

**Date:** July 14, 2021  
**To:** GW OHT Core Steering Committee  
**From:** Emmi Perkins  
**Subject:** Key Messages – Core Steering – July 14, 2021

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### Key Messages

The following are the Key Messages from the Guelph Wellington OHT Steering Committee meeting on July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021 that can be shared as appropriate with your staff, clinicians, boards, partners etc.:

- COVID-19 cases are declining in the community and at Guelph General Hospital. There is greater prevalence further north in Minto-Mapleton area and along borders with Grey Bruce and Waterloo Region. Mental health & addiction cases continue to rise as does the complexity and severity of illness of patients who present to the ED. Surgeries are at regular summer levels and will continue to ramp up.
- Guelph & Wellington FHT Executive Directors met with WDG Public Health (Drs. Mercer/Tenenbaum) to discuss a post-COVID-19 Recovery Plan – specifically, the role of primary care in supporting ongoing COVID-19 testing, immunizations and vaccine education. With an expected rise in other respiratory illnesses this fall, primary care will need to be able to see these patients safely knowing that COVID-19 could be present. MOH guidelines for re-opening health care offices and all workspaces is expected to be released soon.
- The Guelph Wellington OHT Data & Performance Working Group presented a briefing note outlining their planned work to use 'Integrated Decision Support' (IDS) and other data sources to support the GW OHT to better understand the health of its population and to identify population health priorities. The briefing note also described both existing and needed resources to support the work. The Steering Committee re-affirmed its commitment to contribute in-kind resources to support OHT priorities.
- The Guelph Wellington OHT Patient & Community Engagement Working Group presented a framework to support remuneration of patient advisors who support the development of the Guelph Wellington. The Steering Committee approved this interim framework which will be evaluated and enhanced over time as the OHT matures. The ability to remunerate Advisors is dependent on the availability of OHT Implementation Funds.
- Don Mahleka, Dr. Joan Chan and Kween Gerber presented recommendations on behalf of the Guelph Wellington OHT Anti-Oppression Advisory Team developed to support the OHT on its journey to implement the values and principles of inclusion within the OHT as part of the GW OHTs '[Commitment to Diversity, Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression](#)'. The recommendations presented to the Steering Committee were approved.
- Karen Suk Patrick presented a briefing note on behalf of the GW OHT HR Working Group recommending a reporting structure intended to best support the GW OHT in its current state as well as in its development towards maturity and that optimizes the sustainability and integration of the functions of OHT staff roles. The Steering Committee accepted the recommendations.

*If you have any questions or comments, please contact Emmi Perkins ([emmi.perkins@quelphfht.com](mailto:emmi.perkins@quelphfht.com))*