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**Via email**

January 29, 2016

The Honourable Dr. Eric Hoskins, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care  
Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care  
Hepburn Block, 10th Floor  
80 Grosvenor Street  
Toronto, ON M7A 2C4

Dear Dr. Hoskins:

**Re: Windsor Hospitals Proposal To Transform Hospital Health Care Delivery**

On behalf of the Erie St. Clair LHIN Board of Directors, I would like to take this opportunity to provide our Board's advice on the Windsor Hospitals Proposal To Transform Hospital Health Care Delivery. As you are aware, this proposal is a comprehensive Capital Renewal Plan targeting a value enhancing health care services design. Our Board and staff have examined the Proposal from the perspective of alignment with the Programs and Services which we endorsed in our September 23, 2014 Board meeting as well as with the Ministry of Health & Long Term Care's directive that this project be regional in nature, that is, serve the citizens of both Windsor and Essex County as well as the greater LHIN region. In addition, we reviewed the community engagement activities that have been undertaken by the Programs and Services Steering Committee and Site Selection Sub-Committee of the Project.

We are satisfied that the Proposal is aligned with the approved Programs and Services and more than meets the required community engagements. As a result of our review, we are of the opinion that this Project can now move forward to Stage 2 of the Ministry Capital process.

Below is the Motion that was unanimously approved by our Erie St. Clair LHIN Board in our Open Board Meeting on January 26, 2016.

...2.

MOTION: *Moved by Barb Bjarneson and seconded by Michael Hoare:*

*Be it resolved that the Erie St. Clair Board of Directors, through the Chair, advises the Minister of Health & Long Term Care the following in regard to the proposal by the Windsor Hospitals to transform hospital health care delivery:*

- 1. That the distribution of sites intended to house the various components of the Windsor Hospitals' health delivery system, including but not limited to a new acute care hospital is, in our opinion, consistent with the Program and Service Delivery Model (Stage 1 Part A) we endorsed at our September 23, 2014 Board meeting,  
and*
- 2. After reviewing the community engagement and selection process of the Windsor Hospitals' and the concerns of selected members of the Windsor community, we are of the opinion that the overall community consultation and selection process utilized in the development of the selected sites more than meets the requirements of community engagement as well as the direction of the Ministry of Health & Long Term Care that the project characteristics ensure that the Project is Regional in nature.*

**Approved Unanimously**

In our opinion the Programs and Services and Site Selections proposed reflect the transformation of health care delivery for hospitals that is consistent with the Minister's Patients First: Action Plan for Health Care (February 2015) by proposing that comprehensive urgent care, non-inpatient mental health and non-acute inpatient services are distributed throughout the area as opposed to being serviced in the Acute Care Hospital. By distributing these services in this manner, they become more available to primary care providers without having to be referred to the Acute Care Hospital.

This Project has gained widespread support from the communities and community leaders as is reflected in the fact that the City of Windsor and the County of Essex have both supported a levy that will fund the community portion of the Project. While there is a group that continues to advocate for the Acute Care Hospital to be closer to Windsor's core, this position appears to place the focus on the Acute Care Hospital as the primary health care delivery facility which, as we know, is associated with 20<sup>th</sup> century health care delivery as opposed to distribution of primary health care as close to homes as possible as is proposed in Patients First documents.

Finally, I wish to thank you again for the leadership that you have shown in helping us all work towards a solution that meets the health care needs of the Windsor-Essex area and the Province in a 21<sup>st</sup> century manner.

Sincerely,



Martin Girash, PhD. C.Psych.  
Board Chair

MG:amr

cc: Dr. Robert Bell, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care  
Peter Kaftarian, Director Health Capital Investment Branch, Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care  
Board of Directors, Erie St. Clair LHIN  
Robert Renaud, Board Chair Windsor Regional Hospital, Chair, Site Selection Sub-Committee  
Dave Cooke, Co-Chair, Programs and Services Steering Committee  
Shari Cunningham, Board Chair Hôtel-Dieu Grace Healthcare  
David Musyj, President and CEO Windsor Regional Hospital and Co-Chair Programs  
and Services Steering Committee  
Janice Kaffer, President and CEO Hôtel-Dieu Grace Healthcare  
Gary Switzer, Chief Executive Officer Erie St. Clair LHIN