

LHIN NEWS

For Health Professionals



The Waterloo Wellington LHIN's news for health professionals provides the latest updates from across the local health system as we work together to deliver high-quality, integrated, and patient-centred care for local residents.



Allan and Helen: A True Love Story

Allan and Helen moved to Kitchener a year and a half ago from their hometown of Saskatoon to be closer to their son and two daughters. Though the decision to leave their home of 53 years was difficult, Helen needed extra support after her husband suffered two strokes and was recovering from a serious heart procedure.

Allan lost most of his speech as a result, and the couple finds new ways to communicate with each

other. They do whatever they can to enjoy life to the fullest and maintain their independence.

[Read more here.](#)



FACES of the Waterloo Wellington LHIN brings you closer to the people behind your health system – learn about their motivations, their experiences, and perhaps even more about your own health journey. Click on the image above to learn more about Blair and check [FACES](#) weekly for new stories.



Investing in Guelph's most vulnerable residents

Sleep. It's a basic human need. Imagine what you'd feel like after five days without it. What if one of the reasons you've been unable to sleep is that you're homeless? You're afraid to sleep because your belongings might be taken, or you could be assaulted. Your situation is compounded by substance use and mental health issues. After two overdoses in as many days, you're very sick. You're too sick to stay in a shelter. Not sick enough to be in the hospital.

In Guelph, individuals who are homeless with mental health and addictions challenges are high users of emergency medical services (EMS) and police services.

[Read more here.](#)

WWLHIN

Partner News

Alzheimer Waterloo Wellington - [Spring & Summer Program Guide](#)

Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (Janet Beed's Report) - [Expanding Caregiver Support in Ontario](#)

Cambridge Memorial Hospital - [Construction Webcam Updates](#)

New Groves Memorial Hospital - [Follow the Construction Progress](#)

Region of Waterloo Public Health - [School Immunization Clinics](#)

Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health - [School Immunization Clinics](#)



Overdose Prevention Site in Guelph

A supervised injection site in Guelph will give individuals who inject drugs a safe location staffed by people trained to prevent overdoses. The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care has approved an Overdose Prevention Site (OPS) at the downtown location of the Guelph Community Health Centre. It will complement existing resources and supports currently being offered and is scheduled to open in April.

The OPS will provide easy access to life-saving harm reduction services in an environment that is free of stigma. The goal is to help reduce the growing number of opioid-related overdose deaths.

The services will include supervised injection, the distribution of harm reduction supplies, the disposal of used supplies, and the distribution of naloxone.

The Guelph CHC will also connect those in need of health care to a team of professionals including addictions counselors.

Waterloo Region Hospice Funding Announcement

Residents in Waterloo Wellington will soon have expanded access to hospice services at a new 10-bed residential hospice. On March 2, the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care announced two million dollars in funding for the hospice palliative care centre in Waterloo.

Annually, the new residential hospice will provide support for approximately 200 people and their families. The centre will also include expanded spaces for hospice support services currently being delivered by Hospice of Waterloo Region.

The funding announcement will help ensure that patients and families get the health care and support they need at an important stage in their lives when they are making difficult, end-of-life decisions.

Hospice of Waterloo Region has been making a tremendous impact in residents' lives for 25 years.

[Read more here.](#)



Quality Standards for Dementia Care

Health Quality Ontario has just released a new quality standard for the more than 111,100 Ontarians who have dementia and live in the community.

The quality standard focuses on primary care specialist care, hospital outpatient services, home care, and community support services. It also provides guidance on support for caregivers who are often stressed from the physical, emotional and financial demands of caring for someone living with dementia.

The standards in *Dementia: Care for People Living in the Community* were developed in consultation with clinicians, patients and caregivers, and are based on the best evidence.

[Read more here.](#)

Accessing Services from Stonehenge Therapeutic Community

It's now easier to get support and information about the Community Withdrawal Support Service and the Rapid Access Addiction Clinics through Stonehenge's new toll-free phone number:
1-844-RAACWSS (1-844-722-2977).

Stonehenge Therapeutic works with individuals, families and communities impacted by substance use and co-occurring mental health issues.

[Read more here.](#)

Four local municipalities recognized by province as age-friendly

Four municipalities in Waterloo Wellington were recognized with awards at the recent Ontario Age-Friendly Communities Symposium hosted by the Ministry of Seniors Affairs in Toronto on March 27.

- The City of Cambridge was recognized for initiatives to improve housing, transportation, health supports, social inclusion, and increased access to information for older adults.
- The City of Kitchener was recognized for its plan to create more accessible and affordable neighbourhoods, better access to information, and a greater sense of belonging, connectedness and wellbeing for seniors.
- The City of Waterloo was recognized for over 20 action items to create a more age-friendly

community, including improvements to housing, community and health services.

- The City of Guelph was recognized for the creation of a newsletter for seniors, and projects to inform seniors about local services to remove barriers faced by older adults.



Ontario College of Family Physicians Awards

The OCFP Awards recognize excellence in community and medical leadership, outstanding contributions in teaching, and exceptional teamwork among family physicians across Ontario.

Don't miss the opportunity to nominate a deserving colleague. Nominations are open until Friday, April 13 in the following categories:

- Ontario Family Physician of the Year
- Regional Family Physicians of the Year
- Community Teacher of the Year
- Family Medicine Resident of the Year
- Family Practice of the Year
- Awards of Excellence

[Read more here.](#)

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