

Carling Health Hub Update

June 26 2023



Carling Health Hub

**A Nurse
Practitioner
Led Clinic**





Our Journey

Key Milestones

- Carling Twp. Council spearheaded the development of a task force to bring health services to Carling Twp.
- 40 people attended a public meeting in March with the focus to bring a Nurse Practitioner Lead Clinic to Carling. A second public meeting was held on April 26, 2023.
- The Task Force met from April to June to develop a funding proposal
- Carling Health Hub was incorporated on June 6 2023 and the Inaugural Board of 7 people was established.
- A petition with over 400 signatures was submitted to the provincial legislature through the MPP Graydon Smith
- A Community Health Care Accessibility survey was launched with over 230 completed to date.
- A EOI funding application was submitted on June 12 2023





Provincial Landscape

Ministry of Health Primary Care Overview

- Health Care is funded by the Federal Government. However, with a few exceptions, the delivery of health care services is the mandate of the provinces. The provinces receive this funding through Health Transfer Funding
- 1960s: Hall Report (Federal Government) called for a complete network of interprofessional primary health care organizations across Canada.
- Where each person has a primary care provider (family physician or nurse practitioner) plus receive other services such as mental health, diabetes education, addiction support, social work, physiotherapy, well babies etc under one roof



Primary Care Models in Ontario

- Until the early 2002: mostly solo physicians, 54 CHCs and 10 Aboriginal Health Access Centres
- Since 2009:
 - Family Health Teams: (approx. 200)
 - Nurse Practitioner Lead Clinics (approx. 24)
 - Community Health Centres (approx. 103)
 - Indigenous Primary Health Care Organizations: approx. 21
- In 2022, Primary Care Collaborative requested an additional \$750M over ten years (\$75m/year) to ensure every person in Ontario has access to team-based care.



Ministry of Health announced \$30m

- In February 2023, the current provincial Government announced an additional \$30M to invest in the expansion of interprofessional team-based care
- Expression of Interest released late early May. Everyone was encouraged to apply to get a true understanding of scope, need and readiness
- The priority in the evaluation criteria used a health equity lens with a focus on vulnerable populations.
- By June 12, 2023, (the deadline) 384 applications were received
- With a guesstimate of well over \$750m. (proposals ranged from \$500,000 to \$25M)



What to expect

- Cautious optimism the Ministry will increase the total funds available.
- Why:
 - The Federal Government signed a new ten-year funding agreement with the provinces with a focus on expanding interprofessional PHC.
 - The Ontario Government has a significant surplus.
 - The need has been established through the 384 EOIs
- Timing and Process:
 - Fall: no one will commit to date
 - Ontario Health NorthEast: 1st evaluation by end of July
 - Ministry of Health 2nd evaluation Aug-Sept
 - Minister of Health makes final decision.



If not successful

Do not lose hope

More funds will be invested over the next few years





Overview Parry Sound West

EOIs submitted in West Parry Sound:

- West Parry Sound Health Services:
 - Have 1 NPLC with 6 sites
 - Submitted an EOI to expand services in their current 6 communities
 - Carling and McDougall were not included.
- Rugged Shores and Medical Associates
 - Submitted EOI – scope not known except that it did not explicitly include Carling and McDougall.
- When asked why Carling and McDougall were not included there was silence. There seems to be an implicit expectation that people from Carling and McDougall will be served by the current primary care services in Parry Sound and in the 6 communities.



Findings:

1. Carling and McDougall Townships are health and social services deserts. There are no anchor agencies located in either township.
2. Carling and McDougall Townships are not explicitly included in any health care planning in the region. There is an assumption that Carling and McDougall are serviced by Parry Sound.
3. Build it and they will come: While agencies in Parry Sound have the mandate to serve all of Parry Sound West, including Carling and McDougall Townships they do not provide services in the townships because there is no place to offer services.
4. Unless Carling and McDougall advocate and call for their shared access to primary health care services, they will continue to be overlooked.





Carling Health Hub

A Nurse Practitioner Lead Clinic

Governance

- Incorporated as a not-for-profit community governed organization under the Ontario Not for Profit Corporation Act (ONCA): June 6, 2023
- Mandate: to provide primary health care and related social services
 - No geography was defined.
- Will apply for charitable status.
- Independent organization with a community governed Board of directors.
- Annual General Membership Meeting will be held in the fall to elect the Board of Directors, approve the bylaws and the budget.



