

News Release / Pour publication immédiate

For Immediate Release

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Quality Care in Community Hands:

Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant LHIN Applauds Local Health Care Innovations Award

HAMILTON – The Ontario government has named the Department of Family Medicine, McMaster University and Fig P. Software Incorporated as one of six winners of the Health Care Innovation Awards. George Smitherman, Minister of Health and Long-Term, announced the winners this morning from among more than two hundred exhibitors, and eighteen semifinalists.

“We are delighted,” said Juanita Gledhill, Chair of the Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant Local Health Integration Network, “that the Department of Family Medicine, McMaster University and Fig P. Software Incorporated have won the award for Innovations in Health Information Management. This project facilitates primary health care teams to deliver timely preventative care that helps keep people healthy”.

Celebrating Innovations in Health Care Expo 2007 showcases Ontario innovative solutions and projects that support health system improvement including health promotion, patient quality and safety, and innovations in health human resources. The Expo presents an opportunity to learn about new programs and approaches that are making our health care system better across Ontario.

The Department of Family Medicine, McMaster University and Fig P. Software have developed a strategy to boost screening rates in Ontario for mammograms, pap testing, influenza vaccination and childhood primary vaccinations. The strategy is called Provider-Patient Reminders in Ontario Multi-strategy Prevention Tools (P-PROMPT).

The Celebrating Innovations in Health Care Expo 2007 Awards recognize innovative programs that are changing health care in Ontario. This year’s award winners were chosen by an independent panel of health care experts. The P-PROMPT winning innovation met the following criteria:

- Innovative for the entire health care sector;
- Easily replicated across the health care system;

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- Made smart, efficient use of resources;
- Integrated team work across the health care system;
- Dealt with important priorities and challenges in the health care system.

"We congratulate as well", said Gledhill, "seven HNHB health service providers Hamilton Health Sciences Centre; St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton; Niagara Health System; Brant Community Healthcare System; Joseph Brant Memorial Hospital; HNHB CCAC, Niagara Branch; Rosedale Medical Group that between them had 11 innovative projects accepted for submission at EXPO. The successful presentations focused on initiatives that promote integrated care, quality and safety of care and efficiency. This event clearly demonstrated that providers in this LHIN are committed to building a quality local health care system that is responsive to the needs of our community."

The Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant LHIN is one of 14 local health integration networks and is responsible for planning, coordinating and funding the local health system in this region which spans from Burlington to Fort Erie and from Burford to Cayuga and includes more than 1.3 million residents. The LHIN represents local decision-making; decisions about the organization, coordination and funding of health services will be made closer to home by people who live and work in the LHIN. The health services include community support services, mental health and addictions services, community health centres, the Community Care Access Centre, long-term care homes and hospital services.

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More information about LHINs can be found at www.lhins.on.ca.

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