

AGENDA

Board of Trustees OPEN Meeting

May 07, 2026 18:00 - 20:00

G. Elliott Boardroom

Chair: Wilkie, Kathy **Secretary:** Spindler, Julie

Requested: Lise Betteridge, Justine Garner, Joanne Hohenadel, David Kennedy, Lisa Woolley, Naeem Mir, Michelle Karker, Martin Ruaux, Tanya Watton, Thomas Hunter, Ted Sehl, Katherine Hauser, Al Van Leeuwen, Kimberley Wilson

Confirmed: Kathy Wilkie

			Pages
18:00	1	WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER	Wilkie, Kathy
18:00	1.1	Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof (open items)	
	1.2	Approval of the Agenda	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Att 1 OPEN Board Agenda.May 7, 2026 	3 - 3
	1.3	CEO's Statement of Compliance and Territorial Acknowledgment	Karker, Michelle
	2	Board Strategic Directions and Governance Development - Karen Fryday-Field	
	3	CONSENT AGENDA - OPEN	
	3.1	Approval of the Previous Minutes - April 2, 2026	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Att 2 Open Minutes.April 2, 2026 d r a f t - KW approved 	4 - 6
	3.2	Governance and Nominating Committee Highlights April 16, 2026	Wilkie, Kathy
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Att 3 Committee Highlights Gov and Nom April 2026 	7 - 8
	3.3	Corporate Affairs Committee Highlights April 22, 2026	Kennedy, David
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Att 4 Committee Highlights Corporate Affairs April 2026 	9 - 10
	4	THE ELLIOTT LTC RESIDENCE QUARTERLY REPORT Q1 2026	Ruaux, Martin
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Att 5 Q1 LTC Report to the Board.May 7, 2026 	11 - 13
	5	NEW BUSINESS - OPEN MEETING	
	5.1	CEO's Report May 2026	Karker, Michelle
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Att 6 CEO Report May 2026 OPEN FINAL 	14 - 16

6	CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION	Information
6.1	GW OHT Community Newsletter April 2026 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Att 7 Guelph Wellington OHT Newsletter April 2026 FINAL V2 	17 - 21
7	UPCOMING MEETINGS	Information
7.1	Board of Trustees June 3rd, Corporate Affairs June 10th, Governance and Nominating September 16th	
8	ADJOURNMENT - OPEN MEETING AND AUTHORITY TO MOVE INTO CLOSED MEETING	Declaration as Required
9	MOTION(S) FROM CLOSED MEETING	Approval
10	CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS & ADJOURNMENT	Wilkie, Kathy

Property of The Elliott
Community



NOTICE OF OPEN BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2026 - 6:00 PM

G. ELLIOTT BOARDROOM

A G E N D A

1. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

- 1.1 Disclosure(s) of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof (open items)
- 1.2 Approval of the Agenda *(Motion)* Att 1
- 1.3 CEO's Statement of Compliance and Territorial Acknowledgment

2. Board Strategic Directions and Governance Development - K. Fryday-Field

3. CONSENT AGENDA (OPEN) *(Motion)*

- 3.1 Approval of the Previous Minutes – April 2, 2026 Att 2
- 3.2 Governance and Nominating Committee Highlights April 16, 2026 (K. Wilkie) Att 3
- 3.3 Corporate Affairs Committee Highlights April 22, 2026 (D. Kennedy) Att 4

4. THE ELLIOTT LTC RESIDENCE QUARTERLY REPORT Q1 2026 (M. Ruaux) *(Motion)* Att 5

5. NEW BUSINESS – OPEN MEETING

- 5.1 CEO's Report May 2026 (M. Karker) *(Motion)* Att 6

6. CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION *(Motion)*

- 6.1 GW OHT Community Newsletter April 2026 Att 7

7. UPCOMING MEETINGS

Board of Trustees – June 3, 2026
Corporate Affairs – June 10, 2026
Governance and Nominating – September 16, 2026

