

MEDIA MATTERS

Our responsibility to the community

One of our key community responsibilities is to maintain openness and transparency in everything we do. It is in everyone's best interests to ensure that timely and accurate information about the LHIN is made available wherever it is needed.

Our responsibility to the media

We recognize our responsibility to provide the media with timely and accurate information. We value working relationships that mutually satisfy our need to inform the public and media's need to freely report on aspects of our operations that have an impact on their audiences.



FAST FACTS

- LHIN is an acronym for Local Health Integration Network
- LHINs are a made-in-Ontario solution to local healthcare needs
- LHINs are designed to provide an easier-to-use, more seamless healthcare system
- LHINs are Crown Corporations
- LHINs are governed by locally based Boards of Directors who understand their area's needs

What LHINs cannot do

- LHINs will not provide direct healthcare services
- LHINs will not replace provider Board structures
- LHINs will not run the day-to-day operations of providers
- LHINs will not close hospitals

What Ontario can expect from its LHINs

- openness, transparency, and accountability
- community engagement (to have your voice heard)
- working toward a seamless system
- sound strategic planning
- a pronounced local presence

For more information on the legislated definition and authority of the LHINs, go to www.eriesticclairlhlin.on.ca

General contact information

To participate in building our local healthcare system, contact:

Community Engagement

Erie St. Clair Local Health Integration Network

180 Riverview Dr., Chatham, ON N7M 5Z8

519-351-5677 1-866-231-5446

Fax: 519-351-9672

www.eriesticclairlhlin.on.ca

ACCESSING YOUR LOCAL HEALTH INTEGRATION NETWORK



A GUIDE FOR MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES

EASY ACCESS TO LHIN INFORMATION

WHAT IS A LHIN?



For many years, decision-making that affected Ontario's healthcare system was centralized through the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. That system didn't always work; healthcare needs vary across the province, and solutions that made sense in one area didn't always make sense in another. The LHINs were established to bring a local perspective to local healthcare systems.

LHINs are Crown Corporations created by the Ministry of Health & Long-Term Care to plan, fund and coordinate healthcare services based on local needs. LHIN staff and Board members are your neighbours, living and working in your community and sharing an interest for a publicly funded healthcare system that will be there for your children and grandchildren.

Media Contacts

All media inquiries including requests for interviews, quotes, press release follow-up or information should be directed through the Community Engagement Department at 1-866-231-5446 from 9:00am - 5:00pm.

Media requests will be addressed as quickly as possible. Please be sure to leave your name, phone number and a brief outline of the nature of your request so we can arrange for the most fully informed and authoritative spokesperson to return your call.

Designated spokespeople

- *On matters of operations*
 - the Chief Executive Officer or designate
- *On matters related to governance issues*
 - the Chair of the LHIN Board or designate
- *On matters that are topic- or department-specific*
 - the appropriate LHIN staff member with expertise in the requested area

Information release

As part of our commitment to operate in an open and transparent environment, we are fully compliant with the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act.

Board meetings

LHIN Board meetings are open to the public, and media representatives have reserved seating. Each meeting's agenda is pre-posted on our Web site, eriestclairlhin.on.ca, and meeting packages are available at the door.

The Board Chair and Chief Executive Officer will participate in interviews during appropriate breaks whenever time permits.

Highlights of Board meetings are compiled and published following adjournment. Highlights are available on our Web site and e-mailed to the media.

Media releases

Copies of media releases, advisories, PSAs, ads, publications and community events can be found on our Web site or can be obtained by calling the Community Engagement Department at 1-866-231-5446.