

## Public meeting to discuss WLMH October 23, 2018

### What is our new Situation?

- On October 22, 2018 it was announced to staff at West Lincoln Memorial Hospital that sterilization procedures and storage solutions do not meet new Accreditation Canada standards (a voluntary designation) and to meet these standards would require \$8.6M in infrastructure work as well as the relocation of all surgical and obstetrics programs to other HHS sites for a period of 27 months. The date proposed was January 2019
- This above work and recommendation was developed by HHS staff outside of WLMH and through a third-party consultant. Neither the WLMH Medical Director nor WLMH Site Leads were asked to participate in this work and were simply informed of the decision on October 22
- This management proposal is slated for "approval" at the HHS Board meeting of December 6, 2018  
Dr. Benson, Chief of Staff, resigned as a result of this decision

### What does this mean?

- The proposed re-location of surgical and obstetric services at WLMH will have a drastic impact on the "Our Healthy Futures" plan
- At this point, funds for the renovation have not yet been secured, and we do not have approval for the rebuild of the hospital.
- Re-locating obstetrical services would, in essence, mean a permanent closure of these services at WLMH.
- A permanent loss of surgery and obstetrics means the subsequent loss of anesthesia, ICU, ER ; in other words, a loss an acute care hospital
- We will lose our clinicians and with them, our exemplary teaching program

### Is there hope?

- Yes!!
- The current programs and services that WLMH is running are exemplary in terms of quality and patient safety.
- There are other possible solutions that would allow WLMH to keep current programs and bridge to the rebuild ,that maintain current patient safety an
  - A medical/clinical leadership team from WLMH was struck last evening specifically to work on these bridging solutions
- "Our minds are not made up on this. We are in the planning phase." Dr Wes Stephens, CEO HHS, on CKTB 610 radio October 23
- Our Healthy Futures remains a viable plan in front of MOH
- With a solid plan in place, Accreditation Canada would continue to support our care

### What do we need? What can we do?

- We need HHS support to continue our programs on site- there have been **many** benefits resulting from our merger to date.
- We need HHS to continue to support us in our urgent need for a hospital rebuild until we have a new hospital.
- We need the Ontario Ministry of Health to approve the rebuild- we need this approval now

WLMH serves 65000 residents of West Niagara each year: **25000** residents visit the ER • **2900** are admitted to hospital • **1000** babies are born • **3700** surgeries (80% same day/outpatient basis) - all with the unique focus of integrating primary care in all areas of the hospital

## We need to ask;

### “What needs to be done to conserve services and respect patient safety guidelines at WLMH without interruption”?

- Give the WLMH Physicians/Clinical leadership team time to come up with a solution that will avoid re-locating services.
- Give the WLMH Physician/Clinical leadership team full access to all files and information related to these issues so that we can effectively perform our analysis
- Please focus HHS management on finding solutions to preserve services onsite, not a focus on removing services from WLMH.

## Key contacts:

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## Political contacts:

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