



Melissa Minutes

By Melissa McCallum
GHHN Director

It continues to be an exciting time for the GHHN! On September 27th, it was announced that the GHHN is one of 12 OHTs chosen to implement an advanced workplan and work towards OHT designation at a rapid rate. What does this mean? It means we are working towards being responsible for the full funding envelope for our community and eventually taking on the responsibilities of home care. This is a massive announcement and has a lot of implications for our work moving forward. Over the month of October, we expect to hear more about specific deliverables around primary care, pathways and system navigation.

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Partnership Council

November 28th
1:00-2:30pm
via Zoom



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Melissa Minutes

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We will then need to work on a strategic plan refresh with our patients and partners. There is a lot coming our way, but we look forward to building upon all the hard work we have achieved already together. Thank you for helping us lead the way provincially!

The PEACH Tree Mural at the Haldimand War Memorial Hospital

The PEACH tree mural at Haldimand War Memorial Hospital (HWMH) aims to address ways to improve current healthcare practices by implementing sustainable solutions within HWMH. In guidance with the PEACH Health Ontario organization, students from the SUSTAIN 2SS3 class at McMaster University developed and implemented this project in the hospital. The students of this project are fourth-year Honours Life Sciences students, Ritika Khetarpal and Olivia Juman, fourth-year Health Sciences student Maurice El Helou, Helena Teng and Katie Drover, Health Science graduates for the class of 2023. The project is supervised with the support of Drs. Reza and Barb Kazemi, Marijke Jurriaans, Gina McIntee and Sharon Moore. The PEACH tree mural serves as a physical space for clinicians in the hospital to brainstorm collectively new avenues to make the hospital more sustainable.



The mural contains three panels that assist clinicians with the process of brainstorming non-sustainable practices currently in the hospital and potential solutions to these issues. The third panel of the mural serves as a way to publicly display the sustainable progress the hospital has made and offers inspiration for more progress. Through this mural, we will engage different departments and address a diverse range of solutions to becoming a more sustainable hospital. We hope this project inspires other hospitals to lead a more sustainable future. Together we can!

Men's Health Days

September 20th and 21st

The Greater Hamilton Health Network held their very first Men's Health Days on September 20th and 21st at the Hub in Hamilton.

These health days were a huge success, breaking our record of individuals seen, a grand total of 141 participants.

There were 16 health, social, and housing services who provided over 1000 conversations and services. 35 staff providers and volunteers supported the event.

Thank you so much to all the service providers, staff, volunteers, sponsors and donors for making these days possible, we couldn't have done without the support.

If you would like to get involved in supporting the Greater Hamilton Health Network's Health Days, please email megan.lynych@ghhn.ca.



Farewell and Happy Retirement to Dr. Scott Wooder

As of September 2023, a long-standing member and board director of the GHHN, Scott Wooder retired. Scott has been a key supporter and advisor of the GHHN since we first developed in 2019.

Through COVID-19, Scott was a trusted and valued voice across the GHHN and helped bring together the entire primary care community. As a member of the GHHN Board, Scott always ensured we were thinking about how we put patients in the center of all our work.

Thank you for everything Scott and we wish you the best in your retirement!



Building community health together



Save on Essential Medical Supplies with a Unique Program for Ontario Health Teams

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Balancing patient care priorities with the costs of running your practice is a daily challenge for many non-acute care providers.

Through Mohawk Medbuy's OHTconnect™ program, you can now access significant savings on the products you use to deliver quality care. There's no cost to enroll – and no purchase volume requirements.

Mohawk Medbuy (MMC) is a not-for-profit supply chain organization that negotiates large-scale contracts for medical-surgical products, pharmaceuticals and equipment on behalf of almost 90% of Ontario's hospitals. OHTconnect lets you take advantage of these same bulk pricing agreements for 200+ core products – ordered online and delivered directly to your site.



