



Teresa Piruzza, MPP
Windsor West



Ontario

Erie St. Clair Local Health
Integration Network
Réseau local d'intégration
des services de santé
d'Erie St. Clair

For Immediate Release
December 10, 2013

New Board Chair of the Erie St. Clair LHIN

Ontario Government appoints former Windsor Regional Hospital CEO

CHATHAM-KENT – Dr. Martin Girash has been appointed as the new Chair of the Board of Directors of the Erie St. Clair Local Health Integration Network (ESC LHIN) effective November 20, 2013 for a three-year (renewable) term.

Martin Girash, Ph.D., C.Psych. is a psychologist by profession and spent the first twenty-five years of his career in the field of children's mental health. In 1998, he was appointed Interim Chief Operating Officer for Windsor Regional Hospital (WRH) and subsequently successfully competed for the position of President and Chief Executive Officer, a position which he held until retirement in 2007. In 2004 he was appointed to the Board of Governors of the University of Windsor. He served on the Presidential Search Committee and as chair of the Ad Hoc Governance and Human Resources Committees. Having served as Vice-Chair of the Board of Governors for several years, he ended his tenure on the Board as Chair from 2011-2012.

Dr. Martin Girash's appointment follows the excellent leadership shown by Dr. Michael Hoare, who is outgoing Acting Board Chair. Dr. Michael Hoare has served on the ESC LHIN Board since May, 2011. He has been Acting Board Chair over the past year and has provided leadership over a \$14 million investment to support home care for more seniors, as well as for expanded community health care services, including mental health supports. Dr. Michael Hoare will now continue to provide leadership to the Board through his role as Vice Chair.

The Erie St. Clair LHIN, with a total population of approximately 640,000 people, is one of 14 LHINs across Ontario mandated to plan, integrate, and fund local health services including hospitals, community care access centres, community health centres, long-term care homes, mental health and addiction programs, and community support services agencies. The Erie St. Clair LHIN and its Board of Directors are responsible for over \$1 billion of health care services delivered in Chatham-Kent, Sarnia/Lambton, and Windsor/Essex.

QUOTES

“I would like to congratulate Dr. Girash on being appointed as the new Chair of the Erie St. Clair Local Health Integration Network. I trust his experience, leadership and dedication will be of great benefit to the region and our province as we move forward with efforts to transform Ontario’s health care system with a continued focus on ensuring patients have access to the best quality care, as close to home as possible.”
– Deb Matthews, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care

“I look forward to working with Dr. Girash in his new role as Chair of the Erie St. Clair LHIN. He brings with him valuable experience in board governance, experience in community and hospital based health care as well as a deep knowledge about health care issues that the board and LHIN will benefit immensely from. I would also like to thank Michael Hoare for his leadership as acting Chair during the past year.”
- Hon. Teresa Piruzza, MPP Windsor West

“It is with much enthusiasm that I accept the appointment as Chair of the Erie St. Clair Local Health Integration Network (LHIN). I look forward to working with the LHIN Board and CEO, our health care agencies and the Provincial Government in meeting the health care needs of the citizens of Essex, Kent and Lambton Counties. Local Health Integration Networks offer an opportunity for local citizens to have a direct impact on how their health care needs are met.”
– Dr. Martin Girash, Ph.D., C.Psych., incoming ESC LHIN Board Chair

“I had the privilege to lead the board over the past year and want to thank the LHIN board members for supporting me in that role. We have been fortunate to see many positive changes happen in health care over the past year and I am confident that Dr. Martin Girash will provide strong leadership to continue that momentum. I know that Martin has the skills and the passion needed to ensure a better health care system for all our communities.”
– Dr. Micheal Hoare, ESC LHIN, Vice Chair

LEARN MORE

Read more about Erie St. Clair LHIN at www.eriestclairhin.on.ca

– 30 –

For more information please contact Shannon Sasseville, Director, Communications and Public Affairs at 519-351-5677 ext. 3225 or at Shannon.Sasseville@lhins.on.ca.