

Champlain LHIN Facilitated Integration Decision for Mental Health Consumer Survivor Initiative Services in Lanark, Leeds and Grenville

**Decision of the Champlain Local Health Integration Network issued pursuant to
s. 25(2) (a) of the *Local Health System Integration Act*, 2006.**

Date: November 26, 2008

Parties to Decision:

Lanark Health and Community Services ("LHCS")

Purpose and Nature:

(a) The Purpose of the Integration

The purpose of the integration described in this decision is to facilitate the efforts of the South West Local Health Integration Network to improve the provision of consumer survivor services in and to the geographic area of the South West LHIN that includes the United Counties of Leeds & Grenville (excluding North Grenville).

(b) Nature of the Integration:

Consumer Survivor Initiatives (CSIs) were originally created in 1991 by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC). People involved in the service delivery and governance of CSIs are consumers/survivors of the mental health system, who provide a voice and a presence in the delivery of mental health services.

Lanark Health and Community Services is a health service provider funded by the Champlain Local Health Integration Network (Champlain LHIN). Among other services, it administers and provides governance for The Mental Health Services Project of Lanark, Leeds & Grenville, a CSI known locally as "The Link". The Link was originally created to serve Lanark but in 2004, at the request of the MOHLTC, it assumed responsibility for services in Leeds and Grenville. It currently serves a geographic area that spans across the Champlain LHIN and the South East Local Health Integration Network (SE LHIN) boundary. Its main office and drop in centre is in Smith's Falls and it provides outreach services to other areas in the counties of Lanark, Leeds and Grenville.

The SE LHIN, in response to identified CSI service issues, formed a CSI Working Group in the fall of 2007 with the intent of planning a CSI structure to the needs of SE LHIN residents. All three CSI services in SE LHIN participated in the Working Group as well as representation from the Eastern Region Network of CSIs and SE LHIN. Formal discussions were held from October 3, 2007 and December 4, 2007 inclusive. At the conclusion of the Working Group meetings, two system design alternatives were selected for further consideration. The first alternative incorporated all CSI agencies serving clients in SE LHIN under one CSI Board. The second alternative had two Boards, one for Lanark, Leeds and Grenville, either fully or partially under LHCS and another Board for the remaining SE LHIN area.

In December 2007, the SE LHIN approached Champlain LHIN to request co-operation and assistance in setting up the new CSI structure. Several informal discussions were held among the LHINs and LHCS to clarify the cross-LHIN boundary issue(s). A meeting was held on June 16, 2008 including staff and Board Chair's from LCHS, SE LHIN, Champlain LHIN, and a representative of the Lanark, Leeds and Grenville Mental Health Coalition to explore issues. Several more teleconferences were held amongst the parties and a final meeting, including the Chair of the Lanark, Leeds and Grenville Mental Health Coalition, was held on October 29, 2008. At this meeting it was agreed that the mandate and funding for CSI services in Leeds and South Grenville should be transferred by the Champlain LHIN to the SE LHIN, effective April 1, 2009. This action will align with the second alternative mentioned above. It also aligns more closely with LHIN boundaries, the exception being services in South Lanark that will remain with The Link and LHCS. To support the second alternative, SE LHIN has identified a potential new integrated CSI provider structure that will be known as the Mental Health Support Network (MHSN).

Champlain LHIN agrees that if the SE LHIN consolidates and integrates its CSI services within a single agency, this single agency should provide services to the geographic areas of Leeds and South Grenville. This approach will assist the SE LHIN to best meet the needs of the SE population.

Champlain LHIN released its Integrated Health Services Plan (IHSP) in November, 2006 and has made copies available to the public in either printed form or via its website. The transfer of service responsibility and funding for CSI services in Leeds and South Grenville will not compromise access for Champlain residents to CSI services, nor will it compromise any of the strategic priorities identified in the Champlain IHSP. The transfer of funding will be based on approximate historical funding levels. The main service location of The Link will remain in Smith's Falls under the administration of LCHS, and outreach will continue in all of Lanark County and in North Grenville.

Decision:

Pursuant to subsection 25(2) (a) of the *Local Health System Integration Act*, 2006 (LHSIA), and for the reasons set out above, the Champlain Local Health Integration Network will reallocate \$140,000 of current LCHS/Mental Health Support Project (the Link) funding to the South West Local Health Integration Network for the provision of CSI services in and to the United Counties of Leeds & Grenville (excluding North Grenville) effective April 1, 2009.

The Lanark Health and Community Services is hereby required to take the following actions by April 1, 2009:

- a) To work with the South East Local Health Integration Network on the development and implementation of a transition plan for the provision of Consumer Survivor Initiative (CSI) services in The United Counties of Leeds & Grenville (excluding North Grenville), such transition plan to include both the development of a human resources adjustment plan and a client and community communications plan; and
- b) To stop providing CSI services in the United Counties of Leeds and Grenville (excluding North Grenville) effective April 1, 2009.

The Champlain Local Health Integration Network

Per:

Marie E. Fortier, Board Chair