

PRIMARY CARE MONTHLY

The Brantford Brant Norfolk Primary Care Council Newsletter



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CLOSURE OF LOCAL COVID, COLD, FLU CARE CLINICS

- Effective March 31, 2023 the Brantford, Brant and Norfolk COVID, Cold and Flu Care Clinics (CCFCCs) will be permanently closed.
- After this date, if patients need a COVID-19 test, assessment, or treatment, they can:
 - contact their pharmacy or locate the nearest pharmacy that provides COVID-19 testing
 - contact their primary care provider
 - call 811 or visit ontario.ca/health811 for more information about testing, assessment and treatment
 - consult <https://www.ontario.ca/assessment-centre-locations> for an open assessment centre
- The Brantford Brant CCFCC facilitated 140,861 patient visits since it was introduced in the spring of 2020.
- The Norfolk CCFCC opened in September 2022 and saw 2,607 patients.
- The Brantford Brant Norfolk OHT, Brant Community Health System, Brantford Brant Norfolk Primary Care Council and Norfolk Family Health Team would like to thank the dedicated primary care providers who committed their time to serving our community during the COVID-19 pandemic.



**BRANTFORD
BRANT
NORFOLK**
Primary Care Council

DIGITAL HEALTH DRUG REPOSITORY

- Dr. David Vincent has joined new Clinical Advisory Committee run by the Digital Health Drug Repository (DHDR).
- DHDR provides opportunity to provide a more robust pharmacy or medication reconciliation model. Ontario Drug benefit plan doesn't track those without OHIP or those with private paid plans.
- What would we like to see in a medication/pharmacy module? For suggestions or feedback email primarycare@bbnoht.ca

COMING SOON: ConnectMyHealth

- ConnectMyHealth is a digital health solution that provides patients with an online, single access point to view health records from many healthcare facilities in Ontario.
- ConnectMyHealth can be used on desktop and mobile devices, there's no cost to use it, and there's no app to download when accessing your account via the web.
- Data Availability can be found here: <https://info.connectmyhealth.ca/data-availability>
 - This page contains the most up-to-date information on what types of health records are viewable in CMH, and from what healthcare source systems

STRATEGIC PLAN IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE

Highlights this month:

- The PCC continues to be open to engagement with all primary care providers.
- The PCC continues to seek representation from walk-in clinics and family doctors that are not already represented on the Council.
- The PCC continues with improving relationships with our specialist colleagues.

If you have any questions about the Strategic Plan or would like to learn more about what the Primary Care Council and the OHT please contact Dr David Vincent at d.c.vincent@outlook.com.

PRIMARY CARE CANCER SCREENING

- Guidance and priorities for OHT's will remain the same as last year:
 - Improving Mammograms, pap tests, colorectal screening rates.
 - Improving lines of communication with the regional cancer program.
 - Enhancing information sharing with is available to primary care practices on the website.
 - Expanding mobile cancer screening programs by scheduling sessions in local neighborhoods with lower screening rates.

INFORMATION RECEIVED THIS MONTH

CHANGES TO LYME DISEASE TESTING

- As of April 1st 2023 the Public Health Ontario Lab (PHOL) will be moving to a different testing algorithm for Lyme disease.
 - Move from STTT to MTTT algorithm
- The changes in testing algorithm will help support a clinical Lyme Disease diagnosis, particularly in the early localized stage of the disease (by reducing the chances of a false negative result) and help to improve the turnaround time for Lyme Disease testing, which can lead to earlier intervention.
- Please visit [Public Health Ontario website for additional resources including Lyme disease risk areas](#)

Do you have an event, policy update or other relevant information that you would like to share with the primary care community?

Email primarycare@bbnoht.ca

ONTARIO ASSOCIATION OF OPTOMETRISTS REACH HISTORIC AGREEMENT

- On Tuesday March 21, 2023, members of the Ontario Association of Optometrists (OAO) ratified a new four-year funding agreement with the Government of Ontario. The changes in this agreement are based on the best available clinical evidence and expert opinion for providing people appropriate eye care, as well as the expert advice of the OAO provided over months of bilateral discussions with the Ministry of Health.
- [Learn more here](#)

NEW REQUIREMENTS FOR RESIDENT DEATH NOTICES

- The Institutional Patient Death Record (IPDR) will be replaced by the new Resident Death Notice (RDN) as of March 13, 2023.
- The Office of the Chief Coroner (OCC) has pursued this redesign in response to recommendations from the Long-term Care Homes Public Inquiry (LTCPI).
- The new RDN will ensure that data collected is being used appropriately to identify deaths that require a coroner's investigation, to make informed policy decisions and to detect trends of concern in resident deaths in LTCHs.
- [More resources available on the OHT website here](#)

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Waterous Holden Amey Hitchon LLP Presents:

Personal Injury Primer For Treating Healthcare Providers



WATEROUS HOLDEN AMEY HITCHON^{LLP}
LAWYERS



April 26th, 2023

Brantford Golf & Country Club

60 Ava Road, Brantford

Seminar: 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Mix & Mingle: 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Refreshments and appetizers provided

Join lawyers, Dennis Touesnard, Caitlin Turner and Courtney Boyd, for a discussion on the role of the treating healthcare provider in meeting the needs of patients with personal injury claims.

Topics will include:

- Introduction to the three most common personal injury claims
- Your obligations to patients with personal injury claims
- What benefits are available when your patient is hurt in a car accident? How can you help them access these benefits?
- What are lawyers looking for when they ask you to write a medical legal report? How will that report be used?

Reserve your seats early by RSVP to events@waterousholden.com

Registration is free, but space is limited.

2023 ONTARIO COMMUNITY PARAMEDICINE KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE EXPO

- Date/Location:
 - April 18th - 20th
 - Rooftop Terrace, Holiday Inn
Toronto International Airport,
970 Dixon Road, Toronto ON
- Looking for Primary Care participation
- [Find more information here](#)





NORFOLK DEMENTIA TOWN HALL

An in-person event for persons living with dementia
and/or caregivers of loved ones with dementia.

Hosted by the Brantford Brant Norfolk Ontario Health Team

Monday, May 15
1pm-3pm

Norfolk Public Library
Simcoe Branch
46 Colborne Street South
Simcoe, ON N3Y 4H3

All are welcome! Please
let us know if you require
special accommodations

Topics to include:

- The patient/caregiver experience in Norfolk
- What is most important to the caregiver?
- How can we better support you?

RSVP BY EMAIL: CONTACT@BBNOHT.CA