Supply Savings Program
for Ontario Health Teams



OHTconnect features:

- Clinically vetted supplies, including PPE, instruments, disinfectants, syringes, surgical supplies... and more
- Easy, online point-and-click ordering
- Free* next-day delivery through The Stevens Company
- Access to savings on office supplies through Staples Professional
- Total average savings of 14%**

*Delivery is free on orders of \$300 or more, after tax.

**As reported by participating sites; your savings may vary.

We invite you to join your Greater Hamilton Health Network OHT colleagues – and many other care providers throughout Ontario – who are tapping into the value of OHTconnect:

- Dr. Bob Kemp Hospice
- Dundurn Medical Group
- Haldimand Family Health Team
- Hamilton Family Health Team
- Red Hill Medical Group – Dr. Dennis Kavalsky

Questions?

To find out more or enroll, reach out to MMC's OHTconnect team today at OHTconnect@mohawkmedbuy.ca.



You are cordially invited to join the Greater Hamilton Health Network plant trees at Wentworth Lodge!

October 22, 2023

The GHHN is excited to be offering an opportunity for our partners and staff to spend some time out in nature fostering camaraderie and connection in a way that supports our social, physical, and mental well-being.

Date: October 22, 2023

Time: 11:00 am- 2:00pm

Venue: Wentworth Lodge

Location: 41 South Street West, Dundas, Ontario, L9H 4C4, Canada

This event is family-friendly. (Parents/Guardians are responsible for the safety of their children and youth). Please consider the weather and dress appropriately (things to consider bringing: water, hats, sunscreen, running shoes, gloves).

Register [here](#).



One Stop Talk

One Stop Talk offers children and youth (aged 0-17) immediate access to free mental health support. The program provides single session counselling support and ensures direct referral to additional service when needed. Services are provided through an integrated network of infant, child and youth mental health agencies across Ontario.

To Begin your Session:

- Online chat option for (audio and video call): www.OneStopTalk.ca
- For the phone option, call: 1 (855) 416-8255 or 1 (855) 416-TALK

Services are offered in English and French. You can request an interpreter (available for 200+ languages including ASL) for a session in your preferred language, before connecting with our therapists.

One Stop Talk is committed to be an inclusive service for every child and youth across Ontario.

To learn more visit: onestoptalk.ca





Digital Health Update

Models of Care Innovation Fund

- In early July, Ontario Health announced a funding opportunity for the Models of Care Innovation Fund, with a target on initiatives supporting health human resource capacity and health care service delivery.
- On July 25, 2023, the Greater Hamilton Health Network held a Pitch Day, which was attended by over 45 individuals across our OHT and saw 12 presentations shared for collaboration and feedback.
- Ontario Health West recently confirmed that, across the West Region, 193 applications were submitted. Review and decision-making is ongoing and expected to continue through the Fall.

Digital Funding Opportunity Success

- For FY23-24, the Greater Hamilton Health Network has received over \$250,000 for local digital initiatives and nearly \$3,000,000 to support broader regional initiatives.
- The GHHN Leadership continues to advocate for increased funding to accomplish digital strategic priorities.

Virtual Urgent Care (VUC)

- The St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton (SJHH) Virtual Urgent Care (VUC) Program relaunched on September 25, 2023 to support adult patients across the West Region. This program leverages a Nurse Practitioner-led model to provide patients over the age of 18 with timely virtual urgent care access for lower acuity health issues or concerns. Pediatric virtual urgent care services are also delivered by London Health Sciences Centre.
- To learn more or to self-schedule an appointment, please visit <https://www.urgentcareontario.ca/>.

Regional Cybersecurity

- Hamilton Health Sciences, St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton, and Niagara Health are in conjunction with Ontario Health establishing a Local Delivery Group to support the coordinated delivery of cybersecurity services within the West Region. Regional and provincial collaboration continues during these early planning stages to establish governance, service catalog and delivery model. With the current prioritization by Ontario Health on acute care environments, the GHHN continues to advocate for community and primary care participation in future delivery model planning.



