

Seizing the Opportunity of Health System Transformation

Deborah Simon, CEO

Key Features of Transformation

The core features of the reorganization which will be rolled out over a number of years are:

- Creation of Ontario Health that will centralize the functions of 20 organizations and have 5 regional offices.
- The eventual creation of 30 to 50 Ontario Health Teams, called Integrated Care Delivery Systems in the legislation, composed of HSPs that would receive funding from Ontario Health to deliver coordinated services.

Bill 74, The People's Health Care Act, 2019

Bill 74, outlines the legal structure for the creation of Ontario Health, a provincial agency that will amalgamate 20 other agencies and create Integrated Care Delivery Systems (ICDS) or Ontario Health Teams.

Once the act is passed, it will create *The Connecting Care Act* which will be the legislation that will govern the new system. Bill 74 sets up the eventual repeal of the *Local Health System Integration Act*.

OCSA's position – that:

- ❑ Ontario Health Teams must incorporate a strong model of community governance and not-for-profit delivery of services.
- ❑ A list of core services Ontario Health Teams are expected to deliver across the province needs to be identified. Core services must include community support services and independent living, along with home care.
- ❑ Any transformation strategy must include a plan to support and address the shortage of frontline workers across the health system. The PSW shortage is at a crisis level and nursing shortages are starting many areas of the province.
- ❑ Existing local collaborations should be leveraged. Good work to build partnerships across sectors has already taken place at the local level.
- ❑ Increase the focus on upstream services – including health promotion and preventative health.
- ❑ Ontario Health must have strong public accountability, including public board meetings.

Association opportunities for advocacy

There will be opportunities for amendments throughout the legislative process.

- ❑ Possible amendments that would ensure that there is a community governance structure to **Ontario Health Teams**
- ❑ Amendments that establish procedural checks on the new integration powers included in the legislation.
- ❑ Refinement of the criteria to be used for the selection of Ontario Health Teams.

Getting involved – Leading an Ontario Health Team

Key features of these new structures:

- They are meant to be voluntary networks of providers.
- They will be the recipient of government funding and point of accountability for client experience and financial administration of services.
- They need to be able to deliver better services in a integrated and coordinated way in at least 3 prescribed subsectors.
- They will serve a population of approximately 300,000 people tied to a geography or a specific client characteristic.
- There will be a rolling readiness assessment process for the designation of the teams.

Possible future state for Home and Community Care Providers

Possible future opportunities for health service providers include:

- ❑ Becoming a partner in the legal and governance structure of an Ontario Health Team.
- ❑ Receiving funding from Ontario Health or an Ontario Health Team, but not acting as formal partner in the legal or governance structure of a team.
- ❑ A funding flow through model, i.e.. As a fund manager or receiver partnership or integration with another CSS provider that is a formal partner in an OHT or is funded by an OH/OHT.

Key questions for providers when exploring the future?

What is my agency's relationship and position with other agencies in the sector?

- Are there natural allies? Opportunities for partnership and scale?
- What is the role/position of my agency with other health service providers?
 - Especially hospitals or other possible Ontario health team participants.
- When and how would I know that we are prepared as an organization to undertake this transformation?

Things to keep in mind moving forward:

- Build new or leverage existing partnerships across different health services and sectors.
- Identify who may be creating an Ontario Health Team in your region.
- Identify if it is possible for you to build a Ontario Health Team proposal with partners.
- Make sure you can articulate your value to potential Ontario Health Teams.
- Identify the pros and cons and assess your readiness of being an early adopter.

Value proposition for Bellwood's.....

Individual Level

- Continue with your strong programs that support transition for patients/clients
- Develop leadership for change at all levels of the organization – programmatic autonomy will be highly sought after and valued
- Continue to engage clients around your strategic intentions – they are the ambassadors for government action
- Leverage technology wherever and however you can to support innovation and change.

Value proposition for Bellwood's....

System Level

- Bellwood's is already seen as a leader in the sector – there is an opportunity for you to support other CSS/Attendant Care agencies as they forge their way forward
- Bellwood's can play a strong advocacy role for the inclusion of community based and community governed services. We need to dispel the myths surrounding these services across the continuum!

Summary

- Ear to the ground/stay informed – OCSA is collating real time information around the transformation from all our sources daily – there is a need to keep abreast to changes as they are rolling out!
- As an Association, we are developing a range of supports for members including update webinars. The first webinar on Bill 74 *The People's Health Care Act* can be found on our members' only site.
- If you haven't yet, watch the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care stakeholder webcast [here](#) and register for updates on the transformation from the government [here](#).
- Register for our [annual conference](#) to get the tools you need to take a leading role in collaborating towards a silo-free future to provide a seamless health care experience for Ontarians.

Questions

If you have any questions or comments reach out to us:

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