

Date: July 5, 2010
To: The Staff and Volunteers of Hospice Northumberland Lakeshore (HNL), Palliative Care Campbellford (PCC) and Community Care Northumberland (CC Northumberland)
From: Jim Wrigley, Executive Director, HNL
Diane LaCavera, Board Chair, PCC
Trish Baird, Executive Director, CC Northumberland

On behalf of our three agencies, we would like to take this opportunity to update our staff and volunteers regarding a project that is just beginning to integrate hospice services, currently provided by Hospice Northumberland Lakeshore and Palliative Care Campbellford, into the group of services provided by Community Care Northumberland.

It is clearly recognized that the staff and volunteers at Hospice Northumberland Lakeshore and Palliative Care Campbellford are highly committed and have the training, skills and knowledge to provide services and meet the needs of hospice clients. However, resource challenges at Hospice Northumberland Lakeshore and Palliative Care Campbellford have prompted the two agencies to partner with the Central East LHIN to find a way to continue to provide these services to the residents of Northumberland County.

The LHIN believes that hospice services, along with other community support services, are best supported by local organizations and therefore a partnership with Community Care Northumberland has been identified as a solution.

An integration team, comprised of representatives from the four organizations, is meeting over the summer to develop an implementation plan which will be reviewed by each organization's board. Our shared focus during the development of this implementation plan is on minimizing service disruptions and meeting client needs.

It is recognized that this will be a challenging time for our clients, our staff and our volunteers and we are committed to providing ongoing updates and to involve you in this process as we develop a new integrated model for providing hospice services in Northumberland.

We will also be working with our partners in the community - hospitals, local physicians, the Central East Community Care Access Centre, other community agencies and our donors - to design the best service possible. All of us are committed to ensuring that sustainable and accessible hospice services, that provides quality care, is available to our community.

A page has been created on the Central East LHIN website to share information during this process and we would encourage you to direct people to this page if they require further information.

(see <http://www.centraleastlhin.on.ca/Page.aspx?id=96>)

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.



PALLIATIVE CARE
Campbellford

