

Good morning

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the South East LHIN –  
Welcome!

It is indeed my pleasure to thank you for making the time available to join with us – as we continue our journey ensuring access to safe, quality care within our available resources.

The LHIN's mission is extremely important to residents from across Southeastern Ontario. But I am not telling you something you don't already know – it is evident in the commitment that you are making to spend three full days – for many of you, that is precious weekend time borrowed from your time with family and friends.

I want to thank each and every one of you for that commitment. Not only are you committed to spending several hours learning about and discussing health care – most of you are travelling a fair distance to do that. We have participants from as far away as Campbellford, Prescott and Smiths Falls and all points in between such as Athens, Bath, Belleville, Brockville, Elgin, Elginburg,

Kingston, Madoc, Napanee, Picton and Wolfe Island. Together, you represent the fabric of our population – and as potential recipients of care and as the taxpayers who pay for the system, you are key stakeholders in helping the LHIN plan the future delivery of care for our region.

I'm reminded of a quote from Peter Senge, a lecturer from MIT in Cambridge, Massachusetts: Each person's view is a unique perspective on a larger reality. If I can 'look out' through your view and you through mine, we will each see something we might not have seen alone."

This event is all about engagement. It is about being courageous and looking at health care from many angles – we are going to take in a lot of information today and we will together have some quality conversations. The SE LHIN's genuine intent is to be able to see things together that we may not have discovered before.

I know that Paul is going to speak shortly about vision – but I think it is important that together we are aware of the vision that was created for the SE LHIN by a dedicated group of residents like you last March: Achieving better health through proactive, integrated

and responsive health care in partnership with an informed community.

In April and May, the South East LHIN will also be coming to each of the 15 geographical areas –for a full day to chat about area priorities with a variety of people – health service providers, board members, patients and the public at large.

Working together, we will strengthen our ability to make decisions. We will build our understanding based on a solid review of the problems and opportunities that exist within our system. Public participation recognizes that experts contribute essential information and knowledge to decision making. We know the effectiveness and sustainability of decisions is enduring when factors such as local knowledge and perspectives and sensitivity to community context are also part of the decision-making equation.

Again, I would like to thank you for the time you dedicate to making improvements in the care of our residents, our families and our neighbours.

Again, thank you for participating in this exciting panel. I wish you the best for your three Saturday sessions.

Thank you