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May 23, 2017

South East LHIN seeking Community Representatives for Patient and Family Advisory Council

NEWS

The South East Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) is seeking applicants for a Patient and Family Advisory Council (PFAC) to help shape the future of health care services in the south east.

Community members, patients, and family members can join the Patient and Family Advisory Council to discuss health care priorities that have an impact on patient care and patient experiences in the region.

The Council will include 15 residents from the South East LHIN geographical area, with three members per geographic sub-region. For more information on sub-regions please visit www.SouthEastLHIN.on.ca/CommunityEngagement/PatientsFirst/SubRegions.

PFAC Advisors are persons with recent experience as a patient or as a family member of a patient (generally within the last three years) and who work with health service providers to provide direct input into policies, programs and practices which affect patient care and services. The role of advisors will be to keep the patient and family as the focal point of our healthcare system.

Interested candidates are asked to submit a 250-word expression of interest that answers the following questions:

- Why would you like to serve as a Patient and Family Advisory Council member?
- What are some issues of special interest to you?
- Are you currently, or have in the past, participated on other Patient Advisory Council(s)?

Submissions will be accepted at the South East LHIN office by mail and/or email to the address below. Submissions must be received by June 30, 2017 and successful applicants will be contacted by July 31, 2017. Please submit your expression of interest to:

Darryl Tooley
South East Local Health Integration Network
71 Adam St.
Belleville, ON K8N 5K3
Darryl.Tooley@lhins.on.ca

The council group will meet approximately every three months for a period of four hours, with additional sub-region meetings as well. The first meeting is scheduled to take place in Kingston this August. A schedule of additional meeting dates and times will be confirmed based on the availability of the finalized membership. All travel costs will be reimbursed for participants, as required.

Improved and expanded patient engagement is part of the government's plan to build a better Ontario through its *Patients First: Action Plan for Health Care*, which provides patients with faster access to the right care, better home and community care, the information they need to live healthy, and a health care system that is sustainable for generations to come.

To view the draft Terms of Reference, please visit www.SouthEastLHIN.on.ca/CommunityEngagement/PatientsFirst

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QUOTES

“This will be a wonderful opportunity for members in our community. Establishing a Patient and Family Advisory Council will ensure a strong voices supports a patient-centred health system, and also strengthens the government’s ability to collaborate with patients, families and caregivers.”

– *Lou Rinaldi, MPP Northumberland-Quinte West*

“I fully support the South East Local Health Integration Network’s creation of a Patient and Family Advisory Council. It is important to receive feedback from those at the heart of our healthcare system to ensure we deliver effective services in all the communities in the south east region. I look forward to the perspective that this Advisory Council will bring forward.”

– *Sophie Kiwala, MPP Kingston and the Islands*

“The patient voice is such an integral piece to ensuring the public can contribute to health care decisions being made in our region, and we look forward to gathering those perspectives through the Patient and Family Advisory Council. The feedback received through the council will help inform the planning and development of service and care available in the South East LHIN.”

– *Paul Huras, CEO, South East LHIN*

For more information contact:

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