

Media Statement

For Immediate Release

July 18, 2019

Hamilton Health Team invited to accelerate integrated, patient centered care

HAMILTON, ON – Today the Hamilton Health Team was invited by the Ministry of Health to move forward immediately in the process and submit a full application to create an Ontario Health Team (OHT). The team's initial submission was selected amongst a group of over 150 other applicants from communities across Ontario.

While still early in the process, being selected to move forward presents a significant opportunity for the Hamilton Health Team and partners to advance this pivotal new model for integrated health service delivery envisioned by the Government of Ontario.

Being selected to move forward in this process enables Hamilton to advance the visionary work that began in 2016, when a group of health and social service providers, The Hamilton Community Health Working Group born out of Hamilton's Anchor Institution Leadership Group, came together to examine how to improve health and well-being of the population in Hamilton through better coordination of services.

Over the long-term the Hamilton Health Team will work toward improving overall health and well-being of the whole community by building a system that will improve care, better deliver services and strengthen community supports. In the short-term this team will focus on better connecting, coordinating, and delivering health and community support services to individuals (adults, youth, children) with mental health and addiction concerns; and seniors with multiple chronic conditions.

Quotes

"We look forward to this significant opportunity to transform the health system and further integrate social services and community support services to improve the health and well-being of our community. While this is just the beginning, we look forward to engaging in the next steps of this process and working with patients and partners to move this initiative forward."

John Fleming, Patient Co-chair Hamilton Health Team Partnership Council

"Meaningful patient and community engagement is a critical component of the development of a local Ontario Health Team. As we move forward in the next phase of this work we remain committed to our core principle of engaging and involving patients, families, caregivers, residents and other organizations in our region in the co-design of a truly patient centred integrated health and social service system."

Bernice King, Patient Co-Chair Hamilton Health Team Partnership Council

Additional Information

[Learn more about Hamilton's submission for an Ontario Health Team.](#)

[Ontario Ministry of Health: Become an Ontario Health Team](#)