

COMMUNIQUE TO PARTNERS

May 3, 2021

The Full Application For Network 24's OHT Has Now Been Submitted

A great deal of work has been done by our local Health Team, currently referred to as 'Network 24', to submit an application enabling the Upper Ottawa Valley, Highway 60 and North Renfrew groups to become a single, integrated Ontario Health Team (OHT).

This work has been done as part of the provincial initiative to make health care more collaborative, integrated and patient-centred. To achieve this, the people and groups who provide health and social service care in Ontario were asked to work together in Health Teams.

Development of the Network 24 Ontario Health Team is in the early stages, but when complete, it is hoped that it will be easier for people to get the right care, at the right time, in the right place.

Members of our team, representing hospitals, long-term care, paramedic services, primary care providers, social services, palliative care, homecare, community care, mental health and addictions care and public health, as well as our Indigenous and Francophone populations, patients and families, provided valuable input in the final draft, which was submitted on April 30th.

Partner and working groups have collaborated to complete required tasks, including an inventory of current collaborations and networks, identification of our priority populations for Year 1, and initiatives to improve care for those populations.

Network 24 will spend its first year in operation focused on enhanced care for two priority groups within our population – frail seniors and those struggling with mental health and addictions.

Areas of focus for our OHT will include increasing the number of individuals who have a primary care provider, whether family doctor or nurse practitioner. It will also work to improve awareness of the available services in our region that support our aging population to live healthfully in their home and improve connectivity through appropriate referrals and matching patient needs to the correct service. This also holds true for those with mental health and addictions issues who should be able to access the care they need.

The Network 24 OHT will also work to advance digital health and information sharing, which will not only help family doctors, nurse practitioners and other providers to coordinate patient care, but will also allow the OHT to measure the number of referrals to services, wait times, and other metrics to make sure improvements are being made.

Review of the application is expected to take several months and once approval is received, the Ontario government will conduct an in-person assessment to ensure that Network 24 is fully ready to become an Ontario Health Team.

A new name for our OHT will be selected once its development is complete.

Information about the next steps for partners will be rolled out as our team advances through the development process and, pending approval, into implementation planning.

For more information, please contact the Ontario Health Team Communication and Engagement Group for Network 24:

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