

**Local Health Integration Network appoints
Northumberland County Sub-region Primary Care Physician Lead**

Dr. Philip Stratford to work with local partners to deliver coordinated care

NEWS

March 20, 2017

The Central East Local Health Integration Network (Central East LHIN) is pleased to announce the appointment of a Primary Care Physician Lead for the Northumberland County sub-region, as the Central East LHIN continues to lead the advancement of an integrated sustainable health care system that ensures better health, better care and better value.

Recruited through a procurement process supported by the Central East Community Care Access Centre (Central East CCAC), the Primary Care Physician Lead for the Northumberland County sub-region is Dr. Philip Stratford. Dr. Stratford is a resident of the Cobourg area who cares for patients in the community, in long-term care homes and in the Northumberland Hills Hospital's palliative care service.

Working in partnership with Dr. Paul Caulford, Central East LHIN Primary Care Physician Lead, the Central East LHIN's local sub-region Primary Care Physician Leads are collaborating with their physician colleagues and other health service providers to improve system access in their local communities.

This is being achieved through the provincial [Health Links](#) initiative with the goal of ensuring that patients with complex health needs are identified and better supported through coordinated care plans to achieve the best possible health outcomes.

QUOTES

“We are extremely pleased to now have a full complement of local Primary Care Physician Leads, in all seven of our sub-regions, actively working with their local colleagues on transformative patient care improvements. We continue to see how integrated teams of health care providers, in partnership with patients and their caregivers, are working together to provide timely and coordinated care so that people are able to live healthier at home rather than having to continually return to a hospital emergency department or be readmitted to the hospital.”

- Deborah Hammons, CEO, Central East LHIN

“The *Patients First: Action Plan for Health Care* and the Central East LHIN’s 2016-2019 Integrated Health Service Plan highlights how collaboration between primary care providers and broader system partners can support transformation towards a more equitable, seamless and integrated system for patients and families. The active engagement of primary care providers in system design and transformation will lead to improved clinical quality and clinical change management, and is a critical step to advancing integrated systems of care and putting patients first to increase their ability to live healthier at home.”

- Dr. Paul Caulford, Central East LHIN Primary Care Physician Lead

QUICK FACTS

- The Central East LHIN is comprised of seven sub-regions, smaller geographic planning regions that help the LHIN to better understand and address patient needs at the local level.
- By looking at care patterns through a smaller, more local lens, the Central East LHIN is able to better identify and respond to community needs and ensure that patients across the entire LHIN have access to the care they need, when and where they need it.
- The appointment of Primary Care Physician Leads in each sub-region supports the implementation of *Health Links*, the [Patients First: Action Plan for Health Care](#) and the ongoing design and implementation of integrated systems of care as described in the [LHIN’s 2016 -2019 Integrated Health Service Plan](#).

LEARN MORE

For more information on the new Primary Care Physician Lead, please visit the Central East LHIN’s website at www.centraleastlhin.on.ca and click on [“About Us – LHIN Leads.”](#)

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