterloo Wellington Local Health Integration Network: [www.wwlhin.on.ca](http://www.wwlhin.on.ca)

-30-

Attachments:

Cambridge Memorial Hospital – Operational Review – Terms of Reference  
Backgrounder – Operational Review Team will Assist Cambridge Memorial Hospital  
Backgrounder – WWLHIN Investments in Cambridge in 2008 - 2009

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