

September 17, 2021

## Media Release

### Hastings-Prince Edward Ontario Health Team Gets Green Light

(Hastings County) Reaction to the Ontario Government's approval of an Ontario Health Team covering all of Hastings and Prince Edward Counties, including the cities of Belleville and Quinte West, was swift and positive.

The announcement today by the Minister of Health, the Honourable Christine Elliot, supported by local MPPs, Minister of Energy Todd Smith and MPP Daryl Kramp, ushers in a new way of organizing and delivering care for people that call both counties home. This announcement marks an important milestone in transforming the programs and services delivered across our community. Over time and by working together, the HPE-OHT will remove barriers across 46 local health care providers, physicians and community organizations all striving to meet the health and wellness needs of people no matter which door they enter or where care is provided, across both counties. This is the first step in a multi-year transformation; the programs, providers and services our communities rely on will remain the same as organizations begin to work together.

#### Quotes:

"We are thrilled to be part of the creation of the new Hastings-Prince Edward Ontario Health Team because it means that patients and their families will be at the centre of designing a more efficient, seamless continuum of care as they navigate a complex health care system. Hopefully, through the work of HPE OHT, patients will have a better experience with health and community care."

- *Odila Hoyer, Patient, Client & Partners, HPE OHT*

"Creating this new Ontario Health Team will organize and deliver services to seniors more effectively. It will ensure that when seniors need assistance, they can get it quickly. Caring for seniors is going to be a continuing priority for the new Team."

- *Debbie MacDonald Moynes, Executive Director,  
The Prince Edward County Community Care for Seniors Association*

"For the first two years, our Health Team will be focusing on home and community care services as well as strengthening primary care provider capacity to deal with complex mental health issues. This measured approach will also allow us to put the necessary organizational frameworks in place and set us up for the future of better care for our patients."

- *Sheila Braidek, Executive Director, Belleville Quinte West Community Health Centre & Co-Chair, HPE OHT*

"I know I speak for my colleague Mayor Steve Ferguson in Prince Edward County in expressing our full municipal support for this new Ontario Health Team. We have a long tradition of working together as municipalities and we know that this is possible for our health care system in our two counties. It should not matter where a patient or their families live, whether it is in Maynooth, Belleville, Quinte West or Picton, they deserve a coordinated approach to their care."

- *Rick Phillips, Warden of Hastings County*

"As a primary care physician in Bancroft, I see the challenges my patients face in the current siloed system of care. We can do better for them by being organized differently and making their care seamless. While physicians will be key members of the new OHT, we recognize there are many facets of a patient's overall care and support and a well organized OHT will be better for patients across all of our communities."

- *Dr. Alexander Ferreira, Bancroft Community Family Health Team*

"Quinte Health Care is honoured to be a passionate collaborator on the new Hastings-Prince Edward Ontario Health Team. Our hospitals in Bancroft, Picton, Belleville and Quinte West provide services to patients across the counties and we welcome working together as one team to serve our community. We know this will take time, hard work and commitment and we are ready to partner to make a meaningful difference."

- *Stacey Daub, President, Quinte Health Care Corporation*

"We are excited about this opportunity to be part of transforming the health system and further integrating health and social services and community support services to improve the health and well-being of our communities. We look forward to engaging in the next steps of this process and working with health partners and with patients/clients/caregivers/families and all communities in HPE to move the HPE OHT forward."

- *Joan E. Greenwood, President and Chairperson of the Board, Addictions and Mental Health Services-HPE*

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## **Caring for Our Communities Together**

Partnering for better health and wellness within, and across, our communities

### **Backgrounder:**

- The Hastings-Prince Edward Ontario Health Team (HPE OHT) will serve the population of approximately 178,000 residents within the two counties, as well as those in adjacent communities that may rely on health and wellness services with Hastings-Prince Edward
- Population numbers swell during the summer season with more than 1,000,000 visitors and seasonal residents enjoying our communities
- Fifty-four percent of the HPE OHT population live in Quinte West and Belleville and about half (48%) of the population live in rural areas across both counties
- The majority of the HPE population (54%, or 91,340 people) is 45 years or older (versus 45% provincially)
- By 2031, 32% of the population will be 65+ (compared to 25% in 2021)

### **Hastings-Prince Edward Ontario Health Team Partners:**

Addictions Mental Health - Hastings Prince Edward\*

Alzheimers Society - Hastings Prince Edward

Bancroft Community Family Health Team\*

Bancroft Family Health Organization

Belleville and Quinte West Community Health Centre\*

Belleville Queen's Family Health Organization

Belleville Nurse Practitioner Led Clinic\*

Brighton Quinte West Family Health Organization

Care North Hastings

Central Hastings Family Health Team\*

Central Hastings Family Health Organization

Cheshire Homes - Hastings Prince Edward

Children Mental Health Services

Community Care for Central Hastings\*

Community Care for Seniors\*

Community Care for South Hastings

Enrichment Centre for Mental Health

Gateway Community Health Centre\*

Hastings County\*

Heart of Hastings Hospice

Home and Community Care Support Services South East

Hospice Prince Edward

Hospice Quinte

Hastings Prince Edward Public Health

Lakeview Family Health Team  
Local Health Integration Network\*  
Local Physicians\*  
MBQ Indigenous Inter professional Primary Care  
North Hastings Hospice  
Ontario Provincial Police  
Pathways to Independence  
PEC Community Care for Seniors Association  
Prince Edward Family Health Team\*  
Prince Edward Family Health Organization  
Prince Edward County\*  
Peer Support South East Ontario  
Prince Edward Family Health Organization  
Providence Care\*  
Quinte Health Care\*  
Queen's Family Health Team  
Queen's Family Health Organization\*  
Quinte Midwives  
Quinte Rehab  
Reseau des Services de Sante en Francais - ON  
United Way - Hastings Prince Edward  
Victoria Order of Nurses  
Youth Habilitation Quinte

*\*These organizations have a representative on the OHT Stewardship Committee guiding the initial phase of work*