



Local mental health agencies boards approve integration plan *Two organizations to amalgamate by April 2013*

NEWS

January 30, 2012

With the unanimous support of both boards, the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) branches in the City of Kawartha Lakes and Peterborough will now begin working on a plan to amalgamate their two branches into a new organization by April 2013.

The support came after the boards reviewed an Integration Plan developed by the two agencies during a facilitated integration process supported by the Central East Local Health Integration Network (LHIN).

The Integration Plan, which is posted on the LHIN website and available at the CMHA branch offices, outlines how the new organization will make better use of their resources, enhance and expand existing programs and reach out to clients in underserved areas. Services will continue to be delivered through locations in Kawartha Lakes and Peterborough.

It is also expected that transitioning to a new organization will lead to stronger partnerships with hospitals and other community-based agencies in the north east cluster of the LHIN so that local residents have easier access to the full system of mental health and addictions services.

QUOTES

“This was a challenging decision but our Board believes that by working on the transition with our Peterborough colleagues and building on the potential that this integration offers, clients in both communities will be better served through enhanced programs and improved delivery of services.”

- Doug Bothwell, President, CMHA-Kawartha Lakes, Board of Directors

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“Staff from both organizations dedicated a considerable amount of time and effort in developing an Integration Plan that clearly shows how we can better meet our communities’ needs now and into the future. This is an exciting time as our Boards begin to make the plan a reality.”

- Bob Helsing, President, CMHA- Peterborough, Board of Directors

“I congratulate everyone at CMHA-Kawartha Lakes and CMHA-Peterborough for their leadership in developing, approving and now beginning to implement the Integration Plan. The LHIN is continuing to work with local health service providers on creating integrated systems that bring value to local residents through increased accessibility and efficiency. This integration is an outstanding example of how providers can work together and should serve as a model for other organizations in the Central East LHIN and across the province.”

- Wayne Gladstone, Chair, Central East LHIN, Board of Directors

QUICK FACTS

- The two branches began working on the facilitated integration process in April 2011.
- An Integration Planning Team, comprised of representatives from both CMHA branches and the Central East LHIN, gathered feedback from community residents, clients and their caregivers, other health service providers, staff and Board members to support the development of the plan.

LEARN MORE

To access a copy of the FINAL Integration Plan, please visit the Central East LHIN website and click on “[Resource Documents – Integration.](#)”

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