

# MEDIA RELEASE

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## **Algoma Ontario Health Team (OHT) Development Continues**

**Sault Ste. Marie, ON** – The proposed Algoma Ontario Health Team, a group of Algoma District health care providers, has received feedback from the Ontario Ministry of Health (the Ministry) on its application to become an Ontario Health Team (OHT). “The feedback we have received on our application is very encouraging. We are excited to see the development of the Algoma OHT for our community, as it will have a positive impact on patients and families,” says Gord Childs, Tri-Chair Algoma OHT.

According to the Ministry, the proposed Algoma OHT, as one of only 31 teams invited to complete a full application, has submitted a very advanced application. “Our team is very proud of the work we have done together, and we are committed to addressing the areas for improvement identified by the Ministry,” says Wendy Hansson, Tri-Chair Algoma OHT.

The Algoma OHT will focus on providing Connected Care, initially concentrating its efforts to improve care coordination for frail seniors and patients with health conditions who present to the emergency department that would be better served in the community. When fully implemented, the team will broaden its work to ensure improved coordination of care for all patients, including people experiencing mental health & addictions and partnering to support rural health.

The Ministry and key partners are continuing to support the team’s progress towards receiving approval to become an Ontario Health Team. “Our team of Algoma OHT members is excited about the strong collaboration demonstrated by all partners and progress made over the past months. We are pleased and eager to complete these final steps to demonstrate our readiness to become an approved Ontario Health Team to the Ministry. We plan to submit our additional information to the Ministry this month,” says Dr. David Fera, Tri-Chair Algoma OHT.

The initiating members of the Algoma Ontario Health Team would like to thank all the patients, providers and organizations who have supported this work, and they remain committed to improving the patient experience across the health care system and to help us better serve our communities.

For more information on Ontario Health Teams, please go to <http://health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/connectedcare/oht/default.aspx>

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# Initiating members of the Algoma Ontario Health Team

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