

Accountability Agreement Update

Provincial Negotiations for 2007-08 Hospital Accountability Agreements Wrapped Up

With approximately 95 per cent of hospitals having signed their Hospital Accountability Agreements (HAAs) for 2007-08, or in the final stages of having their agreements signed, the Ministry has wrapped up this year's provincial negotiation process.

"We now have 140 hospitals with signed agreements and six in the final stages of having their agreements signed," says Kevin Empey, Ministry co-lead with Wolf Klassen for the 2007-08 HAA negotiations.

Empey and Klassen were brought on board in February by the Assistant Deputy Minister of Acute Services, John McKinley, to assist in completing negotiations.

"Their on-the-ground knowledge and understanding of the realities impacting hospital operations were helpful in bridging issues and coming to an understanding these past months on a number of outstanding issues," says McKinley.

Another key development in the Ministry's approach to negotiations this year was the creation of a joint HAPS/HAA Operations Steering Committee, to leverage existing knowledge of and experience with the HAPS/HAA process.

Composed of senior ministry staff, Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) senior directors, Ministry-

In Brief

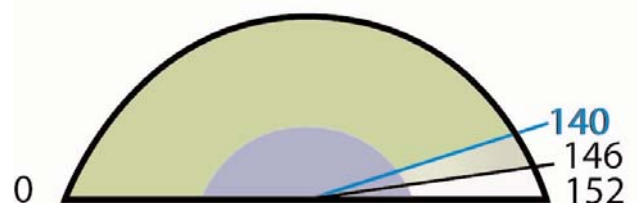
Provincial negotiations for the 2007-08 HAAs are complete – nearly 95 per cent of agreements have been signed or are in the final stages of being signed.

appointed hospital representatives, as well as OHA and JPPC staff, the committee met over a period of five months.

"I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank committee members for their collective input in this year's process," said McKinley. "The contributions of hospital executives, the continued hard work of regional teams and the close involvement of LHIN executives have all been factors in the successful close of this year's process."

The Ministry is now identifying lessons learned and working with the LHINs to streamline and improve the process for 2008-09. Details will be available in June 2007 when the latest iteration of the HAPS Guidelines is expected to be released.

Hospital Agreements



- 140 Hospitals have signed agreements
- 6 Hospitals are ready to sign
- 6 Hospitals will require further intervention

Key Links and Resources

- Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care's Hospital Planning and Accountability website
http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/project/hosp_plan/hosp_plan_mn.html

- Joint Policy and Planning Committee website - Accountability Section
<http://www.jppc.org/ha>

- LHIN Bulletins: Building a True System
http://www.health.gov.on.ca/transformation/lhin/lhin_mn.html

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Accountability Agreement Update is published by the Joint Policy and Planning Committee (JPPC), in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and the Ontario Hospital Association (OHA). It is intended to keep senior executives in Ontario hospitals informed of new developments related to the province's ongoing negotiations with hospitals towards achieving balanced budgets and the signing of accountability agreements.

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We welcome your feedback. Let us know whether you are finding this newsletter helpful, or write to us with your suggestions or questions to:

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