

LHIN e-Health Leads Council

December 2007

Newsletter



Stay Tuned for Future Publications

The Council intends the newsletter to be available online.

Watch for our next publication in early March, with three other issues to follow in the balance of 2008.

Access the newsletter online at www.LHINS.ON.CA



Have a question about the Council?

Ideas for the newsletter?

Contact

Marlene Ross
mross@tsh.to
416-495-2701
x5476

or

Frank Vassallo
frank.vassallo@ontario.ca
416-327-3343

WELCOME to our first edition of the LHIN e-Health Leads Council Newsletter!

On behalf of the Council we are excited to bring you this publication, the result of input from a number of people representing various constituencies - people who want to stay connected to the rapidly evolving e-Health landscape in our province.

The intent of this first issue is to provide context by introducing the Council and its history, its current membership and the highlights of what we have accomplished since we began.

These are very exciting and challenging times in the health services arena. The importance and power of regular, relevant and simple communication cannot be overemphasized. With that in mind, we intend to grow this publication by sharing progress and success stories of real field situations along the way. We hope that you will not only stay connected by reading it, but that you will also feel free to suggest story ideas so that we can continue to make it something you value. We have planned for quarterly publication in 2008.

Until then, feel free to connect with us and have a safe and happy Holiday Season.



Lewis Hooper
Regional CIO and e-Health Lead
Central East LHIN
Co-chair LHIN e-Health Leads Council

Gail Paech
Assistant Deputy Minister, e-Health
Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care
Co-chair LHIN e-Health Leads Council

Our purpose

LHINs will be the key vehicle for the delivery of health system integration initiatives at a regional level within Ontario. e-Health is a fundamental enabler to integration, and has been identified as a key priority by LHINs and the ministry.

The LHINs, through their e-Health Leads, are working in collaborative partnership with the e-Health Program to move the e-Health agenda forward. The mandate of the e-Health Program is to establish and maintain the strategic e-Health foundation of Ontario's broader health sector.

The LHIN e-Health Leads Council got its start in January 2006. Our roles and responsibilities are outlined as follows:

- Provide advice to the e-Health Program regarding LHIN e-Health priorities;
- Provide a forum for the discussion of e-Health issues at a local and regional level within Ontario, and, where appropriate make recommendations to the LHIN CEO Council;

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- Share information on e-Health projects and plans within the LHINs, including discussion of potential impacts on the entire health care system and focusing on opportunities for collaboration and cooperation;
- Ensure alignment of local e-Health Strategic Plans and initiatives with provincial strategic directions;
- Forge and nurture relationships with the LHIN CEOs and the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) e-Health Program;
- Provided advice to Smart Systems for Health Agency (SSHA) on both strategic and technical issues.

Our current membership

Council member	Title	email
Gail Paech (co-chair)	ADM, e-Health MOHTLC	gail.paech@ontario.ca
Lewis Hooper (co-chair)	e-Health Lead for Central East	lhooper@tsh.to
Glenn Alexander	e-Health Lead for Champlain	glenn.alexander@lhins.on.ca
Matt Anderson	e-Health Lead for Toronto Central	matthew.anderson@uhn.on.ca
Diane Beattie	e-Health Lead for South West	diane.beattie@sjhc.london.on.ca
Rod Burns	e-Health Lead for North Simcoe Muskoka	burnsr@rvh.on.ca
Hy Eliasoph	Central LHIN CEO	hy.eliasoph@lhins.on.ca
Dan Germain	e-Health Lead for Mississauga Halton	dgermain@cvh.on.ca
Roger Girard	e-Health Lead for Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant	rgirard@niagarahealth.on.ca
Laurie Hicks	VP, Client Relationship Management - SSHA	laurie.hicks@ssha.on.ca
Glenn Holder	e-Health Lead for Waterloo Wellington	glenn.holder@lhins.on.ca
Sarah Kramer	VP & CIO Cancer Care Ontario	sarah.kramer@cancercare.on.ca
Paul McAuley	e-Health Lead for South East	paul.mcauley@se.ccac-ont.ca
Judy Middleton	e-Health Lead for Central West	judy_middleton@oslerhc.org
Sharon Pfaff	e-Health Lead for Erie St. Clair	spfaff@ckha.on.ca
Mike Rigo	VP, Solutions Delivery and Management - SSHA	mike.rigo@ssha.on.ca
Diane Salois-Swallow	e-Health Lead for Central	dsalois-swallow@yorkcentral.on.ca
Tamara Shewciw	e-Health Lead for North East	tamara_shewciw@ghc.on.ca
Bruce Sutton	e-Health Lead for North West	suttonb@tbh.net
Supporting staff		
Vytas Mickevicius	Executive Lead, e-Health Program	vytas.mickevicius@ontario.ca
Marlene Ross	e-Health Consultant	mross@tsh.to
Doug Tessier	Integration and Alignment Lead	doug.tessier@ontario.ca
Frank Vassallo	LHIN e-Health Consultant	frank.vassallo@ontario.ca

Our accomplishments

We have been busy during the last couple of years! We have been meeting monthly as a Council and would like to share with you the highlights of what we have accomplished.

- **We coordinated the development of LHIN-specific e-Health Strategic Plans** which align with the Provincial e-Health directions. These plans were developed through collaboration with the various community provider agencies.
- **We have been very involved** in providing much needed e-Health leadership at the local level - including developing relationships with community-based health care providers.
- **We continue to actively partner** with the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care e-Health Program, and the LHINs to drive the provincial e-Health initiatives forward.
- **We are focused on priorities to support** clinical engagement, resource management, alignment and execution as well as fostering collaboration and integration across sectors.
- **The LHIN e-Health Leads are actively participating** in various work and advisory groups, including but not limited to the Diagnostic Imaging/PACS Client Registry Working Group; the Portal Strategy Advisory Group; the Primary Care Integration Working Group, Enterprise Master Patient Index (EMPI), e-Referral, and the SSHA/LHIN e-Health Leads Council Technical Working Group.