



A Communiqué to North East LHIN Hospital Chiefs of Staff

From the Desk of Louise Paquette, North East LHIN CEO

February 2017

Meet the North East LHIN's New Clinical VP— Dr. Paul Preston

After serving for three years as the NE LHIN Primary Care Lead, North Bay's Dr. Paul Preston has been named the NE LHIN's first full-time Vice-President (VP) of Clinical.

Dr. Preston has practised in Northeastern Ontario for more than 30 years in a variety of roles including: hospital as an ED doc, as well as Medical Director and Chief of Primary Care at NBRHC, family physician at the Blue Sky FHT, in long-term care working with the frail elderly, and caring for inmates at the North Bay Jail.

"His three decades of experience practising medicine and caring for Northern patients, and his well-demonstrated commitment to improving access to primary care for Northerners, make Dr. Preston a great fit for the job. This new position is part of how we are putting the Patients First legislation into action – connecting primary care to other parts of the system. It makes sense to have a physician in a top leadership position to engage with primary care and other providers."

-- Louise Paquette, CEO, North East LHIN

As VP of Clinical, Dr. Preston will ...

- Work with the NE LHIN's five sub-regions, and other clinical leads (see page 2), and build relationships with primary care providers to strengthen the patient experience for Northerners.
- Help plan primary care services at the community level through a sub-region lens so that patients are well connected with specialist services, home and community care, and mental health services.
- Improve local connections between primary care providers, inter-professional health care teams, hospitals, public health and home and community care.
- Enhance accountability to better ensure people in Northeastern Ontario have access to primary care.

Dr. Preston will join the LHIN in his new full-time position in early March. In the meantime, he will transition his patients at the Blue Sky Family Health Team to the care of Dr. Kerry Reed, with the help of locum physician, Dr. Kristy Locke. He will continue with some of his focused practice areas, including his Mindfulness Based Chronic Pain and Stress Management Courses.



To Contact Dr. Preston:
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Doctor to Doctor

In Dr. Paul Preston's Words...

- "To have Toronto manage what we are doing here is insanity ... The NE LHIN is about Northern Ontario people helping Northern Ontario providers take care of Northern Ontario patients."
- "It is well established and increasingly realized, that medical leadership is essential for a health care organization to be high functioning. This is about fixing the system as it functions in each community that has never really ever been organized, coordinated and integrated before. Until now there has been no coordinating structure. Little wonder we deal with inefficiencies and obstacles to smooth patient flow on a daily basis."
- "For the most part, primary care physicians, unless you're with a family health team, are often largely unsupported. And that's not fair to docs or patients."
- "No decision that affects medical care will be made without a medical opinion ... It makes sense to have a responsible physician embedded near the top."
- "The NE LHIN has nothing to do with the OMA's disagreements with government. It is about fostering and bolstering local solutions to health care needs and problems and maximizing the integration between providers and organizations to secure the safe, timely, triaged transfer of patient care"

- After graduating from the University of Toronto in 1985, Dr. Preston worked in various Northern Ontario centres and was a hospital emergency physician in North Bay between 1988 and 1995. Since then, he has been a family physician in North Bay and an active member of hospital staff.
- Dr. Preston has chaired the Blue Sky Family Health Team, North Bay, and served as Medical Director and Chief of Primary Care at North Bay Regional Health Centre. He was Chief of the Department of General and Family Practice there in 2012.
- Dr. Preston has served as assistant professor at Northern Ontario School of Medicine since 2008. His experience extends to serving as medical director of Nipissing Manor Nursing Home from 2006 to 2014, and as physician for the North Bay jail from 1993 to 2014.

NE LHIN Health Care Leads

The NE LHIN benefits from the knowledge, advice and work of Health Care Leads to assist the LHIN in decision-making required to maintain the region's health care priorities. Each Lead is responsible for a particular facet of health care and supports the NE LHIN in their work. All Leads report directly to the NE LHIN CEO, Louise Paquette.

- **Dr. Gary Bota - NE LHIN Emergency Department Lead** *Section Chair of Emergency Medicine, Northern Ontario School of Medicine*
- **Dr. Reena Dhatt - NE LHIN Clinical Quality Lead** *Associate Professor, Family Medicine, Northern Ontario School of Medicine Family physician, NEOMO Medical (Northeastern Ontario Medical Offices)*
- **Dr. David Fera - NE LHIN Primary Care Co-Lead for the Algoma Sub-Region** *Chair/CEO, Algoma District Medical Group and Medical Director of the Algoma Diabetes Education Care Centre*
- **Barbara Kiely - NE LHIN Primary Care Lead for Diabetes/Chronic Disease Management** *Nurse Practitioner, Certified Diabetes Educator*
- **Dr. Derek Manchuk - NE LHIN Critical Care Lead** *Staff Anesthesiologist/Intensivist and Associate Medical Director of the Critical Care Program, Health Sciences North and Assistant Professor, Northern Ontario School of Medicine*
- **Dr. Yves Raymond - Primary Care Lead for Cochrane Sub-Region** *Family Physician and Lead Physician, Timmins Family Health Team*
- **Dr. Jodie Stewart - Primary Care Co-Lead for the Algoma Sub-Region** *Family Physician with Algoma District Medical Group and VP of Medical Affairs, Group Health Centre*
- **Dr. Jason Sutherland – Primary Care Lead for Sudbury/Manitoulin/Parry Sound Sub-Region** *Family Physician City of Lake Family Health Team*