

## News Release / Pour publication immédiate

**For Immediate Release**  
**January 29, 2014**

### **Erie St. Clair LHIN Invests in Local Orthopaedic Surgeries**

SARNIA/LAMBTON – In an effort to improve the coordination of orthopaedic surgery across the region, the Erie St. Clair (ESC) LHIN has provided \$309,000 in one-time funding to make 117 additional orthopaedic surgeries available. The additional surgical capacity will allow those patients with the most severe conditions to receive care sooner and help restore their quality of life.

The funding comes as a result of recommendations by the ESC LHIN's Regional Orthopaedic Steering Committee to purchase implant hardware. This investment, in collaboration with hospital partners, will allow for additional patients to receive joint replacements and revisions, with a focus on shoulders, ankles, hips, and knees. Following the surgeries, the CCAC has committed to providing follow-up care in the community.

The ESC LHIN's Regional Orthopaedic Surgery Steering Committee is comprised of the Chiefs of Orthopaedic Surgery, primary care physicians, community representation, and other health care professionals. The committee's goals include strategically improving orthopaedic services across our region and improving system coordination.

#### **QUOTES**

"I'm pleased that more patients will receive orthopaedic surgeries across the Erie St. Clair region. This announcement demonstrates how the LHIN is helping more patients through better system coordination."

- Hon. Teresa Piruzza, MPP Windsor West

"I would like to thank the physicians, health care partners and those of the community for their participation on the Erie St. Clair LHIN Regional Orthopaedic Steering Committee. Improving the mobility of residents is critical to their health and well-being."

- Dr. Martin Girash, Board Chair, ESC LHIN

"We appreciate the positive impact this collaborative committee is already having and we are committed to supporting the committee's work going forward. This is good news for the residents of Erie St. Clair and is an example of providing better care and a better health care experience."

- Gary Switzer, CEO, ESC LHIN

"The CCAC plays a critical role in the delivery of the full spectrum of orthopaedic treatment received by patients in our region. Post-surgical therapy and other care services provided in the home contribute to a quicker, safer recovery, leading to greater independence and improved long term health outcomes. The CCAC will continue to commit to quality care delivery in order to support our common patients along their care journey."

- Betty Kuchta, CEO, Erie St. Clair Community Care Access Centre

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"It's great we are receiving more funding for our area. Nothing I can say compares to a thank you note received from an 89 year old female patient of mine from Chatham. I replaced her shoulder 6 months ago, and her hips and knees in her 70's. She said "I appreciate your skills and willingness to replace both my hips, both knees and one shoulder. Thanks to you, I am more mobile going into my 90s than I was in my 60s. I am able to live in my own home, drive my car and make butter tarts. It makes my life worth living." These additional funds allow us to keep more of our elderly patients mobile and independent. "

- Dr. Duncan MacKinlay, Chief of Orthopaedics, Bluewater Health



Ontario

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

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### QUICK FACTS

Hospital	Shoulders	Knees	Hips	Ankle	Total Implants	Total Implant Cost
<b>Bluewater Health</b>	10	0	0	0	10	\$48,130
Replacement	4					
Reverse	6					
<b>Chatham-Kent Health Alliance</b>	3	35	4	0	42	\$76,396
<b>Windsor Regional Hospital</b>	12	35	15	3	65	\$184,126.56
Replacement	8	35	15	3	61	
Reverse	4	0	0	0	4	
<b>Total Implants</b>	25	70	19	3	117	\$308,652.56

### LEARN MORE

Read more about Erie St. Clair LHIN at [www.eriesclairhlin.on.ca](http://www.eriesclairhlin.on.ca)

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