

*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 care<sup>1</sup>.*



### **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](http://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.

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 ([surveymonkeys.com/r/GuelphAreaOHT](https://surveymonkeys.com/r/GuelphAreaOHT)) by March 31, 2021.

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



### Then, support additional engagement

For organizations looking to go a bit further, an on-line toolkit is available ([engageoht.ca](https://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. Resources have been developed to support (virtual) engagements with patients (questions available [here](#)), staff (questions available [here](#)) or board members (questions available [here](#)).

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

- Feb 9th from 10:30am-12pm (register [here](#))
- Feb 23rd from 4:00pm-5:30pm (register [here](#))
- Mar 9th from 10:30am-12pm (register [here](#))
- Mar 23rd from 6:00pm-7:30pm (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

Please contact Emmi Perkins ([emmi.perkins@guelpfhft.com](mailto:emmi.perkins@guelpfhft.com)) if you:

- have any questions about these options or where to go from here
- are interested in providing your feedback through a 1:1 conversation with a G&A OHT representative or in arranging a focus group for your staff/partners/ stakeholders.