

Ontario Health Team – Update #5

July 10, 2020

Hello Everyone:

We hope you are keeping cool as the temperatures continue to hover over 30°C!

Since January, the KL-OHT Co-Leads have kept in contact with the ministry in anticipation of the March notification. On March 26, 2020, the Ministry advised that a flexible approach would be introduced this year for approved OHTs to implement the new model of care in light of the pandemic.

On July 6, 2020, the KL-OHT Co-Leads met with our new Ministry point of contact, Jason Wong, Senior Policy Consultant, Ontario Health Teams Division to provide a further update to the January 2020 Progress Report.

We were asked to focus the discussion on:

- i. Evolution of partnerships within our team over the last few months;
- ii. Lessons learned for OHT implementation from our COVID-19 response activities to date;
- iii. Our team's capacity to complete a full application for approval; and
- iv. How the ministry could best support our team along the OHT journey in the coming months.

Highlights

- i. **Consensus brokered.** Boards from Lead Member organizations approved and signed the Interim OHT Agreement, Partnership Commitment and Data Sharing Agreements with a commitment to complete the Full Application.
- ii. **Pandemic collaboration.** Coordinated approach to ensure the community continues to be equipped with personal protective equipment (PPE). Hospital's Infection Prevention & Control and Environmental Services team support long-term care homes, retirement homes and congregate settings through on-site visits, testing and providing frontline staff. City of Kawartha Lakes partnered with Ross Memorial Hospital to provide access to Lindsay Exhibition grounds as the drive-thru COVID Assessment Centre together with the Paramedicine Program (EMS) as the Mobile Assessment Team; and access to Victoria Park Armoury as an Alternate Health Facility (AHF) for a potential field hospital. Kawartha Lakes Retirement Residence partnered with the Hospital as a secondary location for an AHF for a potential field hospital.
- iii. **Committees and Working Groups established.** The Oversight Committee developed the overall work plan and schedule which includes completing the Full Application. Key deliverables include prioritizing key projects that will benefit our Year 1 Target Population (frail, elderly with minimal supports) focusing on **connecting local care** in the Kawartha Lakes.
- iv. **Ministry support.** The KL-OHT is eager to complete the Full Application in the coming weeks and support key priority projects such as:
 - a. Community Paramedicine Program including Remote Monitoring;
 - b. Community Assessment Centre for COVID-19, influenza and others; and
 - c. Transitional Care Connectors and Home & Community Care transition.

Kawartha Lakes OHT

Connecting local care

Next Steps

The Ministry plans to provide notification over the summer regarding inviting the KL-OHT to Full Application. It was shared that the Ministry has revised and streamlined the application documents in response to feedback from early adopters. We will be using this new document as we move forward. In the meantime we will continue to work towards **connecting local care**.

Thank you for your ongoing interest and support of the Kawartha Lakes OHT and we will continue to keep you informed.