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<b>CATEGORY:</b>	Part VI – Build Relationships	<b>PAGE:</b>	1 of 2
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>BOARD COMMITMENT TO INTEGRATION WITH OTHER HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS</b>		

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The Board of Directors for Health Sciences North recognizes that it is important to nurture relationships, develop partnerships and collaborate with: government; other provincial organizations and networks; the Ontario Health (North); local, regional, and provincial health service providers; and non-health service partners to:

- support the activities of Ontario Health (North) in implementing the regional plan;
- further the Hospital's Purpose and Commitments;
- promote accessibility to the health care service system;
- promote a smooth transition for patients and their families through the continuum of care; and
- identify, address and promote opportunities for integration and collaboration.

Under Article 30 of the *Connecting Care Act, 2019*, the Board of Directors commits the Hospital to build relationships and collaborate with Ontario Health (North), Ontario Health Teams, other health service providers and the community to identify opportunities to integrate the services of the local health system for the purpose of providing appropriate, coordinated, effective and efficient services.

**The Board, with the support of the CEO, will:**

- i) be fully informed of the principles of health system integration, the Hospital's rights and obligations under the *Connecting Care Act, 2019*;
- ii) designate (a) Director(s) of the Board to collaborate with the Ontario Health (North) and participate on behalf of the Board in all Ontario Health (North) governance forums with health service providers and report back to the Board;
- iii) annually review the Strategic Plan and revise it as necessary to ensure it addresses the integration requirements of the *Connecting Care Act, 2019* and respects key service integration principles and objectives pursued by Ontario Health (North);
- iv) provide direction to the CEO on the Board's expectations concerning the integration planning process and reflect this understanding in the CEO's performance agreement;
- v) annually consider and, if appropriate, approve specific voluntary integration initiatives for consideration by Ontario Health (North), as recommended by the CEO to advance the implementation of the Strategic Plan;

- vi) establish a mechanism for dialogue with other health service provider boards and other persons and entities as required related to specific types of integration initiatives; and
- vii) periodically monitor the performance of approved voluntary integration initiatives against defined indicators.

**The Board delegates responsibility to the CEO to:**

- i) provide for Board education concerning the *Connecting Care Act, 2019* and the Ontario Health (North)'s health services plans including Ontario Health Teams;
- ii) provide regular updates on Ontario Health (North) integration policy and activities;
- iii) prepare an annual review and update of the Strategic Plan in relation to the Ontario Health plans, Ontario Health Teams and other voluntary integration initiatives;
- iv) include specific performance objectives in his/her annual performance plan concerning collaborating with Ontario Health (North), other health service providers (or other persons and entities) and the community toward the integration of services;
- v) collaborate with staff of related health service providers and Ontario Health (North) to identify opportunities to integrate the services of the local health system for the purpose of providing appropriate, coordinated, effective and efficient services and inform the Board of these activities;
- vi) recommend specific voluntary integration initiatives for consideration and approval by the Board;
- vii) identify performance indicators to monitor specific voluntary integration initiatives; and
- viii) report to the Board periodically on the performance and outcomes of specific voluntary integration initiatives.