

Ministry of Health
and Long-Term Care

Office of the Minister

10th Floor, Hepburn Block
80 Grosvenor Street
Toronto ON M7A 2C4
Tel. 416 327-4300
Fax 416 326-1671
www.ontario.ca/health

Ministère de la Santé
et des Soins de longue durée

Bureau du ministre

Édifice Hepburn, 10^e étage
80, rue Grosvenor
Toronto ON M7A 2C4
Tél. 416 327-4300
Télééc. 416 326-1571
www.ontario.ca/sante



Sessional Paper No. P-23

Petition relating to The Winchester District Memorial Hospital (Sessional Paper No. P-23) Mr. McDonell. (Tabled July 09, 2014)

Petition relating to The Winchester District Memorial Hospital (Sessional Paper No. P-23) Mr. McDonell. (Tabled July 22, 2014)

Petition relating to The Winchester District Memorial Hospital (Sessional Paper No. P-23) Mr. McDonell. (Tabled October 27, 2014)

Response:

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (the ministry) is committed to a strong, stable, publicly-funded hospital system that efficiently provides high-quality patient services.

Hospital funding in Ontario has risen from \$11.3 billion in 2003/04 to \$17.0 billion in 2014/15 – a 50% increase.

In order to maintain quality and ensure sustainability, Ontario is reforming the way that hospitals in the province are funded, moving from a provider based global funding model towards a more transparent evidenced-based model, where funding is tied more directly to the quality care that is needed and will be provided.

In addition we have made a conscious decision to focus on care in the community so that there are more options available to help older people stay at home longer. Care in the community is more affordable than care in hospitals or long-term care homes. Home is where people want to be - for as long as possible.

With increased home care and community supports, inpatients at Winchester District Memorial Hospital are now able to receive excellent care and return to their own homes more quickly.

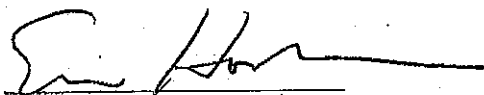
For example, the ministry announced on April 14, 2014 that Winchester District Memorial Hospital will be leading the new Upper Canada Health Link, which will offer seniors and patients with complex conditions better care through personalized care plans and more coordinated support from a tightly knit team of providers. The Health Link will help improve patient transitions within the health care system by encouraging providers to share patient information and work together to develop solutions that address each patient's specific needs.

Health Links are part of Ontario's strategy to put the patient at the centre of the health system so that they receive the right care, at the right time and in the right place.

LHINs in partnership with government are helping to improve the patient's experience in our healthcare system, reducing service gaps, increasing efficiencies and ensuring greater health system accountability.

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We expect LHINs and hospitals to continue to work together and balance budgets in a manner that sustains quality health services for future generations.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric Hoskins", written over a horizontal line.

Honorable Dr. Eric Hoskins