Communiqué

Ministry/LHIN Effectiveness Review – Going Forward

With the establishment of Local Health Integration Networks, Ontario's health care transformation is unique in Canada. From the beginning, it was positioned as an evolutionary process characterized by learning, adjusting and fine tuning structures and processes for both the LHINs and the government.

So the Ministry and the LHINs are jointly participating in an Effectiveness Review having selected KPMG as external consultants through a Request for Services process. The Review is expected to be completed by end of June 2008.

In both the initial Ministry/LHIN Accountability Agreement signed between the ministry and the LHINs and the Memorandum of Understanding, there has been a strong commitment to ongoing performance improvement and joint problem-solving. The Effectiveness Review process is specifically designed to be a vehicle to move the transformation of the health system forward within the principles of change management including: consultation, flexibility, accountability, strategic alignment and commitment to change.

The review will compare what was to be implemented against the current state, processes and mechanisms that are in place and the outputs generated. It is not an evaluation of health outcomes or the relationship among LHINs and health service providers. LHINs began operations 2 years ago and received full authority in April, 2007. It is time to determine whether the appropriate tools, resources, staff and processes are in place to allow them to meet their objectives. The review will examine the effectiveness and capacity of both the ministry and the LHINs to adequately fulfill their roles.

The KPMG Project Team will conduct a series of interviews that spans all 14 LHINs, MOHLTC personnel, and a sample of key stakeholders most closely involved in the implementation of the LHIN initiative.

This is about building a stronger health care system to benefit the people of Ontario. It is about finding what we have done well and determining how we can do even better.