8. ADJOURNMENT – OPEN MEETING AND AUTHORITY TO MOVE INTO CLOSED MEETING *(Motion)*

9. MOTIONS FROM CLOSED MEETING FOR APPROVAL *(Motions)*

10. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS & ADJOURNMENT



MINUTES OF OPEN BOARD MEETING

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 2026

ZOOM

Board:	Kathy Wilkie (Chair), Lise Betteridge (Vice Chair), David Kennedy (Secretary/Treasurer), Thomas Hunter, Justine Garner, Ted Sehl, Joanne Hohenadel, Katherine Hauser, Naeem Mir
Staff:	Michelle Karker (CEO), Tanya Watton (Chief of HR and Community Services), Martin Ruaux (Chief of Resident Care Services and Administrator), Al Van Leeuwen (CFO, Corporate Services), Julie Spindler (Executive Assistant / Board Liaison)
Guests:	Danna Evans – General Manager Culture and Recreation, Karen Fryday-Field - Meridian Edge Consulting
Regrets:	Lisa Woolley

1. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

K. Wilkie called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

1.1 Disclosure

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

1.2 Approval of the Agenda

Moved by J. Garner, seconded by K. Hauser that the April 2, 2026 agenda be accepted. CARRIED.

1.3. CEO's Statement of Compliance and Territorial Acknowledgement

The CEO confirmed that all government statutory deductions have been calculated and remitted, that all payroll-related statements of account are in good standing, and that The Elliott Community's Directors & Officers insurance policy is in effect with its current policy valid to July 2026.

The CEO provided a territorial acknowledgement.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

Items on the Consent Agenda included the Minutes of the March 5, 2026 Open Meeting of the Board of Trustees. No items were removed from the Consent Agenda for discussion.

Moved by D. Kennedy, seconded by L. Betteridge that items noted on the Consent Agenda for the open meeting held on April 2, 2026 be approved. CARRIED.

3. NEW BUSINESS – OPEN MEETING

3.1 CEO's Report April 2026

M. Karker presented the monthly CEO Report to the Board. Wait lists were discussed in more detail – active referrals are coming in. Many people require space immediately.

Moved by D. Kennedy, seconded by L. Betteridge that the CEO's Report for April 2026 be accepted. CARRIED.

4. CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION

4.1 GW OHT Integrated Care Council Meeting Key Messages March 11, 2026

Received for information.

5. UPCOMING MEETINGS

As noted on the agenda. The Chair noted that the meeting scheduled on June 4th was cancelled and a Board strategic planning workshop has been scheduled at The Elliott Community on Wednesday, June 3rd, from 3 – 8 p.m.

6. ADJOURNMENT – OPEN MEETING AND AUTHORITY TO MOVE INTO CLOSED MEETING

Having no other business raised, it was moved by N. Mir, seconded by T. Sehl that the Board of Trustees open meeting adjourn at 6:11 pm and now hold a meeting that is closed to the public, pursuant to the Municipal Act, Section 239 – 3.1 education or training. CARRIED.

D. Evans left the meeting.

7. MOTIONS FROM CLOSED MEETING

Moved by J. Garner, seconded by T. Hunter that the April 2, 2026 closed meeting Board Agenda be approved. CARRIED.

Moved by K. Hauser, seconded by J. Hohenadel that the items noted on the Consent Agenda for the closed meeting held on April 2, 2026 be approved. CARRIED.

8. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS & ADJOURNMENT

Having no other business raised, it was moved by K. Wilkie that the Board of Trustees open meeting adjourn at 8:01 pm. CARRIED.

Respectfully Submitted,

Approved by Motion of the Board of Trustees,

Julie Spindler
Executive Assistant
April 3, 2026

Kathy Wilkie
Chair, Board of Trustees
May 7, 2026



Board Report Committee Highlights



TO: Board of Trustees, Consent Agenda

DATE: May 7, 2026

SUBJECT: Governance and Nominating Committee, April 16, 2026 Highlights

RECOMMENDATION

That the report presented by the Chair of the Governance and Nominating Committee for the meeting held on April 16, 2026, be received for information.