Inaugural Board of Directors:

- Chair: Adrianna Tetley
- Vice Chair: Thomas Schulz
- Secretary: Ida Doubrough
- Treasurer: Judy Keown
- Director at Large: Patty Riches
- Director at Large: Séverine Vowels
- Director at Large: Brandon Sheffield





Priorities

Vulnerable populations

Rural and Northern

People who live in Carling and McDougall Townships, with a high priority for

- Those who currently do not have a primary care provider
- Those whose current primary care provider is over one hour away.

Research: The health and wellbeing of people living in rural, remote and northern settings is impacted by the lack of resources, poor access to health care and social services, inadequate transportation, unaffordable and inaccessible housing, food insecurity, poverty and social isolation, especially among seniors and where there is limited access to high-speed broadband internet and related digital technologies required to participate in an increasingly virtual health care system.



Indigenous

Carling Health Hub is committed to Indigenous Health in Indigenous Hands and to reconciliation and ally relationship building.

The proposed catchment area of the Carling Health Hub includes 188 residents of Shawanaga and between 360 and 720 Indigenous identified residents in Carling and McDougall.

Some of Shawanaga residents currently receive their primary care on Parry Island and in the NPLC sites. Given the distance to Wasauksing, Carling Health Hub will serve some Indigenous clients.



Vulnerable Populations:

2SLGBTQ+: Carling Health Hub will provide gender affirming and safer care to any member of the 2SLGBTQ+ community in the West Parry Sound District.

- There is no 2SLGBTQ+ specific primary health care services in the West Parry Sound District. While there is no data to determine numbers, it is known that there is a strong 2SLGBTQ+ community in our district.

New Immigrants & Refugees: Parry Sound District and our communities are changing and becoming more diverse and racialized with newcomers arriving from Ukraine, Mexico, India and countries from around the world. Carling Health Hub will work with partners who are working with these new communities to develop specific comprehensive primary health care services.



What about cottagers and part time residents?

- The criteria for this EOI is to ensure more people in Ontario have a primary care provider with a priority to meet the needs for those who are most vulnerable
 - If you have a family physician anywhere in Ontario, you will not be registered as 'unattached' under Health Care Connect
 - Research demonstrates that about 20% of the vulnerable populations use 80% of the health care resources.
- Most CHCs and NPLCs in areas where there are lots of cottages or provincial parks offer urgent care.
- Once a NPLC is established in our community, it is envisioned that similar services will be offered.





The Vision

Team and Services

The Team

- Executive Director (.5)
- 2.5 NPs for a total of 2000 primary care clients.
- 2 Registered Nurses
- Dietitian or Health Promoter
- Social Worker/Mental Health Worker/Harm Reduction worker
- Pharmacists (2 days per week)
- Psychotherapist (hourly service)
- Admin Team



Programs and Services

- Comprehensive Primary Health Care:
 - 2000 clients registered to the centre
 - Primary Care
 - Medication reconciliation
 - Cancer Screenings
- Other Programs and Services: open to the community (Examples)
 - Diabetes
 - Mental health and addictions with a harm reduction approach
 - Services to keep seniors in their homes
 - 2SLGBTQ
 - Foot Care



Partners: Build it and they will come

- The Friends:
 - Home Making service
 - Assisted Living
 - Care Giver support Program
 - Foot Care Program
 - PATH and MyWayHome Programs -Hospital-Home transition support
 - Adult Day Program
- NEO Stroke (Sudbury)
- Hospice
- YMCA: Mental health supports
- Midwives
- Community Paramedics
- West Parry Sound Health Services: Range of programs





Readiness and Implementation

Readiness and Implementation:

1. Human Resources: 3 NPs, 1RN, pharmacist and psychotherapist have made commitments
2. Capital: Thanks to Carling Township, Carling Health Hub will have an interim and eventual permanent building on the site at 2 Carling Bay Road West
 - Interim: Trailer
 - Permanent: Solution related to the new FireHall





Next Steps

What Can You Do

1. Complete the Community HealthCare Accessibility Survey. Your response will inform future programs and services.
2. Keep Informed: Watch for the Carling Health Hub Website: in development
3. Attend Carling Health Hub Annual General Membership Meeting: being planned for the fall – elections – bylaws – budget – vision
4. Meet/call/email your MPP Graydon Smith and let them know your support. If the Carling Health Hub proposal makes it through the first two steps of evaluation, the final decision will be political.

Carling Health Hub will continue conversations with partners to determine if some programs could begin in the Carling Community Centre



THANK YOU to the Taskforce Working Group

- Al Doubrough (chair and convenor)
- Jocelyn Alves
- Ida Doubrough
- Holly Kalyn
- Helen Kroeker
- Patty Riches
- Liz Wallace



QUESTIONS

Coming soon

Website: carlinghealthhub.org

Email: info@carlinghealthhub.org

