

Community organizations help plan for the future

On March 1st, Hamilton Health Sciences hosted a full-day *Our Healthy Future* summit at the Hamilton Convention Centre with community leaders and local health organizations.

More than 70 leaders attended the event, which was praised for being both “bold and transparent.” The purpose of the summit was to share our 20-year clinical vision and gather input from organizations that provide health and social services at the community level. The major themes discussed were: patients at the heart of everything we do, a population health approach, and a new clinical service delivery model.

The event steered clear of long presentations and text-heavy PowerPoint slides. Instead, the brisk format included three short presentations by CEO Rob MacIsaac, table discussions, and an interactive activity called “*Make a World*”, where participants built the ideal health system for a specific patient scenario. The lunch break included a marketplace of booths from the City of Hamilton, YMCA, HHS Research and reports from our Community Conversations.

Watch Rob’s presentation at the summit and read the Clinical Vision Summary online at ourhealthyfuture.ca.

West Niagara community turns out for meeting

Approximately 250 people turned up to hear about the future of West Lincoln Memorial Hospital (WLMH) at a community meeting last week.

The Livingston Activity Centre was standing room only as CEO Rob MacIsaac presented the results to date of Our Healthy Future planning for WLMH. He told the crowd that the proposed future direction for the re-built hospital sees the facility as a community hub with four anchor programs:

- ▶ **24-hour Emergency care**
- ▶ **Maternal/newborn health for low-risk births**
- ▶ **Community surgery, featuring an innovative day surgery model with four surgical suites and two procedure rooms**
- ▶ **Community medicine:**
 - Focus on healthy aging and seniors’ care
 - Specialty clinics, including General Internal Medicine Rapid Assessment Clinic (GIMRAC) and sub-specialty clinics
 - Advanced diagnostics, including X-ray, mammography, echocardiography and ultrasound, and a proposed new CT scanner

A lengthy question and answer session followed the presentation, and one-on-one conversations took place afterwards. “I’ll stay as long as people want to talk to me,” Rob told the crowd.

The same presentation was made to staff at WLMH earlier that day. It was emphasized that the vision for WLMH still needs to go the HHS Board of Directors in June, followed by the HNHB LHIN and the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care.

