



HOSPITAL NEWS



FEBRUARY 2018

FORMAL AMALGAMATION OF ENGLEHART AND KIRKLAND & DISTRICT HOSPITALS

Over the past several years the Englehart and District Hospital (EDH) /Kirkland and District Hospital (KDH) have worked diligently and methodically together on a path of integrating various management and operational processes to improve standardization, efficiency and help address budgetary pressures. This path has jointly evolved over the years to the point where both organizations have now reached an important milestone- we wish to announce that the Board of Directors for each hospital have unanimously voted to pursue the formal amalgamation of the separate organizations into a single entity providing seamless services across Englehart, Kirkland Lake and surrounding areas.

This will be a journey that will take approximately a year to formalize, and it involves several key steps that include:

- application for approval to the Local Health Integration Network (LHIN),
- community and stakeholder discussion/feedback sessions,
- application to the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care (MOHLTC) for approval,
- and legal applications to create a single corporate health services provider entity.

The Board of Directors for each hospital have committed to the maintenance of core services in the communities that are served by each site with a view of further enhancing and developing quality patient services and access to care within each community, and district wide. A plan outlining the path to amalgamation is currently in development that will outline each step forward, including community/staff information and engagement sessions, and open discussions with our community health service partners, primary care providers and other stakeholders.

**BREAKING
NEWS!**

AMALGAMATION



Gary Sims, CEO and President Blanche River Health

SUSTAINING AND DEVELOPING HOSPITAL SERVICES IN OUR COMMUNITIES

Sustaining and developing hospital services in our communities is a priority for the Boards of the Englehart and District and Kirkland & District Hospitals. It takes a three pronged approach. These are: fiscal sustainability, capital infrastructure investment, and access to quality patient centered care.

Fiscal Sustainability - The LHIN and Ministry have worked closely with both hospitals with the introduction of integration; Englehart and Kirkland & District have been promoting a strong financial foundation at both facilities.

Capital Infrastructure Investment - Revitalization of both hospitals has been underway with the successful application for over \$4M of additional funding for infrastructure renewal.

The following is a partial list of recent projects:

EDH: new roof, exterior cladding, resurfacing of the parking lot, new helipad, replacement of interior doors, frontline computers, blood pressure cuffs, oximeters, nursing station chairs, and lab equipment, Wi-Fi installed in all clinical areas. The EDH Auxiliary purchased a patient lift and the EDH Fundraising Committee’s hard work resulted in the purchase of IV Pumps.

KDH: all new windows, electrical system upgrades in preparation for proposed new CT scanner and ICU, new computers, transport incubator, ultrasound machine, vascular Doppler, pharmacy dispensing machine and a new patient call system. The KDH Foundation donated patient room TV’s, a surgical cautery machine and funded the completion of the “renovate a room” project. KDH Auxiliary donated pressure mattresses, surgical trays and vital sign monitors. Through the KL Gold partnership we look forward to the introduction of a new CT scanner and 6 bed Intensive Care Unit.

Access to Quality Patient Centered Care

It is important to note that the hospitals are not directly affiliated with the FHTs. They occupy separate buildings with 3 separate boards and employees. However, we do partner where we can and support each in common initiatives. At EDH, an external audit by private consultants (KPMG), will be done to create a roadmap to improve access to our primary care in our Emergency Room and on our in-patient floor.

WE HAVE CARING AND DEDICATED STAFF AND PHYSICIANS AND STRONGLY BELIEVE THAT ALL CONCERNED WILL BE ENGAGED AND EMBRACE THE DEVELOPMENT OF STRATEGIES TO IMPROVE PRIMARY CARE ACCESS AND QUALITY OF PATIENT CARE.

HIGHLIGHTS

\$4M invested in last 2 years to upgrades;

Building a strong financial foundation at both facilities;

Working together with a shared focus and commitment