

Nearly 600 seniors on Allendale wait-list

Continued from page 11

home, long-term care homes may be an option, she said.

"Improving access to long-term care and supporting patients while they wait for placement in a long-term care home are key priorities for the Mississauga-Halton LHIN," she said. "As the seniors' population continues to grow, we are further working to explore new models of care that can support seniors in their home as we await additional bedded capacity to be built within the LHIN."

While the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care has indicated it will create up to 5,000 new long-term care beds within the next four years, Szakolcai said the local LHIN doesn't know how many beds it will be allocated yet.

According to the region, which operates Allendale Long-Term Care Facility on Ontario Street in Milton, there are currently 581 individuals on the wait list for placement at the local facility.

Wait lists are developed and managed by the Mississauga-Halton LHIN's Home and Community Care.

Each long-term care applicant can select up to five homes. If an individual is placed in a home that isn't their first choice, that person can remain on the wait list for one or more of their other approved choices in the appropriate prioritization category based on their need, said Szakolcai.

She added that wait times fluctuate based on many factors, including the number of crisis patients on the list, vacancies provided by the long-term

care home, number of applicants, total number of beds available, specific care requirements and whether the person has requested a private, semi-private or basic room.

Currently, the estimated wait time for a private female room at Allendale is 2.5 plus years, with that number climbing to five plus years for a basic female bed, according to information provided by the LHIN.

While it remains unknown when Tassone's mother will get the long-term care placement she desires close to home, the Milton woman is determined to fight for her rights for as long as it takes.

"I'm not going to accept anything but my mom staying in the hospital until she gets placed in Allendale."

Temporary regional unit reserved for Trillium Health Partners patients

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A Milton woman is questioning why a temporary regional unit that recently opened its doors at Milton District Hospital isn't accessible to Halton Healthcare patients.

The 35-bed unit, which was established quickly and opened Dec. 18, will tend to Alternate Level of Care (ALC) patients from hospitals as identified by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care.

ALC patients no longer need acute care hospital services, but are unable to live independently and are most often waiting for placement in a long-term care facility.

But Sharon Hunter was surprised to find out upon

inquiry that the unit is being utilized by patients from Mississauga, not Miltonians.

"Where's the access to the level of care that Halton Healthcare patients are owed?" she asked.

According to Halton Healthcare interim manager of communications and public affairs Emma Murphy, the province provided direction on how the beds will be used and it prioritized ALC patients from Trillium Health Partners for admission to the unit. A fact sheet distributed by Halton Healthcare explains the unit was opened as part of a provincial strategy to help support hospitals and regions with the highest capacity challenges in Ontario as the facilities prepared for an annual increase in demand due to flu

season.

The regional unit has been established in the former MDH medical/surgical in-patient unit that became vacant on Oct. 1, when patients were moved to the hospital's new expansion.

Halton Healthcare identified the space as an opportunity to address system-wide capacity challenges, says a press release from the corporation.

The province has provided one-time funding to operate the beds in the unit until March 31.

While additional funding for such temporary beds was recently announced by Health Minister Eric Hoskins, Murphy said details on whether this will keep the Milton beds open past March have not been made available by the ministry yet.

Notice of Community Consultation

Toronto Pearson is fast becoming one of the world's leading airports. As we meet the demand for air travel, the Greater Toronto Airports Authority (GTAA) and NAV CANADA are working to identify measures that address the issue of aircraft noise for local neighbourhoods.

Starting March 2018, the GTAA and NAV CANADA are conducting public consultations on new proposals that are aimed at reducing noise impacts for residents around the Greater Toronto Area. The new proposals include: new flight paths for overnight flights, changes to the preferential runway system and a summer weekend runway alternation program.

Join us at any of the upcoming events to learn more about what the proposed initiatives mean for your community, provide feedback, and speak to industry experts. Registration is recommended.

Community Briefings

Attend one of two community briefings that include an hour of technical review and analysis led by an industry expert. Discussion with GTAA and NAV CANADA representatives to follow.

March 3, 2018

10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Westin Toronto Airport, Sutton Ballroom
950 Dixon Rd., Toronto, ON

Presentation Schedule:

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

April 7, 2018

10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Four Points by Sheraton, Windsor Ballroom
6257 Airport Rd., Mississauga, ON

Presentation Schedule:

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Community Open Houses

Drop-in style evening events will be held in communities across the GTA and include the same information as the briefings. GTAA and NAV CANADA representatives will be available to answer questions one-on-one and speak to the impact and benefits of the proposed changes on your community.

Open houses will be hosted from 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. on select dates between March 3 and April 12, 2018.

To find the Open House in your community, please visit torontopearson.com/conversations

To register, or for more information, visit torontopearson.com/conversations, call 416-776-5739 or email community.engagement@gtaa.com

