



## LHIN BOARD HEARS FROM HOSPITALS AFTER MERGER PUT ON HOLD Hospital CEOs present views on process and next steps

### NEWS

March 27, 2014

Representatives from The Scarborough Hospital and the Rouge Valley Health System were at the Central East Local Health Integration Network (Central East LHIN) Board of Directors meeting yesterday to provide an update on why their Boards passed differing motions on a proposed merger and how the hospitals will now be moving forward.

In January 2014, the hospitals had submitted a joint *Notice of Intent to Merge* to the Central East LHIN after developing a *Preferred Integration Plan* in partnership with their physicians, staff and community members. This was a significant milestone in a facilitated integration planning process initiated by the Central East LHIN in March 2013.

After submitting the Notice, the hospitals had continued to work together to complete additional documentation and confirm the level of financial support they would require to merge the organizations, specifically related to capital planning and operational funding.

But with the Rouge Valley Health System (RVHS) Board passing a motion on March 15<sup>th</sup>, agreeing to proceed with the merger and The Scarborough Hospital (TSH) Board passing a motion to not proceed with the merger at the present time, the hospitals have now rescinded their *Notice of Intent to Merge*.

In their joint and separate presentations at the LHIN's March 26<sup>th</sup> Board meeting, Robert Biron, CEO of The Scarborough Hospital and Rik Ganderton, CEO of Rouge Valley Health System reiterated the short term and long term benefits of a merged organization that the hospitals had identified including improving patient access, sharing clinical expertise, developing centres of excellence and more effective integration with all sectors of the broader health care system.

Engaged Communities.  
Healthy Communities.

## Central East LHIN



They also spoke to each organization's understanding of the financial commitments made by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and the Central East LHIN that their Boards had considered in making their respective motions at their March 15<sup>th</sup> meetings.

Both CEOs confirmed that their organizations are committed to moving forward with integrations that were previously identified by the Central East LHIN including developing a Service Delivery Model for Maternal-Child-Youth (MCY) services for the Scarborough Cluster, as well as a plan for a LHIN regional program for advanced Neonatal and paediatric care as recommended in the 2009 Hospital Clinical Services Plan.

In response the LHIN Board passed a motion directing LHIN staff to meet with the hospitals to prepare a recommendation on next steps related to the identified integrations and report back to the Board at their next Open Meeting on April 24<sup>th</sup>.

### QUOTES

“As part of our due diligence, LHIN staff had evaluated the hospitals' Preferred Integration Plan using our decision making framework and had determined that the proposed integration would have been a significant milestone in the LHIN's vision and mission statement to create an integrated health service delivery system that is sustainable to meet the future needs of our communities.”

- Deborah Hammons, CEO, Central East LHIN.

“While focused on the risks and benefits of organizational integration, the hospitals' Preferred Integration Plan has identified a number potential back office and patient-services integrations. Some of these integrations are already underway through the LHIN's support.”

- Deborah Hammons, CEO, Central East LHIN.

Engaged Communities.  
Healthy Communities.

## Central East LHIN



“While the decision to merge the organizations by integrating their leadership and governance may be considered by the two organizations at a later date, LHIN staff will continue to work with both hospitals, their administrative and physician leaders and their staff, to integrate the appropriate back office services and clinical programs that will improve access and quality and support the ongoing transformation of the health care system.”

- Deborah Hammons, CEO, Central East LHIN.

### LEARN MORE

To access copies of the presentations delivered by the hospital CEOs at the LHIN’s March 26<sup>th</sup> Board meeting, please click [HERE](#).

For more information:  
Katie Cronin-Wood, Communications Lead  
Central East LHIN  
1-866-804-5446 ext. 218  
katie.croninwood@lhins.on.ca

Engaged Communities.  
Healthy Communities.