

January 11, 2011

Erie St. Clair – A Year in Review

Looking back on progress made in 2010, the Erie St. Clair LHIN has made significant improvements to local health care for the benefit of families living in Chatham-Kent, Sarnia/Lambton, and Windsor/Essex. These include:

- Improved wait times for surgical and diagnostic procedures with some of the lowest waits in the province:

#1	- MRI - Knee Replacement Surgery - Cataract Surgery	#2	- Cancer Surgery	#3	- Hip Replacement Surgery
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(Based on November 29, 2010 reports)

- Improved access to hospital beds by reducing Alternate Level of Care rates at Bluewater Health from a high of 32% in October 2008 to a low of 7.7% as of December 28, 2010
- 72 new long-term care beds to be built in Sarnia/Lambton through LHIN funding, giving families more options for long-term care
- 5000 local people helped with getting a family doctor or nurse practitioner through Health Care Connect program - a joint campaign of the Erie St. Clair LHIN and Erie St. Clair Community Care Access Centre
- Development of the new 10 bed Assess and Restore Unit and care team at Leamington District Memorial Hospital, to help care for and rehabilitate seniors so they can live safely and independently in their own homes
- Opening of the Chatham Kent Community Health Centre and satellite locations in Walpole Island First Nations community and Wallaceburg

In 2011, the Erie St. Clair LHIN will continue to target further improvements to the health care system, in areas that include access to Long-Term Care beds, rehabilitation services, diabetes care, mental health and addictions services, and lower Emergency Department wait times.