

## WWLHIN*news*

### WWLHIN Board Highlights – October 2014 Special Meeting

**Mission:** To lead a high-quality, integrated health system for our residents

**Vision:** Better Health – Better Futures

**Core Value:** We value acting in the best interest of our residents' health and well-being

KITCHENER, ON - The Waterloo Wellington Local Health Integration Network's Board of Directors held a special board meeting on October 1, 2014. Special board meetings are held to accommodate time sensitive items requiring decision prior to the next scheduled board meeting.

#### Accountability Agreements Update

Service Accountability Agreements, or SAAs, are contracts between the WWLHIN and health service providers outlining their specific service delivery commitments to our residents each year. These agreements, including performance measures, are an important tool in ensuring residents receive the care they need.

As the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care implements changes to the way funding is provided for health care in Ontario, through Health System Funding Reform (HSFR), the WWLHIN is preparing to revise its current SAAs to recognize these changes.

HSFR is changing the way funding is provided for health care from a single sum for all services, to different streams of funding tailored to the specific needs of the patients served in each organization. These changes are being made to improve quality of care, increase efficiency, and ensure value for money.

The WWLHIN Board has approved new guiding principles for the revision of the SAAs. These include:

- The WWLHIN retains the authority, as defined under the Local Health System Integration Act (LHSIA), to reallocate system resources to achieve local priorities.
- Communication between the WWLHIN, the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care (MOHTLC) and our Health Service Providers (HSPs) is critical, and opportunities for knowledge transfer will be embedded into our process. We acknowledge Health System Funding Reform (HSFR) is an emergent methodology that continues to evolve, and we are taking steps to build capacity across our system to understand its implications and opportunities.

- Ensure alignment with the WWLHIN's Integrated Health Service Plan and Ontario's Action Plan for Health Care.
- Continue to reduce administrative costs and maximize investments towards the provision of direct care.
- Changes to service focus on integration and quality of care for residents, not cuts, when addressing funding pressures.

The WWLHIN Board also extended the current Service Accountability Agreement for Homewood Health Centre for six-months while staff explore options for a new agreement that recognizes the unique services Homewood provides for our community.

Currently, Homewood has a Private Hospital Service Accountability Agreement, or P-HSAA. As Homewood is not classified as a hospital under the Ontario Hospitals Act, staff are exploring the possibility of a Multi-Sector Accountability Agreement such as those with community support service agencies that would allow for greater understanding and accountability of Homewood's mental health services.

#### **LEARN MORE**

Full reports, briefing notes, and presentations for board agenda items are on the WWLHIN website at [www.wwlhin.on.ca](http://www.wwlhin.on.ca).

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