

## Pleasant Manor, NOTL Health Services Steering Committee and Niagara Health System develop Convalescent Care Program for Niagara-on-the-Lake

## IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 19, 2015 -- Pleasant Manor, the Niagara-on-the-Lake Health Services Steering Committee and the Niagara Health System (NHS) are working together to support the development of a 12-bed Convalescent Care Program (CCP) at Niagara-on-the-Lake's Pleasant Manor, pending approval by the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care.

The Convalescent Care Program will deliver short term care to patients in Niagara-onthe-Lake who are expected to recover from treatment within a short amount of time. Patients likely will have received their acute care at either the St. Catharines, Niagara Falls, or Welland hospital and this program will allow them to recuperate their strength, endurance or functioning to support them in their transition to home.

The development of this program is a proactive response by the three key partners to the evolving needs of the Niagara-on-the-Lake community and will aid in strengthening the community's current health services model. The Convalescent Care Program supports care close to home for those residents of Niagara-on-the-Lake.

Planning for implementation is underway and the convalescent beds are expected to open at Pleasant Manor in an incremental, phased-in process over a period of one year.

Pleasant Manor, the Niagara-on-the-Lake Health Services Steering Committee and Niagara Health System are all committed to supporting care in Niagara-on-the-Lake as well as across the region and will continue to work closely to create a robust, sustainable healthcare system.

## QUOTES

Pleasant Manor is extremely excited about the collaboration that has resulted in this new program that will ensure capacity is retained in NOTL for people who need convalescent care. Ultimately, this initiative will be great for patients and families while also building a more cohesive system across the continuum of care. We are looking forward to reporting on what this initiative yields for our patients and the NOTL community.

-Tim Siemens, Chief Executive Officer of Pleasant Manor and Tabor Manor

As physicians serving local residents, we are excited about this new partnership and what it can offer the Niagara-on-the-Lake community. The ultimate aim of this initiative is to ensure our community members have access to the best care possible.

- Dr. David Reimer, Medical Director of Pleasant Manor

It is so critical that our model of care delivery reflects the needs of our residents, and we are doing that in a proactive manner. These types of partnerships will allow us to achieve improved healthcare services as well as increased access to care for all residents in our community. This is truly an amazing accomplishment for Niagara-on-the-Lake.

–Maria Bau-Coote, NOTL Health Services Steering Committee Chair and Executive Director of the Family Health Team

On behalf of the Town, we are pleased to hear of an initiative that will allow local residents access to beds to recuperate close to home and family, while also enhancing services at Pleasant Manor. This move is good for residents and for our local economy.

- Niagara-on-the-Lake Lord Mayor Pat Darte

This initiative marks one of many strategic efforts the Niagara Health System has undertaken to improve access to care for those we serve. We heard from local residents through our community engagement that access to these beds was important, and we are enhancing our plan to meet their needs.

- Dr. Suzanne Johnston, President of the Niagara Health System

We applaud the collaboration exhibited by Pleasant Manor, the Niagara-on-the-Lake Health Services Steering Committee and Niagara Health System. They have clearly put patients first and have come up with a model of care that supports appropriate care close to home. The LHIN is committed to fostering these kinds of creative partnerships as we strive toward an even better coordinated health system.

– Donna Cripps, CEO Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant Local Health Integration Network

For more information:

*Tim Siemens, CEO, Pleasant Manor and Tabor Manor tims@tabormanor.net* (905) 934-3414, Extension 1052

Maria Bau-Coote, Executive Director, Niagara on the Lake Health Services Steering Committee maria@notlfht.com (905) 468-3275, Extension 5

Brady Wood, Chief Communications & External Relations Officer Brady.Wood@niagarahealth.on.ca W: 905-378-4647 x43111 | C: 905-380-0884