

News Release/Pour publication immédiate

South East LHIN Public Engagement for Clinical Services Roadmap Deemed a Success

Belleville, Ontario (August 31 , 2011) - In releasing a summary report on the engagement process to gather public input and opinion about the LHIN's Clinical Services Roadmap, South East Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) CEO Paul Huras today declared that the process has been a "resounding success."

The engagement process, conducted for an eight-week period in late Spring, was designed to give residents across the south east an opportunity to share their opinion and reaction to a series of seven draft Clinical Services workplans that are intended to improve access to quality care throughout this region in areas such as Cardiac, Mental Health and Addictions, Maternal and High-Risk Newborn, Restorative Care, Hospital Acquired Infections, Emergency Department wait times and Surgical Services .

"The fact that we heard from 867 participants who took the time to complete a total of 1775 detailed workbooks is a solid indication that this engagement worked very well," said Huras. "Each of these participants took the time to learn, understand and comment on workplans that were detailed and complex. The process provided a great deal of quantitative and qualitative feedback that has helped our Clinical Leads and their teams to adjust and fine tune these plans," he added.

That feedback was provided to the Clinical work teams in order they could analyze and identify common themes and concerns which have since been reflected in the final versions of their plans. Those adjusted plans, and the summary report on the engagement process itself, were presented in late July to the South East CCAC and Hospitals Executive Forum (SECHEF). Each hospital is reviewing the plans so they can provide feedback to the teams and to their respective Boards by early fall. It is expected the Boards will then make their recommendations in November for the SE LHIN to consider and incorporate by January. Once approved, each of the component plans of the Clinical Services Roadmap will be implemented over the next one to three years.

The Engagement summary report also indicates that 56% of participants enjoyed completing the workbooks, while 57% agreed that completing a workbook helped them understand what the CSR initiative is about. Based on their engagement experience 74% said they would consider completing other workbooks in future, while 72% indicated they would now follow the South East LHIN's work more closely. To view the CSR Public Engagement Summary Report in its entirety, visit <http://www.southeastlhin.on.ca>.

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