BACKGROUND

Highlights are presented by the Chairs of the following Committees of the Elliott Board of Trustees: Corporate Affairs and Governance and Nominating. Topics are discussed separately, if required, in the closed meeting as per the Municipal Act, Section 239.

REPORT

The Governance and Nominating Committee held a remote meeting on April 16, 2026. The Committee approved the open meeting Consent Agenda, which included the minutes of the meeting held December 10, 2025.

Motions from the Closed Meeting:

- That the item noted on the April 16, 2026 closed Consent Agenda of the Governance and Nominating Committee (Closed Minutes of Meeting Held December 10, 2025) be accepted.
- That staff be directed to begin advertising for the current vacancy on the Board through the City, Elliott website and other organizations.
- That the Slate of Officers for 2026-2027 as recommended by the Governance and Nominating Committee be presented to the Board for approval at the May AGM.
- That staff be directed to amend the Skills Matrix by adding the definition of expert as suggested by the Committee to the proficiency scale.
- That the Board meeting evaluations for December 2025, February 2026, March 2026, and April 2026 be received for information.

Board Report Committee Highlights



The Interview Guide is being amended to reflect a governance focus. This is a working tool used internally during the recruitment process.

The 2026 Board Effectiveness Evaluation Survey will be issued in June, with the same format and process as last year.

The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for September 16, 2026.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

REPORT AUTHOR:

Julie Spindler, EA / Board Liaison

THIS REPORT WAS APPROVED AND RECOMMENDED BY:

Kathy Wilkie, Chair Governance and Nominating Committee

Board Report Committee Highlights



TO: Board of Trustees, Consent Agenda

DATE: May 7, 2026

SUBJECT: Corporate Affairs Committee, April 22, 2026 Highlights

RECOMMENDATION

That the report presented by the Chair of the Corporate Affairs Committee for the meeting held on April 22, 2026, be received for information.

BACKGROUND

Highlights are presented by the Chairs of the following Committees of the Elliott Board of Trustees: Corporate Affairs and Governance and Nominating. Topics are discussed separately, if required, in the closed meeting as per the Municipal Act, Section 239.

REPORT

The Corporate Affairs Committee held a remote meeting on April 22, 2026. The Committee approved the Consent Agenda, which included the minutes of the meeting held February 18, 2026 and regulatory reports on file since the last meeting of the Committee.

In a closed meeting, A. Van Leeuwen, CFO, and S. Stahlmann, Partner KPMG, presented the following:

1. The Elliott's Draft Audited Financial Statements for the Year Ended December 31, 2025.
2. KPMG's Audit Finding Report
3. KPMG's comments and remarks on the year end audit process.

Motions from the Closed Meeting:

- That the Draft Financial Statements for the Year Ended December 31, 2025 be accepted and recommended to the Board for final approval at the AGM on May 7, 2026.
- That the Finance and Audit Committee recommend to the Board of Trustees at the AGM on May 7, 2026 that KPMG be appointed the External Auditors for the 2026 Annual Financial Statement audit.
- That the minutes of the closed meeting held February 18, 2026 be accepted.
- That the Quality Monitoring Report Q1 2026, the Financial Year In Review 2025 presentation, and the Financial Reports for February 2026 be accepted.

Board Report Committee Highlights



The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for June 17, 2026, with Lisa Woolley (Trustee) serving as Committee Chair.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

As per the Financial Reports presented to the Board on May 7, 2026.

REPORT AUTHOR:

Julie Spindler, EA / Board Liaison

THIS REPORT WAS APPROVED AND RECOMMENDED BY:

David Kennedy, Chair Corporate Affairs Committee

Staff Report



TO: Board of Trustees
DATE: April 30, 2026
SUBJECT: THE ELLIOTT LONG-TERM CARE RESIDENCE Q1 2026 REPORT

RECOMMENDATION

To receive for information The Elliott Long-Term Care Residence (ELTCR) Q1 2026 Report prepared by the Administrator LTC and presented to the Board of Trustees on May 7, 2026.

