

## MEDIA RELEASE

### **New Francophone Board Director from Moonbeam Joins North East LHIN Board of Directors**

**December 9, 2014** – New Board Director Denis Bérubé, appointed by order in council, joined the North East Local Health Integration (NE LHIN) Board at its December 8<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Bérubé lives in the community of Moonbeam, located near Kapuskasing where he works as the Executive Director of the North Claybelt Community Futures Development Corporation -- a position he has held since 2000. Prior to that, Bérubé worked for the North Cochrane District Family Services as a camp director and social worker.

“I am thrilled to have a fellow Francophone join us on the Board, but it’s Denis’ extensive economic development knowledge within the Cochrane District, as well his long history of leading local organizations in a governance role, that makes him a true asset to the North East LHIN,” said North East LHIN Board Chair Danielle Bélanger-Corbin.



Bérubé’s extensive governance experience pulls in many organizations including his present positions as Chair of NEOnet (North Eastern Ontario Communication Network), Chair of the Kapuskasing Lumberjack Heritage Festival, and Past-Chair of the Ontario Association of Community Futures Development Corporation. He also served for six years on the Board of Governors for Northern College which ended this past September with his position as First Vice-Chair. In addition, Bérubé has served on the Sensenbrenner Hospital Board and chaired the Caisse Populaire de Kapuskasing Board.

“I look forward to serving on the North East LHIN Board and to playing an active role in helping to strengthen our Northeastern Ontario health care system,” said Bérubé. “This appointment provides the opportunity to engage in discussions and decisions that are people-focused and truly reflect the unique health care needs of our Northern region.”

At the December 8<sup>th</sup> Board meeting, the North East LHIN Board also heard from Darren Jermyn, Regional Director of the Northeastern Ontario Stroke Network, on progress made across the region to improve outcomes for people who have experienced strokes.

In terms of the Annual Ontario Stroke Report Card, the North East LHIN has improved in 12 of 19 indicators including an increase in the number of patients receiving a CT or MRI within 24 hours of entering their emergency department, more patients being admitted to rehab, fewer patients ending up in long-term care, and more community re-integration options.

“While more work needs to be done to improve access to stroke best-practices for all Northerners, it is encouraging to see improvement to our region’s stroke indicators,” said Louise Paquette, CEO of the North East LHIN. “We want all our hospitals to embrace the quality-based procedures that the Northeastern Ontario Stroke Network is working so hard to share.”

## **QUICK FACTS**

- The North East LHIN is responsible for planning, integrating, coordinating and providing funding to 150 health service providers in Northeastern Ontario. It oversees \$1.4-billion in local health care investments on behalf of the 565,000 residents of Northeastern Ontario.
- LHIN Directors are appointed by Order-In-Council for a term of up to three years, subject to a two-term maximum. The Board of Directors is accountable, through the Chair, to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care for the LHIN’s use of public funds and for its results in terms of goals and performance of the local health system.
- The North East LHIN Board includes Chair Danielle Bélanger-Corbin as well as Board Directors Dr. Colin Germond, Santina Marasco, Rick Cooper, Dawn Madahbee, and Denis Bérubé.

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