

NEWS

APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTABILITY AGREEMENTS WITH MULTI-SECTOR SERVICES IS HISTORIC MOMENT FOR LHIN

March 10, 2009

Today the South East Local Health Integration Network Board of Directors made history, approving first-ever accountability agreements with the South East Community Care Access Centre, addictions, mental health, community health centres and community support services sectors. In all, the Board approved 54 agreements.

Similar to agreements LHINs have developed with hospitals, LHINs are required through legislation to negotiate Multi Sectoral Service Accountability Agreements (M-SAA) with each of their funded community service providers by March 31, 2009. In addition to laying out the services that are to be provided by each organization, the agreements identify how the anticipated funding will be spent together with required reporting and performance obligations.

M-SAAs have a two-year term covering fiscal years 2009-10 and 2010-11. Discussions took place with each of the sectors over five days between Feb. 9 and 19, under the theme “unlocking the untapped value through integration.” Two key goals helped focus the discussions:

1. achieving improvements in access to health care services and health care outcomes for our population;
2. enabling and achieving financial sustainability of the health care system from within current available funding.

In addition to approving the agreements, the Board also gave a green light to issuing a request for proposal for a consultant to work with community health service providers to develop options for integrated “back office” services for each of the sectors (with the exception of the CCAC) by September/October. All providers will be engaged in the review of current models for the provision of administrative services and the development of the final recommended models.

The Board also supported a plan to complete implementation of an electronic InterRAI CHA across the community support services sector. This is a tool for standard assessment of client needs and for the development of related plans for community health care for the client. The InterRAI CHA will allow electronic sharing of information, the standardization of client information and the standardization of care plans. This project will be led by the SE LHIN’s e-health office with the Victorian Order of Nurses as the lead health service provider.

QUOTES

“The South East LHIN Board understands and is appreciative of the incredible effort that has gone into achieving these agreements – both on the part of the our health service providers and of the LHIN’s administrative staff,” says Georgina Thompson, Chair of the South East LHIN. “These agreements and performance standards assist us in ensuring

the provision of high quality, safe health care services within our available resources. These landmark agreements and the process that was developed to undertake them have also helped strengthen relationships and understanding between providers.”

QUICK FACTS

- The Local Health System Improvement Act requires Local Health Integration Networks to have accountability agreements with community service providers by April 1, 2009.
- The 2009/10 to 2010/11 M-SAA template was developed provincially by the LHINs, Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and community health service provider associations in a process that began in the spring of 2008.
- The M-SAA template builds on prior funding agreements between the providers and the Ministry, the hospital service accountability agreements, the Ministry-LHIN accountability agreement and LHSIA obligations and responsibilities.
- The M-SAA will develop and evolve as we gain mutual experience and as we develop our health systems.
- The SE LHIN had significant involvement in the provincial development of the M-SAA template and the Community Annual Planning Submission (CAPS), the budget plan that informs the M-SAA.

LEARN MORE

For more information about the South East LHIN, visit www.southeastlhin.on.ca .

Media contacts:

Julie White, Communications, SE LHIN, 613-242-1389, or email Julie.White@lhins.on.ca.