BACKGROUND

In accordance with the Long-Term Care Services Agreement, the Administrator of the Long-Term Care Residence provides a quarterly report to the Elliott Board of Trustees.

REPORT

• **Achievement and Maintenance of Direct Care Hours**

The Elliott Long-Term Care Residence (ELTCR) continues to exceed the provincial requirement of 4.0 hours of direct care per resident per day, as mandated by legislation. For this quarter, the Residence achieved an average of 4.11 hours of direct care per resident day, demonstrating sustained performance above the standard.

• **Implementation of the Butterfly Approach**

Implementation of the Butterfly Approach continues to progress. Environmental enhancements and furnishings are being updated on the second-floor home areas (Eramosa and Paisley). Staff training was completed as scheduled by March 31, 2026. All planned milestones to date have been achieved, and the organization remains on track for full Butterfly Accreditation in Fall 2026.

• **CARF Accreditation (Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities)**

In preparation for CARF Accreditation in June 2027, workplans are being refined to ensure full organizational readiness. Key priorities include the proactive completion of program evaluations, comprehensive review and updating of policies, and increased focus on performance evaluations for frontline team members. This work will remain a strategic priority throughout 2026.

Complaints / Concerns

There were zero (0) complaints/concerns received during Q1, 2026 by the ELTCR.

Staff Report



Critical Incident Reports

Five (5) critical incidents were reported to the MLTC during Q1, 2026 by the ELTCR:

No.	Details of Critical Incident	Response from Management	Resolved within The Elliott	MLTC Completed Inspection
M633-000003-26	Disease Outbreak – Enteric – Norovirus. Homewide outbreak declared on Feb 27, 2026 with a high number of resident cases, as well as staff cases	In collaboration with Public Health, outbreak declared. All appropriate IPAC outbreak management standards in place. Routine Outbreak Management Committee meetings. Collaborative reporting through WSIB (employees). Cases resolved by March 9 and outbreak declared over.	Yes with support of Public Health	No
M633-000002-26	Abuse of Resident by staff member. Feb 15, 2026 Director of Care made aware of concerns via an anonymous email advising of witnessing a current PSW's approach to care.	Investigation initiated. Team member suspended. Difficult to substantiate via resident interviews, however staff members were able to validate the issues. Police notified. Staff member terminated.	Yes with support of Guelph Police	Phone inquiry
M633-000004-26	Disease Outbreak – Enteric – Fountain Home Area involving 3 residents/ no staff. Declared March 11, 2026	In collaboration with Public Health, outbreak declared. All appropriate IPAC outbreak management standards in place. Routine Outbreak Management Committee meetings. Declared over March 16, 2026.	Yes with support of Public Health	No
M633-000005-26	Fall with Injury. Occurred on March 14, 2026. Resident assisting in dining room fell. Transferred to hospital and diagnosed with dislocated right shoulder and left patella fracture. Returned to The Elliott on March 17, 2026	Assessed as Low risk for Falls. Following incident – head to toe assessment completed. EMS called for transfer to hospital.	Yes	No

Staff Report



M633-000006-26	Disease Outbreak – Enteric – Wellington Home Area involving 5 residents/ no staff. Declared March 31, 2026	In collaboration with Public Health, outbreak declared. All appropriate IPAC outbreak management standards in place. Routine Outbreak Management Committee meetings. Declared over April 6, 2026.	Yes with support of Public Health	No
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FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

STRATEGIC IMPERATIVE ALIGNMENT

Enhance The Elliott Community resident experience

Report Author: Martin Ruaux, Chief of Resident Care Services and Administrator

This report was approved and recommended by: Michelle Karker, CEO

Staff Report



TO: Board of Trustees
DATE: April 30, 2026
SUBJECT: CEO's Report – May 2026

RECOMMENDATION

That the report titled "CEO's Report – May 2026" be received for information.