Hamilton Family Health Team

Lead Physician, Brian McKenna

Congratulations to Dr. Brian McKenna on his new role as Lead Physician at the Hamilton Family Health Team (HFHT). The Lead Physicians sit alongside the Board of Directors and Leadership Team as the senior leadership at the HFHT. Together, they guide and direct the organization in line with their mission, vision and values.

St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton announces new President Michael Heenan

St. Joseph's Health System President and CEO announces the appointment of Michael Heenan to the position of President of St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton (SJHH), effective November 27, 2023.

Michael Heenan, PhD, brings 22 years of progressive executive leadership experience in large community and academic hospitals and at the Ontario Ministry of Health, including as Assistant Deputy Minister, Hospitals and Capital during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"It's an honour to return to St. Joe's Hamilton where I started my career," Mr. Heenan said. "I am excited about working with the board, the leadership team, all the physicians, staff and volunteers on continuing the mission of the Sisters and advancing care outcomes for the people of Hamilton."

To read more visit: <https://www.stjoes.ca/our-stories/news/~2475-Michael-Heenan-named-President-St-Joseph-s-Healthcare-Hamilton>





Su Heenan

GHHN Patient Advisor

I thought that I had championed active and sustainable transportation in every way possible until I saw video footage of a bike bus. If you haven't seen hundreds of children on bicycles take back their streets on their morning and afternoon commutes, please do yourself and your kids a favour and search #BikeBus or check out this [article](#). You're going to want to know how to make that happen for your kids and schools and neighbourhoods!

I was recruited by an incredibly motivated parent and all around kind human to start a bike bus with a group of amazing parents and community volunteers. The bike bus got started just in time for Earth Day 2022 and kids can get to four different schools along one route.

After teaching people how to use air quality monitoring data to make informed choices on where they go and what they do, two of our bike buses had to be rescheduled due to poor air quality resulting from wildfires in different parts of the province and country. What can help keep microplastics and chemicals out of waterways? Bikes! Show more people how to grow their own food and how to compost their food scraps, and join or start a bike bus for the future of this planet because a bike bus is one of THE most fun ways to address climate change! Bike buses also serve as a way to remove barriers to inclusion that generations of people have created for children in the built environment. If streets exclusively belong to cars, and the parking lots that line the streets were built to hold space for cars, that sidewalk in between starts to feel like yet another space that belongs to cars!

GHHN Environmental Sustainability Corner



*A space to learn,
share and work
towards greener
healthcare.*

Bike buses end some of the cycles of exclusion, making space for kids and adults to connect with one another and the world around us with a new purpose and a greater sense of belonging. This is your community! You belong here! Enjoy your ride to school!





Haldimand Corner

Barbara Klassen

The Haldimand Stakeholder Council is excited to prepare for our upcoming Older Adult and Caregiver Days in November. This event will bring together health and social services to provide care and resources to older adults and their caregivers within Haldimand. Haldimand's large seniors' population face barriers such as lack of transportation, food insecurity and system navigation challenges. The Older Adult and Caregiver Days will be an opportunity to meet with older adults and their caregivers to provide care and information about the services within Haldimand and the GHHN. It will also be an opportunity to meet with older adults to hear where they identify challenges. For this inaugural event, we are fortunate to have received a grant from the Public Engagement in Health Policy Community Fellowship Grant from McMaster University. We will use some of this funding to provide accessible transportation for older adults and the caregivers to attend the Older Adult and Caregiver Days from wherever they live in Haldimand County!

NEW DATE! BUILDING COMMUNITY HEALTH EVENT



Please join us for the 3rd annual GHHN Building Community Health Event: Centering Primary Care to Build and Sustain an Ontario Health Team.



November 8th 2023 | 1-3pm



Zoom



[Register!](#)



Building community health together.



greaterhamiltonhealthnetwork.ca



info@ghhn.ca



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