

5th Edition

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Significant step in the journey to a new state-of-the art acute care hospital; ESC LHIN establishes Steering Committee to oversee planning

The ESC LHIN has established a Steering Committee to oversee the first stage in planning for a new state-of-the-art acute care hospital. This planning process is governed by the capital planning requirements of the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care.

The Steering Committee will be co-chaired by David Musyj, President and CEO of Windsor Regional and Dave Cooke who co-chaired the task force which led last year's Windsor Hospitals Study. Reporting to the Steering Committee will be an Advisory Committee and groups focused on specific areas such as critical care, emergency and urgent care, diagnostic imaging, etc. The objective of this first stage is to define future demands, identify the how and where services will be delivered and describe how to strengthen the continuum of care.

Both WRH and HDGH will be represented on the new *Preliminary Program and Planning Project Steering Committee*, which will also include officials from the ESCLHIN, Community Care Access Centre, Windsor City Council and Essex County Council, as well as community and primary care representatives. A kickoff meeting of this Steering Committee will occur on Wed., June 12th.

The Committee will meet over several months, culminating with a final report of recommendations to the ESCLHIN board and later to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care.

This work is not to be confused with the ongoing discussions taking place on the near-term realignment of services between WRH and HDGH. In the previous joint communiqué to staff, WRH and HDGH announced an agreement on a new "interim operating model" for hospital realignment, whereby all programs and services currently located at the Metropolitan and Ouellette campuses will be governed, managed and operated by WRH; and all programs and services currently located at the Tayfour campus will be governed, managed and operated by HDGH. Since that time, the seven working groups are using this interim model to prepare final recommendations to the Steering Committee on realignment, which is on track to present a final interim plan to both hospital boards for the end of June. There remains **no date established** for the realignment of program and services under the interim model.

As a reminder, the goals of the working groups continue to be to review all aspects of operations in their respective areas and to ensure:

- ✓ Safe quality care for our patients in a safe working environment for our employees and professional staff collectively referring to as "staff";
- ✓ No disruption for patients and staff;
- ✓ Adequate support for our staff; and an
- ✓ Equitable consultative and transparent process.

Once again, questions can be asked on either hospital website or <http://www.windsorhospitals.ca> website.

Thank you to all of our staff, physicians and volunteers for your patience throughout this process and your continued “business as usual” approach to providing outstanding care and compassion to our patients and families.

Thank you

Ken and David