BACKGROUND

The CEO reports to the Board of Trustees in open session on Long-Term Care strategic updates and significant developments and items of importance for the Board of Trustees reflective of actions or events that have arisen since the Board's last meeting.

STRATEGIC REPORT

Enhance The Elliott Community resident experience

- Enhancements to the care environment will continue into early May, with planned updates to the Anne Flowers Lounge, the main level of The Ellington, and the Nottingham lounge. In addition, the Maintenance team has nearly completed work on the Hobby Room (formerly The Workshop) at The Ellridge. We expect this space to open by mid-May. This follows the 2025 addition of the gym, continuing a trend of amenity enhancements that improve the resident experience and support ongoing sales efforts.
- Butterfly Transformation: The training program for the second cohort of staff has been completed, supported by the "Improving Dementia Care Program". Our final funding submission, outlining our total expenses within the funding framework, will be submitted to Ontario Health prior to the deadline.
- We have received confirmation that our Canada Summer Jobs application was successful. We have secured funding for four student positions, which will provide necessary support for our team's operations throughout the summer.
- Dominique O'Rourke, Member of Parliament for Guelph, recently visited the home to engage directly with residents, providing an important platform for them to share feedback and ensuring their perspectives are heard at the federal level.

Staff Report



Bring out the best in everyone

- To observe National Employee Appreciation Day, we hosted a staff celebration featuring Booster Juice for the team. This event provided a meaningful opportunity for leadership to connect with staff and formally acknowledge the dedication and hard work that drives our daily operations.

Create community partnerships with purpose

- The Annual Community Easter Egg Hunt was held on April 3rd and was a resounding success, with our largest showing ever – 300 attendees, including 175 children! The event was proudly sponsored by Westwood & Starwood Dental and Speed River Physiotherapy.
- Following a 56% increase in participation during 2025, the volunteer program is shifting its 2026 focus toward long term retention and stability. A notable success is Mitra, a new volunteer and family member of a former resident, who uses her lived experience to support Long-Term Care tours and strengthen connections with social bonds.
- The newly launched Grand Pals program, a partnership with St. Patrick's Early Learning Centre, facilitates monthly outings that connect residents and young children through shared activities to foster meaningful intergenerational social bonds.

Focus on financial sustainability

- Year-to-date February results for 2026 were presented to the Corporate Affairs Committee on April 22nd. LTC has a \$821,479 surplus (more than 60% over budget). The main driver of this variance relates to the realization of Dementia Care grant revenue, lower than budgeted wages and salaries and lower than budgeted operating cost. Given it is early into the new fiscal year, it is expected that this surplus will diminish.
- The 2025 year-end audit is now complete and draft Financial Statements have been presented to the Corporate Affairs Committee. We have not received funding letters from the Ministry of Long-Term Care for 2026-2027. Funding received in April is at the same rate as the prior period.
- In collaboration with Peace of Mind and the Sales team, an Italian Café event brought together 20 waitlist prospects with shared cultural ties. This initiative allows prospective residents to experience the community in action and fosters genuine connections with those already living in the home.

Staff Report



- We are delighted to formally welcome Gloria Mulwa to the team as our Senior Development Officer. An established fundraiser, Gloria has already been generously volunteering her expertise with us over the past few months, and we are thrilled to have her join us in this official capacity. One of her immediate priorities will be establishing a fundraising CRM, a critical tool that will allow us to effectively manage data, identify new opportunities, and, most importantly, ensure we appropriately show gratitude to our current and potential supporters.

Report Authors: Tanya Watton, Chief of HR & Community Services
Martin Ruaux, Chief of Resident Care Services & Administrator
Al Van Leeuwen, Chief Financial Officer, Corporate Services

This report approved and recommended by: Michelle Karker, CEO

Guelph Wellington Ontario Health Team Community Newsletter

Community Collaborative

The March 2026 GW OHT Community Collaborative, From the Board Room to the Front Lines: Acknowledging the Impact and Addressing the Strain and Burnout Associated with Caregiving, shone a spotlight on the extraordinary role caregivers play across our health system.

