

NEWS

PUBLIC COMMENTS WELCOME ON DRAFT HEALTH SYSTEM PLAN FOR THE SOUTH EAST

August 31, 2009

The Board of Directors of the South East Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) is looking for public input on a draft three-year strategy to build a high performing system that is centred on patients. Called *Reaching for Excellence*, this is the second Integrated Health Services Plan (IHSP) for the South East LHIN and will guide decisions and resources for the LHIN from 2009/10 through 2012/13. The current plan was approved in October 2006.

Patients, providers and the general public are invited to provide thoughts and comments on the proposed IHSP until Sept. 23. The draft IHSP (30 pages) is available on the South East LHIN website, as are five appendices (247 pages). The related documents include: a list of acronyms; results from detailed data analysis and projections; a full report on the first phase of community engagement activities; a summary report on accomplishments of the first IHSP and an analysis of current health-care programs/services in the LHIN.

Priorities for development outlined in the draft plan include:

- Developing a system of primary health care
- Enhancing a culture of patient centred care
- Improving mental health and addictions service capacity
- Developing regional program management
- Improving access to emergency room care
- Reducing the incidence of alternate levels of care
- Implementing the Ontario diabetes registry
- Furthering access through e-health
- Expanding cultural and linguistic health-care services
- Advancing system improvement through Boards working together

QUOTES

"This plan is built on a solid foundation. It assures the residents of the South East region they will have access to safe, high quality, sustainable care and it delivers a strong message about our absolute commitment to a more integrated, results driven system where patient-centered care comes first," says Georgina Thompson, Chair, South East LHIN. "This plan gives our health service providers a clear mandate for integration and provides support for tough decisions. We will be changing our current system, structures, processes and incentives, moving from silos to a truly integrated patient-centered system. There will be a greater focus on strong visionary leadership, changes in governance, accountability processes and demonstrated results."

"I look forward to public discussion on the priorities outlined in the *Reaching for Excellence* report. It aligns priorities set by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care with the proven needs of our local system," says Paul Huras, Chief Executive Officer of

the South East LHIN. “It describes the themes we heard through community engagement and consultation processes, sets out the specific priorities the South East LHIN will focus on, and explains how the LHIN will demonstrate and measure success.”

QUICK FACTS

- IHSP2 and its appendices are available on the South East LHIN website at www.southeastlhin.on.ca
- For those without access to the Internet, printed copies of the report and its appendices are being mailed to municipal offices in the LHIN the week of Sept. 1.
- An on-line survey is available on the South East LHIN website for respondents to provide their feedback.
- Comments can be emailed to SouthEast@lhins.on.ca, please mention “IHSP” in the subject line.
- Mail your written comments to IHSP Feedback c/o South East LHIN, 48 Dundas St. W., Unit 2, Belleville, ON K8P 1A3. Fax to (613)967-1341.
- Leave a voicemail message on the IHSP feedback line 1-866-831-5446 ext. 282.

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