

News Release / Pour publication immédiate

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 28, 2013

Windsor/Essex Region Preliminary Program and Service Plan Submission En Route to Ministry *LHIN Board Recognizes the Opportunity for a New Single-Site Acute Hospital*

WINDSOR/ESSEX – A new hospital in Windsor is one step closer thanks to Erie St. Clair LHIN Board's approval of the hospital's Stage 1A submission. At a recent Board meeting, the LHIN Board directed staff to forward the Windsor/Essex Preliminary Program and Service Plan submission onto the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (Ministry) for the joint Ministry/LHIN alignment and review.

The preliminary Program and Services Plan submission is one component related to the first stage of the capital process towards the planning of a new single-site acute care hospital in Windsor. It addresses acute care services and non-acute care bedded services for the region, and will develop opportunities for enhanced service delivery to be provided in the community to complement the hospital service planning process.

The initial Stage 1A submission will be immediately shared with the Ministry for a joint review process. Once reviews have been completed, the LHIN Board will be required to provide a formal, final approval of the complete Stage 1A submission. This initial planning submission is the first of several steps required to plan for a new acute care hospital for the region.

In conjunction with the Stage 1A work, the LHIN staff will continue to work with the hospital towards the next phase of planning, the Stage 1 Part B Plan, which will examine the physical and cost elements associated with supporting acute care services for the region. This will help ensure that the project's momentum continues to positively move forward. The final step towards a new acute care facility for the Windsor-Essex region will be approval from the Ministry and the Ontario government to implement a capital project.

QUOTES

"The steering committee continues to impress me by continuing to work collaboratively with all community partners and experts on the new acute care hospital proposal. I'm very much looking forward to reviewing and advocating for the approval of the initial Stage 1A submission with the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care."

— Teresa Piruzza, MPP Windsor West

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“This is an exciting day for Windsor. The vision of planning for a new hospital takes the hard work of a dedicated steering committee, community input, and strong leadership. I think we have that here in Windsor and I'm glad the LHIN can be supportive of the plan to move this initiative ahead.”

— Gary Switzer, CEO, Erie St. Clair LHIN

FACTS

- A Windsor Hospitals Study Task Force was established to lead discussion and seek input on the following three questions:
 1. Would a new single site acute care hospital improve the delivery of acute care services in Windsor/Essex?
 2. Would a new single site acute care facility provide good value for money?
 3. If there is community support for a new hospital, what other considerations must be addressed during subsequent planning phases?
- At the conclusion of its deliberations, the task force recommended that the Ontario government proceed in approving the planning and construction of a new single site acute care hospital for the Windsor/Essex region.
- The Boards of the two Windsor hospitals aligned with the Task Force's recommendations by revising the mandate of the two hospital corporations with:
 - Windsor Regional Hospital assuming responsibility for all acute care services at the Metropolitan and Ouellette sites and the governance and management of the new hospital
 - Hôtel-Dieu Grace Healthcare to operate and assume the governance and management of chronic care, regional rehabilitation, specialized mental health and addictions, and children's mental health on the Tayfour site
- January 2013 – a \$2.5 million capital grant was approved to support preliminary program and service planning for a new acute care hospital in Windsor/Essex

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