



**Rural Health Advisory Committee
Work Plan 2017/18**

The purpose of the Rural Health Advisory Committee (RHAC) is to serve as a mechanism for recognition and discussion of rural health issues and opportunities. The RHAC serves as a two-way communication mechanism between the rural communities served by Chatham-Kent Health Alliance (CKHA) and the hospitals that form the Alliance. The following work-plan for 2017/18 is based on the Roles and Responsibilities of the Committee as defined by the Terms of Reference as well as priority areas identified by the Committee members for review.

| Date | Roles & Responsibilities | Priority Activities |
|---------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| October | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raise rural and/or community specific issues, opportunities, questions and suggestions generally related to hospital planning and operations and/or as requested by hospital staff • Support enhanced communication to rural communities and provide input in mechanisms by which to do so effectively | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review draft Environmental Scan • Create Patient Exemplars that illustrate the unique challenges and opportunities in the delivery of rural health care • Discuss how patient exemplars could be used in communication across region |
| January | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocate for local healthcare needs by encouraging recognition and support of Alliance and health system leadership of services that address the unique issues of rural residents | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review access to technology e.g. OTN, patient portals & online applications as enablers of health care including invited guests |
| April | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocate for local healthcare needs by encouraging recognition and support of Alliance and health system leadership of services that address the unique issues of rural residents | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review access to transportation as an enabler of health care including invited guests |
| June | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocate for local healthcare needs by encouraging recognition and support of Alliance and health system leadership of services that address the unique issues of rural residents • Evaluate effectiveness annually, based on a review of its purpose and outcomes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review Erie St. Clair Indigenous Strategy an opportunities at CKHA • Conduct annual evaluation and make recommendations for future planning |