

## MEDIA RELEASE

### **Twelve NE LHIN Hospitals Partner on Patient-focused Purchasing Project**

**May 24, 2013** – The latest example of integrating efforts in the interest of patients started this week when 12 North East Local Health Integration Network (NE LHIN) hospitals began a project to streamline purchasing.

Funded through the NE LHIN, the project focuses on making supply chain management – that's purchasing and distributing goods used by the hospitals – more efficient.

Hôpital de Smooth Rock Falls Hospital is the project lead. Hospital CEO, Fabien Hebert, defines supply chain as “the complete process from purchasing, to delivery, to the floor for use.” The project involves assessing the purchasing practices of 12 NE LHIN hospitals to develop a common, centralized purchasing model with supply distribution points. The project is to be completed by November of this year.

The 12 hospitals include Hornepayne Community Hospital, Hôpital Notre-Dame Hospital, Sensenbrenner Hospital, Hôpital de Smooth Rock Falls Hospital, Lady Minto Hospital, Anson General Hospital, Bingham Memorial Hospital, Timmins and District Hospital, Service de santé de Chapleau Health Services, Kirkland and District Hospital, Englehart and District Hospital and Temiskaming Hospital.

“The goal of the project is to evaluate if there are any cost saving opportunities that would allow us to shift resources to help hospitals with their financial challenges, and to find savings that can be put into patient care services,” said Hebert.



*Kick off held for newest Northern example of partners working together to benefit patient care. From left to right – Paul-Marc Frenette, Consultant with Deloitte; Julie Gould, consultant with Deloitte; France Dallaire, CEO, Hôpital Notre-Dame Hospital; Fabien Hebert, CEO, Hôpital Smooth Rock Falls Hospital and project lead, Michel Pomerleau, CFO, Hôpital Notre Dame Hospital.*

“This project responds to what we heard in our extensive community engagements across this region – people want to see providers working together and streamlining their administrative practices,” said Louise Paquette, CEO of the North East LHIN. “Together, we want to maximize the use of funding to support direct patient services.”

## BACKGROUND

- Through the province’s Small and Rural Hospital Transformation Fund, part of the 2012 Ontario Budget, the NE LHIN funded 22 projects valued at more than \$5.2 million. This purchasing project is one of 22 that will help provide more coordinated administration and benefit patients from these 12 hospitals.
- The 2013 Ontario Budget, if passed, will make the Transformation Fund for Small and Rural Hospitals an annualized source of funding.
- Every year, the NE LHIN provides \$900.7 million to 25 hospitals to provide patient care. 27.6% of this funding goes to 21 small hospitals.
- The NE LHIN’s new strategic plan, the [Integrated Health Service Plan for 2013-2016](#), focuses on strategies to integrate and realign the local health care system to better care for Northerners, particularly our region’s seniors and frail elderly.