

For Immediate Release

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Brantford Brant Ontario Health Team Approved

Brantford, ON – Today the Government of Ontario has announced the approval of the Brantford Brant Ontario Health Team as one of 13 new Ontario Health Teams (OHT) across the province.

Ontario Health Teams will bring together health care providers as one team to provide coordinated services and improve health outcomes for all people who receive care in Brantford and Brant County.

The Brantford Brant OHT is a group that includes 14 local health and social service organizations such as primary care, hospital, long-term care, mental health and addictions agencies, community support services, public health, paramedicine, the City of Brantford and the County of Brant, among others.

“This approval recognizes the incredible amount of work accomplished to date,” said Sherry Kerr, co-chair of the Brantford Brant Team. “I would like to recognize specifically the primary care community and patients, families and caregivers who have provided valuable leadership and insights in developing our local strategy and priorities.”

Dr. Scott Elliott is a local family physician, a co-chair of the Brantford Brant Team and a member of the recently formed Brantford Brant Primary Care Council which provides a unified voice of almost 70 local family physicians and nurse practitioners who provide primary care for over 110,000 people.

“The vision of the Brantford Brant OHT is to work as an integrated healthcare system where the relationship between primary care providers and patients is the foundation,” said Dr. Elliott. “We are working together in new ways to make this vision a reality.”

These strengthened local partnerships have been essential in the local response to the coronavirus pandemic. For example, the Brant Brantford Paramedic Service recently launched a remote monitoring solution for residents who either have or are particularly vulnerable to COVID-19. This program was developed together with the hospital, health unit, primary care, and paramedic service.

In addition, a community pilot initiative will have a family physician present at the COVID-19 assessment center to help people manage their symptoms to avoid them having to visit the hospital emergency department.

The Brantford Brant OHT already has a great deal of work underway addressing health challenges for our priority populations of mental health and addictions, homelessness and persons living with dementia.

The Brantford Brant OHT will also work to improve 24/7 care coordination and navigation by increasing access to such digital tools as virtual visits and health records, and will work with the Ministry of Health and other stakeholders to evolve the home and community care system.

There are no immediate changes or impacts for patients or health care providers currently.

For more information about how to get involved in helping shape the local health care system, please visit the Brantford Brant Ontario Health Team website at www.brantoht.ca.

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Media Contact

Sherry Kerr – skerr@pssbrantford.org – 519-756-1430 Extension 223