

# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

NOVEMBER 2024

Ashnoor Rahim  
Executive  
Director

## GENERAL UPDATES

# COMMUNITIES AND STAKEHOLDERS WORK

## Visit to Stonehenge Therapeutic Community

On November 6th, the KW4 OHT team had the privilege of visiting the Stonehenge Therapeutic Community. This visit was a valuable opportunity to engage with senior leadership, tour their facilities, and gain deeper insights into the remarkable programs and services they provide.

Stonehenge Therapeutic Community delivers a comprehensive range of supports, including addiction medicine and withdrawal services, residential care, supportive housing, and community and justice initiatives. Their work addresses critical needs for individuals dealing with mental health and addiction challenges, as well as those facing homelessness.

During the visit, we also shared updates on the KW4 OHT's ongoing initiatives aimed at improving the health and well-being of our community. This exchange highlighted our shared commitment to fostering holistic, community-focused care.



## GENERAL UPDATES

# COMMUNITIES AND STAKEHOLDERS WORK

## **Aging Well In Wellesley Information and Active Living Fair 2024**

On November 13th, the KW4 OHT participated in the Aging Well in Wellesley Information and Active Living Fair at the Bill Gies Recreation Centre in the Wellesley Township Recreation Complex. This event was a dynamic platform to engage with seniors in the community and promote awareness of the KW4 OHT's 2024-2028 Strategic Plan. It also provided an opportunity to share resources on preventative cancer screenings and Ontario Structured Psychotherapy programs available through our members.

The event welcomed over 150 participants and featured 25 vendor booths. Attendees had access to informative sessions covering various health-related topics designed to support aging well in the community. The fair was further distinguished by the presence of Raymond Sung Joon Cho, Ontario's Minister of Seniors and Accessibility, who underscored the importance of initiatives that empower seniors to live active and healthy lives.

The fair was graced by the presence of Raymond Sung Joon Cho, the Minister of Seniors and Accessibility in Ontario and Mike Harris Jr., the Minister of Red Tape and Reduction. Over 150 participants attended the event, which featured 25 vendor booths. Various sessions were held, offering resources and information on a range of health-related topics designed to support older adults in living and aging well in the community.



## HEALTH SYSTEM UPDATES

### Digital Health Updates

Virtual urgent care appointments are available 7 days a week for children and adults with urgent, non-life-threatening medical issues through the Virtual Urgent Care (VUC) Ontario program. This free service is available to people living in Southwestern Ontario, from Waterloo to Windsor and Tobermory to Niagara Falls. VUC provides timely access to safe, high-quality care and avoids unnecessary visits to the Emergency Department (ED), particularly for those who may not have a Primary Care Provider (PCP) or are unable to access care from their provider in a timely manner.

- For pediatric virtual care, care is provided by the Children's Hospital at London Health Sciences Centre (LHSC), for children up to 17 years of age.
- For adult virtual care, care is provided by St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton (SJHH). Patients must be over the age of 18, have a valid Ontario health card and not live in a long-term care setting (nursing home).
- Appointments can be booked by visiting [UrgentCareOntario.ca](https://UrgentCareOntario.ca) or by calling 1-844-227-3844.
- All individuals are informed that their first point of contact should always be their primary care provider if they have one and they are available.
- Diagnostic and laboratory tests may be ordered, treatments may be prescribed, and referrals may be made.
- One-time virtual follow-up may be completed, and care escalated, if necessary.
- Individuals seen through VUC are told to follow up with their primary care provider if necessary.
- If the patient has a primary care provider, documentation from the visit will be shared with the primary care provider through fax within 24 hours.
- During respiratory season, and throughout the year, the Virtual Urgent Care (VUC) program is an additional resource providing access to care for people throughout our region. Ontario Health is asking for your support in helping promote this free resource with your patients. Please visit [here](#) for access to the digital promotional toolkit with materials such as social media posts, newsletter content, posters and more.
- If you have any questions about the program, please contact Tammy Meads, Lead Capacity Access & Flow (CAF) and Karen Bell, Director CAF.
- **There is no negation to primary care physicians when this service is used.**





## HEALTH SYSTEM UPDATES

### **Digital Health Updates, cont'd**

During respiratory season, and throughout the year, the Virtual Urgent Care (VUC) program is an additional resource providing access to care for people throughout our region. Ontario Health is asking for your support in helping promote this free resource with your patients. Please visit here for access to the digital promotional toolkit with materials such as social media posts, newsletter content, posters and more.

If you have any questions about the program, please contact Tammy Meads, Lead Capacity Access & Flow (CAF) and Karen Bell, Director CAF.

[tammy.meads@ontariohealth.ca](mailto:tammy.meads@ontariohealth.ca)

[karen.m.bell@ontariohealth.ca](mailto:karen.m.bell@ontariohealth.ca)

