

Date: November 9, 2023
To: GW OHT Core Steering Committee
From: Emmi Perkins, Director of Transformation
Subject: **GW OHT Core Steering Committee Key Messages – November 8, 2023**

Key Messages

The following are the Key Messages from the Guelph Wellington OHT (GW OHT) Steering Committee meeting on November 8th. They can be shared as appropriate with your staff, clinicians, boards, and partners.

- 1. Strategic Priority Activities and Steering Committee Work Plan** – The GW OHT 2022-2025 Strategic Priority work plan has been revised to reflect new funding accountabilities and updated local goals and activities. Additionally, the Steering Committee confirmed its priorities and work plan:
 - a. Support / monitor the **GW OHT 2022-2025 Strategic Priority** activities
 - b. **Respiratory Preparedness**
 - c. **Not-For-Profit-Incorporation** - Plan/support 18-month incorporation process starting in January 2024
 - d. **Establish Partnerships with Municipalities**
 - e. Guide the **2025 – 2028 Strategic Planning** process
- 2. GW OHT Joint Direct Core Partner Board Event** – OHT Direct Core Partner Boards of Directors and the Steering Committee received presentations from the Executive Directors of the Hamilton and Burlington OHTs who shared their experiences and insights regarding incorporation. A plan to support an 18-month incorporation process starting in January 2024 will be presented to the Steering Committee in December.
- 3. One Team Approach** – As GW OHT partners seek to deepen our collective responsibility for the health of our shared population, development of a ‘One Team Culture/Approach’ is essential. Based on feedback collected via e-mail, the Steering Committee selected the following definition of a ‘One Team Approach’ for Guelph Wellington OHT:

The one-team approach is a culture where individuals and groups work in an integrated way to put people at the centre, regardless of their functional or organizational boundaries. This approach emphasizes the importance of open communication, transparency, continuous improvement, equitable sharing of information and resources, with mutual support to achieve goals and objectives. Each team member seeks to understand each other's strengths and differences, their roles and how they contribute to the success of the “one team.” This approach will promote greater efficiency, higher levels of innovation, and a more positive work environment while prioritizing compassionate, responsive care.

As a next step, Steering Committee members will be invited to complete a self-assessment of their organization’s status/progress towards development of a ‘One Team Approach’.

- 4. System Navigation** – One of the GW OHT’s current funding deliverables is to ‘Design and implement 24/7 navigation supports for patients, families and caregivers, aligned to the provincial Health811 system, that facilitates access to care and transitions between settings. GW OHT partners are seeking to build on existing resources and services (e.g., Here24/7, Caredove, eReferral, primary care teams) and to optimize coordination and communication between these existing services rather than create a net new service.

- 5. Respiratory Season Update** – Dr. Mercer reported that to date, there have been no reported cases of flu in community and a moderate amount of COVID cases. A GW OHT Surge Plan is being created with Public Health. This plan describes escalated responses as respiratory illness increases in our community. Coordinated communications are being developed to support GW residents to know their options when seeking medical care for respiratory illness.

- 6. Home Care Integration Leading Practice** – To support submission of the GW OHT Home Care Integration Leading Practice Implementation Plan on November 10, and based on information provided to the GW OHT to date, Guelph General Hospital will assume ‘Lead Agency’ status on behalf of GW OHT partners with St Joseph’s Health Care Centre Guelph, Guelph Family Health Team and North Wellington Healthcare Alliance each assuming some Lead Agency functions.

- 7. Health and Housing in Guelph Wellington** – Funding for 10 Shelldale and the other Permanent Supportive housing units in Guelph Wellington has not yet been confirmed but partners are hopeful as there are positive signs that the project is receiving support and attention.

If you have any questions or comments, or would like to be involved in the Guelph Wellington Ontario Health Team, please contact Emmi Perkins (emmi.perkins@quelphwellingtonoht.com)