

## News Release / Pour publication immédiate

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**For Immediate Release**  
**February 13, 2014**

### **FIDDICK'S NURSING HOME OPENS NEW BEDS**

PETROLIA – Fiddick's Nursing Home is pleased to announce the grand opening of 36 brand new long-term care beds in the community of Petrolia, complementing the home's 92 existing beds, which were also recently modernized through a redevelopment project.

A total of \$1.7M was allocated for these beds through the Erie St. Clair LHIN's Aging at Home Strategy, a strategy to help provide better access to care for seniors while reducing Alternate Level of Care (ALC) rates in local area hospitals. By reducing ALC rates, patients will have shorter emergency department wait times and hospitals can direct resources towards providing appropriate front-line care.

Thanks to the new long-term care beds, residents of Sarnia/Lambton will see greater flexibility in choosing affordable rural or urban accommodations. Fiddick's offer a wide range of activities and meal options, while also providing personalized care delivered by professional and compassionate staff, including:

- Homemade meals
- Specialized diets and snacks
- Physiotherapy and foot care
- Laundry service
- Housekeeping
- Hairdressing

The official opening of the 36 new beds at Fiddick's complements the Erie St. Clair LHIN's investment of 36 new beds at Vision '74 Inc. in Sarnia, which opened in mid-2013.

#### **QUOTES**

"The opening of 36 new beds and the redevelopment of Fiddick's remaining beds is great news for the community as it will provide seniors more options for modern accommodations in the Sarnia-Lambton area. Ensuring patients have access to high quality care close to home is a prime focus of our government's Action Plan for Health Care, and today's announcement at Fiddick's certainly complements our strategy."

-Deb Matthews, Minister of Health and Long Term Care

"Being from Leamington, I appreciate the importance of having services close to home, both for residents of Long-Term Care and loved ones. Your LHIN understands the importance of this approach to service and so is very pleased to be able to facilitate the opening of these additional beds."

-Dr. Martin Girash, Chair, Erie St. Clair LHIN

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"When it comes to providing care for the seniors in our community, living at home is always the first option explored by health service providers. When living at home becomes difficult, that is when it is important to have choices such as long-term care. Investing in long-term care is one way we are helping to provide more community options and a better experience for our residents"

-Gary Switzer, Chief Executive Officer, Erie St. Clair LHIN

"As a locally owned family business we take great pride in the fact we are able to work alongside the physicians and Bluewater Health, the Erie St. Clair LHIN, Community Care Access Centre and the Town of Petrolia. We believe our community will benefit enormously from our newly completed venture as our first priority has always been to provide safe, exceptional care to long term care residents in our area.

I am blessed to be able to work with family's every day and when we say 'Let our family become yours,' we truly believe this and feel the Residents and their families are our partners in care."

-Mike Fiddick, Administrator, Fiddick's Nursing Home

### QUICK FACTS

- Approximately \$1.7M has been allocated by the ESC LHIN towards the annual operating costs of the new long-term care beds at Fiddick's Nursing Home.
- Funding for the 36 new long-term care beds was approved at the March 2010 Erie St. Clair LHIN Open Board Meeting.

### LEARN MORE

For more information about Fiddick's Nursing Home, visit: <http://www.fiddicksnursinghome.com/>

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

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Ontario

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