

## CHAMPLAIN LOCAL HEALTH INTEGRATION NETWORK (LHIN) AND EASTERN COUNTIES: WORKING TOGETHER FOR OPTIMAL HOSPITAL CARE

*Champlain LHIN and Eastern Counties' Hospitals  
provide media technical briefing on the Hospital Clinical Services Distribution Plan*

Monday, August 24, 2009

### NEWS

The Champlain LHIN is working collaboratively with the five Eastern Counties' hospitals to identify options for potential integration and geographical distribution of hospital services. The *Eastern Counties Hospital Clinical Services Distribution Plan* is being developed as part of the Champlain LHIN's goal to establish an integrated hospital system across our region. An integrated system will improve access, efficiency, effectiveness, safety and satisfaction, with regards to hospital services for our residents.

The Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) and Board Chairs of the five Eastern Counties' hospitals (Cornwall Community, Glengarry Memorial, Hawkesbury & District General, Winchester District Memorial and St. Joseph's Continuing Care Centre) make up the bulk of the membership on the steering committee for this planning project. Other members include: the Champlain LHIN, the Eastern Ontario Health Unit, The Ottawa Hospital, the Montfort Hospital, and the Champlain Community Care Access Centre.

Today, members of the steering committee met with the media to provide a technical briefing on the *Eastern Counties Hospital Clinical Services Distribution Plan*. Dr. Robert Cushman, CEO of the Champlain LHIN and Mary Johnson, chair of the steering committee for the *Eastern Counties Hospital Clinical Distribution Plan*, presented information on the purpose of the project, planning steps and ways for the public to be involved in this process.

Planning will focus on four clinical areas: emergency, surgery, medicine and psychiatry / mental health / addictions. The timeline for completion of the plan is April 2010. Public and stakeholder input is encouraged throughout the planning process through involvement with a Citizens' Advisory Council, participation in local hospital and public meetings, website information and e-mail communication.

## QUOTES

“We need to continue to work together in our communities to ensure the best possible mix of hospital and community services for our clients. We particularly need to ensure planning consideration is given to the unique needs of rural residents in Eastern Counties, including our Francophone and Aboriginal populations.”

- *Dr. Robert Cushman, CEO of the Champlain LHIN*

“Many of our community residents have identified that access to treatment services not available within our Eastern Counties region is a significant challenge, due to the distance and the lack of transportation options. Issues related to access and transportation will be reviewed and considered within this process.”

- *Mary Johnson, Chair of the Steering Committee, Eastern Ontario Health Unit board member and resident of Eastern Counties*

## QUICK FACTS\*

- Eastern Counties is home to 190,583 people, one sixth of Champlain’s total population.
- About 1 in 6 Eastern Counties residents (14.9%) are 65 years or older compared with 1 in 8 (12.4%) in Ottawa (2006)<sup>1</sup>
- Eastern Counties residents are more than twice as likely to have French as a mother tongue (42.0% vs. 16.1% in Ottawa, 2006)<sup>1</sup>
- Eastern Counties residents, aged 12 and up, are more than twice as likely to smoke daily, compared with residents of Ottawa (26.6% vs. 11.9%, 2008). They are also nearly 4 times more likely to be exposed to second-hand smoke at home (13.7% vs. 3.8, 2008%)<sup>2</sup>
- Compared with Ottawa, a larger proportion of Eastern Counties adults are obese (25.3% vs. 15.2%, 18+, 2008)<sup>2</sup>
- Eastern Counties’ residents have higher mortality rates from lung cancer, respiratory disease and heart disease than residents of Ottawa.<sup>3</sup>
- The overall unemployment rate in Eastern Counties (5.0%) in 2008 was comparable to Ottawa’s (4.9%). Among youth, however, the rate was higher in Eastern Counties (16.5% vs. 9.1% in Ottawa)<sup>3</sup>

## LEARN MORE

Visit [www.champlainlhin.on.ca](http://www.champlainlhin.on.ca), and click on



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For more information, please contact: Champlain LHIN

Toll Free: 1.866.902.5446    Tel: 613.747.6784

Email: [Champlain@lhins.on.ca](mailto:Champlain@lhins.on.ca)

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<sup>1</sup> Source: Profile of the Champlain Communities of Care: Focus on Eastern Counties

[www.champlainlhin.on.ca](http://www.champlainlhin.on.ca) (Reports & Publications - LHIN Research)

<sup>1</sup> Source: 2008 Canadian Community Health Survey, CANSIM Table 105-0501

<sup>1</sup> Source: Statistics Canada Health Profile ([www12.statcan.gc.ca/health-sante/82-228/2009/06/index.cfm?Lang=E](http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/health-sante/82-228/2009/06/index.cfm?Lang=E))