

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**July 21, 2010**

### **Hospital Improvement Plan Approved by CE LHIN Board**

Peterborough, ON: On July 20, the Central East Local Health Integration Network (CE LHIN) Board of Directors approved PRHC's Hospital Improvement Plan (HIP). PRHC's HIP will now be acted upon.

In the wake of some 60 recommendations contained in PRHC's April, 2010 Peer Review, PRHC was required to submit a HIP to the CE LHIN Board by June 30, 2010—it met this obligation.

The Peer Review mandate directed PRHC to develop a HIP that put the hospital in a balanced position by March 31, 2012.

"PRHC is a vital member of the CE LHIN health care system," said Deborah Hammons, CEO, CE LHIN. "We are confident that the Hospital Improvement Plan, now approved by our Board, will allow PRHC to move forward in a fiscally responsible manner, while ensuring that patient care, quality and safety are not compromised."

"PRHC's HIP takes into account some of the recommendations made by the recent Peer Review," said Ken Tremblay, PRHC's President and CEO. "Our plan also found savings of approximately \$27M within the two-year time frame," he added.

"PRHC's plan is based on suggestions from front line staff and physicians; who came up with some 2400 cost saving and process improvement ideas. These ideas were distilled, evaluated and ranked. Our home-grown plan maintains quality of care and protects the full scope of the hospital's current regional services and programs. I encourage everyone to read the plan. It's on the hospital's website, [www.prhc.on.ca](http://www.prhc.on.ca)," said Tremblay.

The interventions in PRHC's recovery plan include closing 20 beds and front line and management restructuring affecting about 182 FTE positions. To minimize job loss, the restructuring will make use of existing vacancies wherever possible, normal attrition including retirement options.

"Job loss is never easy, and no one takes this lightly. While everyone recognizes these changes are significant, so is the size of the problem," said Tremblay.

As part of developing this HIP, PRHC hosted open information and consultation sessions both within the hospital, with key health care partners, as well as seven open community and regional sessions. Written submissions were received. The plan was modified as feedback was incorporated.

"We are very pleased that the PRHC Board has fully supported the development of the HIP and we are sure they will continue to support the implementation of the plan. We look forward to positive progress reports," said Foster Loucks, Chair, CE LHIN Board of Directors.

"The plan was prepared in a serious and principled way," said Tremblay. "It is one we can deliver on *and* maintain quality and safety, as well as preserve the services and programs this region demands. We are hopeful new programming such as PCI and radiation therapy will be offered at PRHC in the future. Getting our financial house in order is the first important step to attract and convince funders of new and expanded investment."

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