We were honoured to welcome Amy Coupal, CEO of the Ontario Caregiver Organization (OCO), who shared compelling insights from OCO's 2025 Spotlight Report. Today, caregivers provide 75% of patient care in the healthcare system. With the number of caregivers in Ontario expected to grow from 4 million in 2025 to an estimated 6.5 million by 2030, the urgency to prioritize caregiver wellbeing has never been clearer.

A heartfelt thank-you to the OCO team for outlining the wide range of programs and services available to care partners, care recipients, healthcare providers, and organizations. OCO programs and services are available, free of charge, to caregivers across the province. Their work is vital in ensuring caregivers receive the recognition, resources, and support they deserve.



Caregivers are Important.

May is National Caregiver Awareness Month! To commemorate and informed by our learnings from the March 2026 Community Collaborative, the GW OHT has created a resource page for both providers and community members to access tools and other resources for caregivers.

[Visit Resource Page](#)

Please share this newsletter and engagement opportunities broadly

Any questions or comments, please contact:

Emmi Perkins, GW OHT Director of Transformation - askus@guelphwellingtonoht.com

The GW OHT's Integrated Care Council (ICC) continues to advance collaborative governance as a key enabler of our shared purpose, improving the health of the Guelph Wellington population.

Recently, system partners participated in a joint strategic priority planning session facilitated by Jodeme Goldhar of 4C Impact. The session focused on the value of aligning strategic planning priorities and processes across organizations, and how this alignment supports more integrated, population-health-focused care. Partners shared reflections from their organizational perspectives, highlighting the benefits of a coordinated system approach.

Participants recognized that many partner organizations' strategic priorities already align with GW OHT's current strategic priorities. Building on this shared foundation, the ICC is exploring whether a next step could include identifying common strategic measures for each priority to enable partners to make measurable contributions to system-level, population health goals while continuing to advance their own organizational mandates and priorities.

GW OHT Partner Governance Event



Integrated Care Council co-chairs
Denise Jupp and Kristin Kerr

Primary Care Network Specialist Event



The GW OHT Primary Care Network recently hosted a dinner event for specialist physicians across Guelph Wellington to increase awareness of the Ontario Health Team's work and priorities. The evening provided an opportunity to explore digital enablers of integrated care, including Hypercare and eReferral, and to engage in meaningful discussion around collaboration across the care continuum.

We look forward to building on these connections and strengthening relationships, with plans to host a similar event later this year that will once again bring specialists and primary care clinicians together.

If you are a specialist in Guelph Wellington who would like to be informed about a future event, please provide your contact details to hannah.bolton@guelphwellingtonoht.com

Nurse Practitioner Onboarding Clinic



Last year Ontario Health tasked Ontario Health Teams to attach all patients who were on the Health Care Connect waitlist as of January 2025, to a primary care provider by spring of 2026. To support GW providers who are accepting new patients, the GW OHT Primary Care Network established an 'Onboarding Program' including a Nurse Practitioner who supports patients to be onboarded to their new primary care provider.

Beginning in October 2025, the nurse practitioner worked with Family Health Teams in Guelph Wellington to develop processes to support new patient onboarding. The OHT created an eForm pathway through Ocean to facilitate attachment of high-need patients from hospitals, midwifery, and outreach programs. The NP Onboarding Clinic completed intake appointments to support attachment locally and across neighbouring OHTs through referral coordination and regional integration. To date, the clinic has attached 180 patients to primary care!

In addition to attachment, the NP has supported preventative care initiatives, including completing 50 cervical cancer screenings (5 positive), coordinating 4 colonoscopies, 16 mammograms, and 25 FIT tests to support early detection and screening uptake among newly attached patients.

The program enhanced access and equity for unattached and complex patients, and improved timeliness and continuity of care across the system.

“ For the first time in years, I feel like someone is helping me find a place in the system.”

– Patient Feedback

“ I would not be accepting patients if you weren't helping.”

– Physician Feedback

We are happy to announce that we have cleared the January 2025 Health Care Connect waitlist, and the programming is continuing to attach Guelph Wellington residents to primary care.

