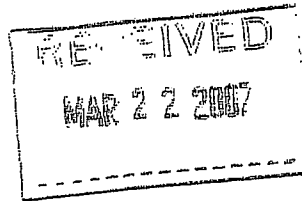


Friday, March 16, 2007



Ms. Stella Wesley
Chair, Board of Directors
James Bay General Hospital
General Delivery
Attawapiskat, ON
POL 1A0

Dear Ms. Wesley:

On behalf of the North East Local Health Integration Network (NE LHIN) Board of Directors and our Senior Management Team, I want to sincerely thank you for your hospitality on March 1, 2007. Our meeting and visit of your health services in Moosonee and in Fort Albany was extremely valuable for our Team to better appreciate the unique health care needs of your community.

I also wish to confirm the direction and intent of the NE LHIN in regards to the integration work that your communities are developing with the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and Health Canada. We have been made aware of the nature of the discussions by your respective CEOs and thought it would be timely to outline our support for the discussions and our commitment to follow through on the intent of the planning.

The NE LHIN will work with you and your successor organizations that arise from the future integration to support needed and appropriate health services to meet the needs in the James and Hudson's Bay area. Specifically, the NE LHIN will:

- Recognize the Weeneebayko Area of James and Hudson Bay as a distinct planning area separate from other areas within the NE LHIN's jurisdiction;
- Recognize and respect the cultural and linguistic needs of the Cree people in that area;
- Respect current referral patterns and linkages with education faculties including referrals to Kingston General Hospital and linkages with Queen's University and the Northern Ontario School of Medicine;

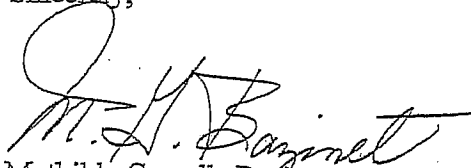
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- Work with the communities and organizations to understand and act to offset the unique challenges and costs of delivering health care in a remote, isolated northern location;
- Ensure that no action of the LHIN diminishes, derogates or prejudices any aboriginal or treaty rights, and;
- Respect the Integration Agreement framework developed among the communities, provincial and federal governments and support the creation of one organization, the Weeneebayko Area integration model, and the ongoing efforts to improve health services in your area.

We look forward to working with you and your colleagues in support of the exciting vision that is being planned and implemented to improve the health care for the residents of your area.

Sincerely,



Mathilde Gravelle Bazinet
Board Chair, NE LHIN

cc: Honourable George Smitherman, Minister of Health, Province of Ontario
Pat Chilton, CEO, Weeneebayko Health Ahtuskaywin
~~Wes Dudge, MD, James Bay General Hospital~~
Rémy Beaudoin, CEO, NE LHIN