

Ontario Health Teams are being introduced to provide a new way of organizing and delivering care that is more connected to patients in their local communities. In Ontario Health Teams, health care providers (including hospitals, doctors and home & community care providers) work as one coordinated team - no matter where they provide care¹.



Health System Planning: Your voice and experience matters

Representing a diverse group of local residents, health care providers and organizations from Guelph and the surrounding area, the *Guelph and Area Ontario Health Team* is a group of partners who are committed to improving the health of our community. The next step towards making this a reality was approved by the province in November 2019. Learn more at guelphandareaoht.com

We are now in the planning stages to identify health care priorities to guide our future actions. Part of that planning includes defining our direction and prioritizing topics we need to focus on as a community.

The *Guelph and Area Ontario Health Team* is hoping you will share your experience with the local health care system. The best way we can create a health system that works for everyone is to co-create it with our partners, providers and our diverse community.



Health System Planning: Engaging Our Community

As an organization that is a part of the *Guelph and Area Ontario Health Team*, or that is impacted by its work, your help is needed to engage providers and community members to help us identify health care priorities for our community. Wide input is needed now to ensure the priorities identified for our health system are grounded in the needs and experiences of our diverse community.

Depending on your organization's capacity right now and over the next few months, there are a few ways to get involved.

First, help share engagement opportunities

There are a couple of ways for service providers and community members to give input. The easiest way for your organization to help is to share the on-line survey broadly. The survey is designed to collect experiences and insight from those who deliver and receive care in your organization as well as your partners, stakeholders and communities.

¹ <http://health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/connectedcare/oht/default.aspx>

It includes questions about racism and oppression, providing and receiving care, optional questions about the future of health in Ontario, and demographic questions. Please complete the on-line survey (surveymonkey.com/r/GuelphAreaOHT) by January 31, 2021.



Then, support additional engagement

For organizations looking to go a bit further, an on-line toolkit is available (engageoht.ca) including instructional videos and helpful engagement tips. The toolkit will help your organization build the capacity to conduct engagement using the same questions as the on-line survey. You may want to host a (virtual) meeting with patients, staff, or board members, so a few resources are provided to support that.

Also, a Street Team training session is being held Tuesday, January 5th from 2:00-3:00. Street Teams are short-burst, face-to-face interviews with either a target group or the general public, which often take place outside on the street, or in other high-traffic areas. The goal of this is to get to stakeholders we normally wouldn't hear from, and in places, we can't easily access through other engagement tactics. The interviews are no more than 3-5 questions, open-ended, and written with the goal to identify needs in the community. For more information about Street Teams click [here](#). To register for the Street Team Training click [here](#).

We are also hosting a number of virtual engagement sessions where we will collect your input directly. Please share the invitation to join one of the engagement sessions broadly:

- Jan 6th from 3:30-5pm (register [here](#))
- Jan 12th from 3:30-5pm (register [here](#))
- Jan 15th from 1-2:30pm (register [here](#))
- Jan 18th from 4-5:30pm (register [here](#))

Lastly, you have the option to dive deeper

The toolkit has additional information on making sense of the engagement data collected. There is the option for organizations to do a bit of analysis of the responses they have collected. If your organization conducts its own analysis, please share the key findings with us.

There will also be an opportunity for select members of your organization to participate alongside other providers and community members in virtual workshops designed to collaboratively work through data analysis and synthesis.

Getting started

If you have any questions about these options or where to go from here, please reach out. Contact Emmi Perkins (emmi.perkins@guelpfhft.com) and she will provide an answer or connect you with the person that can.