
MEDIA RELEASE



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Joint Committee to Oversee Hospital System Planning

WRH and HDGH representatives to discuss service realignment over 3-4 month process

Windsor Regional Hospital and Hôtel-Dieu Grace Hospital have established a Steering Committee as the two hospitals take the next necessary step towards a previously announced realignment of governance and management of services and programs between the two organizations.

The Steering Committee will be chaired by David Musyj and Ken Deane - the President and CEOs of WRH and HDGH, respectively - and will include:

- WRH Board Chair Gay Wrye
- HDGH Board Chair Carol Derbyshire
- WRH Vice-Chair Robert Renaud
- HDGH Vice-Chair Shari Cunningham
- WRH Chief of Staff Dr. Gary Ing
- HDGH Chief of Staff Dr. Gord Vail
- Erie St. Clair LHIN CEO Gary Switzer
- Erie St. Clair LHIN, Board Member, Barb Bjarneson,
- Two representatives of the Windsor Hospitals Study Task Force, Dave Cooke and Tom Porter.

There are seven Working Groups made up of representatives of both hospitals who will report into the Steering Committee. Specifically, the seven Working Groups will be focused on Programs and Services; Human Resources; Finance; Information Technology; Management Services; Communications and Professional Staff.

The Steering Committee will review all recommendations from the Working Groups and work with their “host” Boards to approve the various components as necessary. This process is estimated to take the next 3 to 4 months to complete.

The objective of the process is to develop a transition plan while maintaining “business as usual” before and after a transition date. **Note that a date has not been set for actual realignment.** In maintaining a business as usual process, the working groups will review all aspects of operations in their respective areas with the goals of ensuring:

- Safe quality care for our patients in a safe working environment for our employees and professional staff collectively referred to as “staff”;
- No disruption for patients and staff;
- Adequate support for our staff; and
- Equitable, consultative and transparent process.

On February 12, WRH and HDGH announced a new vision for hospital care delivery in Windsor that would put our community on the road towards a state-of-the-art new acute care hospital. During an interim period before a new acute care hospital could be built, a significant shifting of responsibilities between the two organizations, approved by each hospital’s board, responsibility for acute care services will be transferred to WRH, while HDGH would take responsibility for sub-acute hospital services.

On February 26, the Board of Directors for the ESC LHIN provided verbal support to the realignment of governance and operations as proposed by the hospitals. This clears the way for both HDGH and WRH to move forward with its “Phase 1” due diligence required to implement the interim plan, which the Steering Committee will oversee.

“Phase 2” commences when the respective leadership teams have assumed their responsibilities and begin planning for the future of clinical operations and facilities at both acute care sites and the sub-acute care site.

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