

December 8, 2021

Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care  
Brian Pollard, Assistant Deputy Minister  
Long-Term Care Operations Division  
11th Floor, 1075 Bay Street, Toronto ON, M5S 2B1

[brian.pollard@ontario.ca](mailto:brian.pollard@ontario.ca)

Re: Letter of Support for St. Joseph's Health Centre Guelph and The Elliott Community

We, the members of Wellington Ontario Health Team are writing to indicate our support of St. Joseph's Health Centre Guelph (SJHCG) and the Elliott Community ('The Elliott') to build additional Long Term Care (LTC) beds within each of their respective facilities. These new additions will at least partially address the significant demand for LTC that currently exists in our community. Patients waiting for long term care currently account for 28% of the ALC patients at Guelph General Hospital (this number has increased 2-4% over each of the past three years) with the most bed days being attributed to patients who require behavioral supports and secure units. This situation significantly limits flow both within the hospital and across the entire health care system.

Additionally, the additional beds at SJHCG and The Elliott will begin to build capacity towards the projected need for long term beds in our region as a result of our aging population. Over the next 23 years, Waterloo Wellington will need approximately 5600 additional long term care beds<sup>1</sup>.

The GW OHT community continues to be challenged by COVID and the secondary impacts of the pandemic. We are experiencing increased demand for emergency and acute care services that are resulting in hallway medicine. This is being compounded by the increasing mismatch between our community's LTC needs and our current LTC capacity. We strongly support SJHCG and The Elliott in their proposals to build additional long term care beds to address our community's current and future needs and we are hopeful that a decision to allocate the new LTC beds occurs expediently to ensure that seniors in our community have appropriate and timely access to LTC.

The membership of Guelph Wellington Ontario Health Team is committed to working with SJHCG on this initiative and are pleased to offer this letter of support.

Sincerely,

Guelph Wellington OHT Core Partners

ARCH HIV/AIDS Research and Community Health  
East Wellington Family Health Team  
Groves Memorial Community Hospital  
Guelph Family Health Team  
Guelph Wellington Physician Association  
Home & Community Care Support Services WW  
Hospice Wellington  
Mount Forest Family Health Team  
St. Joseph's Health Centre Guelph  
The Elliott Community  
University of Guelph

Canadian Mental Health Association Waterloo Wellington  
eHealth Centre of Excellence  
Guelph Community Health Centre  
Guelph General Hospital  
Guelph Wellington Paramedic Services  
Homewood Health Centre  
Minto-Mapleton Family Health Team  
North Wellington Health Care  
Stonehenge Therapeutic Community  
Traverse Independence  
Upper Grand Family Health Team

Att. Signatory Page

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1. <sup>1</sup>Hospital Bed Capacity in Waterloo-Wellington, presentation prepared by psg. July 2021  
2.

Guelph Wellington Ontario Health Team - Core Partners

We, the Core Partners of Guelph Wellington Ontario Health Team are writing on behalf of St. Joseph's Health Centre Guelph (SJHCG) and The Elliott Community to indicate our support for SJHCG and The Elliott to build additional Long Term Care (LTC) beds.



ARCH HIV/AIDS Research and Community Health  
Deanna Clatworthy, Interim Executive Director



Canadian Mental Health Association WW  
Helen Fishburn, Executive Director



East Wellington Family Health Team  
Kim Bell, Executive Director



eHealth Centre of Excellence  
Ted Alexander, VP Partnerships & Clinical Innovation



Groves Memorial Community Hospital  
Angela Stanley, CEO



Guelph Community Health Centre  
Raechelle Devereaux, Executive Director



Guelph Family Health Team  
Ross Kirkconnell, Executive Director



Guelph General Hospital  
Marianne Walker, CEO



Guelph Wellington Physician Association  
Dr. Doug Friars, Board Director



Guelph Wellington Paramedic Services  
Leanne Swantko, Deputy Chief



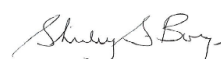
Home & Community Support Services WW  
Karyn Lumsden, Vice President



Homewood Health Centre  
Don Roth, VP Operations & Programs



Hospice Wellington  
Pat Stuart, Executive Director



Minto-Mapleton Family Health Team  
Executive Director, Shirley Borges



Mount Forest Family Health Team  
Suzanne Trivers, Executive Director



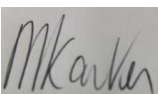
North Wellington Health Care  
Angela Stanley, CEO



St. Joseph's Health Centre Guelph  
David Wormald, CEO



Stonehenge Therapeutic Services  
Kristin Kerr, Executive Director



The Elliott Community  
Michelle Karker, CEO



Traverse Independence  
Toby Harris, CEO



University of Guelph  
Andrew Papadopoulos



Upper Grand Family Health Team  
Cora Van Zutphen, Interim Executive Director



Wellington Dufferin Guelph Public Health  
Dr. Nicola Mercer, Medical Officer of Health and CEO