

## **News Release**

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### **WWLHIN Continues to Invest in Cambridge Memorial Hospital**

#### ***Community Hospital will Expand In-Patient Rehabilitation Program***

CAMBRIDGE, ON - The Waterloo Wellington Local Health Integration Network (WWLHIN) announced today an important initiative that ensures Cambridge Memorial Hospital (CMH) will continue to play a leadership role in Waterloo Wellington's health care system.

The WWLHIN will provide \$1.37 million in base funding to CMH to support the expansion of the hospital's in-patient rehabilitation program. The provision of expanded in-patient rehabilitation services at CMH is aligned with the proposed project to redevelop the existing building. As part of a new model of care outlined in CMH's Revised Hospital Improvement Plan (R-HIP) and approved by the WWLHIN, Cambridge Memorial Hospital will be enhancing its in-patient rehabilitation/oncology/palliative service by creating a combined 31-bed unit and moving to a new location on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor. Rehabilitation services help people regain function, mobility and independence after illness or an injury. The funding will support the hospital staff and doctors as they continue to provide high-quality care for their patients.

To further enhance the delivery of rehabilitation services in Waterloo Wellington, the WWLHIN is implementing a rehabilitation review in partnership with local health service providers. The purpose of the review is to identify strategies and opportunities to further integrate and coordinate the delivery of the WWLHIN-wide program. As part of the review, the WWLHIN Rehab Review Committee will look at current care delivery, patient outcomes and leading practices to create a model of care for rehabilitation services.

#### **QUOTES**

"The ongoing collaboration between the WWLHIN and Cambridge Memorial Hospital has identified this opportunity for the hospital to further develop its high-quality in-patient rehabilitation program," said Sandra Hanmer, CEO, WWLHIN. "We are thrilled that Cambridge Memorial Hospital physicians and staff will be working with other system partners to offer high-quality rehabilitation services in our area."

She added that the WWLHIN-wide review of rehabilitation services supports long-term planning for a sustainable and integrated rehabilitation program for local residents.

Murray Martin, the Supervisor appointed by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care last September to oversee operations at Cambridge Memorial Hospital, applauds the funding announcement at a time when CMH is positioning itself for opportunities that go beyond the Cambridge boundaries.

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“Cambridge Memorial Hospital is perfectly suited within the system to deliver expanded in-patient rehabilitation services for the residents of Cambridge and those living in Waterloo Wellington,” Martin said.

CMH Interim Chief of Staff Dr. Michael Lawrie agrees. “In-patient rehabilitation services have a tremendous impact on the successful outcomes of patients recovering from such things as surgeries and strokes. Expanding that role at CMH is great news for patients here but also for those living in the Waterloo Wellington LHIN area who will see additional resources channeled into a much-needed program.”

### **QUICK FACTS**

The Waterloo Wellington Local Health Integration Network is responsible for planning, integrating, coordinating and funding to 79 health service providers including hospitals, long-term care homes, community support services, community health centres, the Community Care Access Centre and community mental health and addictions agencies in Waterloo Region, Wellington County and South Grey. The WWLHIN operates an annual health care budget of close to \$858 million.

An Affiliated Teaching Site of McMaster University School of Medicine, Cambridge Memorial Hospital is a recognized RAO Best Practice Spotlight Organization. More than 1,200 dedicated and skilled healthcare professionals, technicians and staff provide excellent care to residents of Cambridge, the Township of North Dumfries and the Region of Waterloo. Our vital statistics for 2008-2009 include: 88,866 diagnostic procedures; 73,165 outpatient visits; 46,079 emergency department visits; 12,185 surgical cases; 3,044 breast screenings; 1,476 births; 1,328 cataract surgeries; and 395 hip/knee replacements.

### **MORE INFORMATION**

Waterloo Wellington Local Health Integration Network: [www.wwlhin.on.ca](http://www.wwlhin.on.ca)  
Cambridge Memorial Hospital: [www.cmh.org](http://www.cmh.org)