



NEWS RELEASE

QHC SUPERVISOR DISCUSSES HOSPITAL'S PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

BELLEVILLE, September 18, 2009 – In a wide ranging speech to service club members today, QHC Supervisor Graham Scott discussed current trends in health care, urged public support for QHC and stressed the benefits provided by an integration of services among the hospital's four sites.

Realignment of acute care services is happening everywhere. This is not simply a QHC phenomenon. Further, this is not just a Canadian process. It is common across the developed world," Mr. Scott told members of the Quinte Sunrise Rotary Club.

The speech is one of several Mr. Scott has scheduled for the coming weeks to help keep the public informed about QHC and the several changes underway. The complete text of the speech can be found on the QHC website at www.qhc.on.ca, under Accountability, then Community Advisory Council.

Mr. Scott reminded his audience that "QHC is not only the main source of crucial acute health care, it is an important economic engine as well" in this region. QHC spent \$ 175 million last year in operations and directly employs 1,500 people.

Looking to the future he said "QHC will see growth in the number, quality and coordination of health services. This will include the high quality hospital-based care, deeper partnership with family health teams and other health providers to deliver better community and coordinated care to the region.

"The residents of Quinte also have a role to play. They must embrace QHC as their hospital, provide constructive advice, support the Foundations and understand that, notwithstanding the traditional rivalries in the region, that all sites have important integrated roles to play in QHC and that together they provide the resource to residents for better and more sophisticated services than would otherwise be available.

"Being proud of QHC and determined to support it will make it a stronger hospital and help it continually enhance its services so it will be in a position to meet the current and future needs of the people who depend upon it," he concluded.

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Quinte Health Care (QHC) is a 285-bed hospital with four sites in Bancroft, Belleville, Picton and Quinte West. It employs over 1600 staff and over 280 doctors have privileges. QHC serves in

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excess of 160,000 residents living in an area of 7,000 square kilometers, including Prince Edward and Hastings Counties and a portion of Northumberland County.

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