

Guelph Wellington OHT wants to have community voices heard at all levels of the Healthcare System. The Guelph Wellington OHT is committed to incorporating the experience, input, insights from a wide range of diverse community members. Key parts of this work will be recruiting both members of a Patient, Family and Caregiver Advisory Council (PFAC) and community members to be a part of various OHT working groups. Guelph Wellington OHT is committed to recruiting members with different points of view and representing diverse communities. Efforts to recruit from equity-deserving groups who face additional barriers, discrimination and racism will be a priority. Whenever possible we will seek voices from individuals with experiences of health inequity and who bring a different perspective to the table.

We are recruiting for a variety of opportunities:

Members for the Guelph Wellington OHT Patient, Family and Caregiver Advisory Council

PFAC is an organized group of patients, family caregivers and people with lived experience who will become an important team within our OHT. It has the potential of contributing to decision making throughout the many levels of our GW OHT. Its goal is to contribute patient and family voice to the ongoing design and development of an equitable, integrated healthcare system for our region. This has the potential to improve the health and well-being of the entire population of Guelph and Wellington County.

Time commitment is minimum 2 hours per month (set meeting times in the evening) with opportunity for more project-based work on occasion.

Minimum 2-year commitment

Members to sit on Guelph Wellington OHT working groups

The OHT has several working groups that are made up of staff from the various healthcare partners across Guelph Wellington. The OHT's goal is to have at least two patient partners on each of the OHT working groups. There are several groups, each with their own area of focus.

On the application form you may indicate working group(s) of interest. Each working group's members work collaboratively on different projects, initiatives, helping to lead the work for the OHT in that area of focus.

Time commitment varies per working group, but the commitment is around 2-5 hours per month (at set ahead daytime meetings). There is also opportunity for more required project-based work if you are interested.

Minimum 1 year commitment.

Occasional engagement as required

Guelph Wellington OHT is committed to becoming connected with a wide variety of healthcare users and their communities. We recognize that not everyone can make a regular commitment. There will be times throughout the year when the OHT will want to speak with a broader group. Over time there will be the need for a pool of patients, family caregivers and people with various lived experiences to draw from, in order to understand patients' and families' experiences on a certain topic and their recommendations.

This time commitment will vary and participation in the opportunities will be optional. There is no ongoing commitment required.

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The main method of communication about upcoming opportunities will be through email. The engagement may be virtual or in person.

Some other important things to note for all these opportunities:

- If you are unsure, we can set up an information phone call for you with a staff member or a current advisor to get more information.
- There will be an orientation, training and mentorship to get you started.
- There may be different requirements for certain opportunities, for example a police check.
- For PFAC and working group members there is the option of being paid for this work. This compensation is dependent on ongoing provincial funding.
- Currently, all meetings happen virtually over ZOOM but this may shift with time

The following are the qualifications/qualities for PFAC and Working groups as developed by a small group of advisors currently working with the Guelph Wellington OHT:

Qualifications

- A patient, family member or caregiver of a patient with substantial experience of our healthcare system and resident in our region.

Key qualities would include:

- Respect for diversity and welcoming of differences of perspective
- Ability to think about healthcare “in big picture” ways
- A determinedly ‘can do’, positive attitude and is action focused
- Collaborative approach to working with staff and other members of the public
- Respect for privacy and confidentiality
- Ability to consider a range of possible solutions and the ability to offer constructive advice and alternatives
- Can represent both family and patient perspectives
- Ability to use their lived experiences to help make a positive change in our healthcare system
- Ability to support group recommendations even if of a different opinion

Please feel free to connect with the Guelph Wellington OHT Engagement Coordinator at volunteers@guelphwellingtonoht.com.

We are happy to talk to you more about these opportunities, answer any questions and connect you with a current patient advisor working in the OHT if that would be helpful.

For more information on the Guelph Wellington OHT or to complete an expression of interest, please visit the website at: <https://guelphwellingtonoht.com/> - [GW OHT Expression of Interest](#)

For more information on Ontario Health Teams in general, please visit:
<https://health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/connectedcare/oht/>