Having a Primary Care Provider is Important



Having a Family Doctor or Nurse Practitioner you see consistently helps you get care faster and reduces visits to the emergency room. Your doctor or nurse practitioner is a safe place for you to ask questions about your health - they know your health history meaning health problems can be found earlier. Most visits to your doctor or nurse practitioner are free with OHIP.

Family Doctor or Nurse Practitioner can help with:

- Check ups & vaccines
- Treating common sickness & injuries
- Blood tests and tests such as regular cancer screening
- Long term health problems such as diabetes
- Sending you to a specialist if needed

NEED A FAMILY DOCTOR OR NURSE PRACTITIONER?

Health Care Connect helps you find primary care close to home. Register online at ontario.ca/healthcareconnect or call 8-1-1



When you register, you can ask for a provider who speaks your language.

Register today and get connected!



Having a family doctor or nurse practitioner you see consistently is one of the best ways to stay healthy and get care faster. Your primary care provider knows your health history, is a safe space to ask questions, and can identify health concerns earlier which often helps to prevent unnecessary visits to the emergency room.

Most visits to your family doctor or nurse practitioner are covered by Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP) and include a wide range of services, such as:

- Check-ups and vaccinations
- Treatment for common illnesses and injuries
- Blood work and preventive tests (eg. routine cancer screening)
- Ongoing care for chronic conditions such as diabetes
- Referrals to specialists when needed

If you don't currently have a family doctor or nurse practitioner, [Health Care Connect](#) can help match you with primary care close to home. Register today and take an important step toward better, more connected care. Translated posters and other resources are available for download on the [GW OHT website](#).

Information available in poster and brochure format.

GW OHT Resources for Supporting Indigenous Patients & Community Members

Find local, regional and provincial resources, from Indigenous-led foot care to traditional healing, NIHB coverage and much more. There is also a page to direct Indigenous community members to with local events, health resources and engagement opportunities with the OHT



[Visit Resource Page](#)



Medical Interpretation

For partners who previously accessed OH Regional Interpretation Fund via KWMC or ISGW: the transfer payment agency is now Community Healthcaring Kitchener-Waterloo. Please send updated contact information by 04/23/2024 to be added to the portal and receive access codes.

Through the OH Multilingual and Accessibility Funding, GW OHT has limited RIO access codes for primary care and specialists. These short-term supports may bridge gaps (e.g., loss of VOYCE or no contract in place), but medical interpretation must still be budgeted this fiscal year. Please track usage (including languages) to support advocacy and contact Christine Platt (cplatt@cmhaww.ca) for eligibility and details.

E-modules Available on Centre for Resilience, Learning and Growth

GW OHT partners and staff can now access free EDIA-R related E-modules through the Centre for Resilience, Learning and Growth (CRL&G) website.

- New users register here:
<https://stjosephslearningcentre.ca/sign-up/?oht=true>
- Existing users (e.g. completed Rainbow Health) email learning@sjhcg.ca to request access.

Wellington Guelph Drug Strategy Update

With recent policy changes, including the closure of Consumption and Treatment Services sites, the harm reduction landscape in Ontario & Guelph-Wellington is changing. The Guelph Wellington recent FAST (overdose alert platform) report also shows an increase of drug poisonings and fatalities when compared to last year.

Additionally, the Wellington Guelph Drug Strategy (WGDS) warns about increased presence of Medetomidine in the unregulated drug supply. Medetomidine is a veterinary sedative, not approved or safe for human use, which is increasingly detected in the unregulated drug supply. Medetomidine can cause longer-lasting sedation, severe withdrawal, with treatment for overdose and withdrawal which can be complicated and can require emergency medical attention and monitoring.

In response to these changes, the WGDS continues to monitor FAST data on drug poisoning and fatalities, share best practices & medetomidine protocols with providers, and has developed a Harm Reduction Access Guide. Please share within your organizations/partnerships as appropriate.

[Harm Reduction
Access Guide](#)