



## NEWS RELEASE

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### ROUGE VALLEY PEER REVIEW PRESENTED TO CENTRAL EAST LHIN BOARD

Review Team identifies challenges and opportunities ahead for Rouge Valley

AJAX – A Peer Review Team, appointed by the Central East Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) to conduct an operational review of the Rouge Valley Health System (RVHS), presented its findings to the Central East LHIN's Board of Directors at its Open Board Meeting in Ajax on December 14<sup>th</sup>.

The independent Peer Review was initiated by the Central East LHIN and by RVHS in July when Rouge Valley was unable to submit a balanced budget as part of its 2007/08 Hospital Annual Planning Submission (HAPS) and was requesting an additional \$12.1 million in base funding for 2007-08. The Peer Review Team, led by Janet Beed, President and CEO of Markham Stouffville Hospital, conducted a review of the hospital's operations.

The 44-page document, which was handed out to everyone in attendance at the public meeting and is now posted on the Central East LHIN website, laid out a series of recommendations under five headings which included Leadership; Organizational Culture; Strategy; Financial and Governance.

Rik Ganderton, President and CEO of Rouge Valley Health System, said, "We are reviewing the report and will submit plans to the CE LHIN for its approval in the New Year. We will continue to work collaboratively with the CE LHIN."

After the CE LHIN Board voted to receive the report and forward it to Rouge Valley, Ganderton and Rouge Valley Board Chair, Tom Atkins signed off on the report and the CE LHIN is now providing Rouge Valley with \$8 million in one-time funding to assist it in achieving the recommendations contained in the report. The Central East LHIN and Rouge Valley will work together on a number of the recommendations and ongoing updates on the progress of the recommendations will be shared with the CE LHIN Board and the general public at future Central East LHIN Board meetings.

"This was a very thorough review," said Nizar Ladak, Senior Director, Performance, Contracts and Allocation for the Central East LHIN and Chair of the LHIN/RVHS Steering Committee that oversaw the review. "Janet, Mary Clare Egberts from North York General Hospital and Dr. Alfio Meschino from Toronto East General Hospital are to be commended for the outstanding work they have done in laying out some very clear direction to guide the leadership of Rouge Valley in improving efficiency and developing a plan to balance their budget."

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The Central East LHIN is one of 14 not-for-profit organizations, created by the provincial government to be responsible for planning, integrating and funding local health services - hospitals, long term care facilities, community care access centres, community health centres, community support services and mental health and addictions agencies. For more information on how the Central East LHIN is creating a stronger, more integrated public health care system, please visit [www.centraleastlin.on.ca](http://www.centraleastlin.on.ca).

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