



Winchester  
District  
Memorial  
Hospital

## **ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON AND THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 2006-2007**

The Winchester District Memorial Hospital continues to signal its revitalization within the communities it serves, the health care industry in general and particularly, within the Champlain Local Health Integrated Network (LHIN). The Board and management at the hospital continue to emphasize and focus the decisions that emerged from the hospital's strategic plan which was published in June, 2006. As a result, the successes over the past year have been outstanding.

The latest announcement, by the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care, assures our communities that the hospital will complete construction of the new facility by summer 2009. Equally important was the announcement approving CT Services within the new facility. Together, these achievements position the Winchester District Memorial Hospital as a significant clinical site within the Champlain LHIN.

These strategic resources enable the Winchester District Memorial Hospital to support our physicians and staff in providing the highest quality of patient care services and continuously improve the quality of those services.

The hospital is emerging as a leading rural community hospital where innovation is expected and quality patient care is assured. This is fundamental to the mission and vision of this valuable community owned resource.

Score cards, which measure patient care and corporate performance, are significant tools used by the board, professional advisory committees and management to ensure that the public receive the same standard of care at this hospital as the best performing hospitals in the province/country. Our attention to care and safety will be demonstrated during the upcoming Canadian Council on Health Services Accreditation that is scheduled for September, 2007.

In parallel, the hospital is also emerging as a teaching site for family medicine and general specialty medical students. Physicians who work at WDMH continue to promote the hospital as a leader in rural education. This is evidenced this year by the 960 medical student days and the recommendation for Faculty of Medicine appointment for 42% of our medical staff.

Nursing and Rehabilitation professionals are experiencing an equivalent success. The hospital's Chief Nursing Officer & Professional Practice Leader has been appointed to the Faculty of Health Sciences, School of Nursing at the University of Ottawa. Nursing and rehabilitation students are consistently choosing WDMH as a preferred learning environment with 75% of these students choosing employment at the hospital this year. It is with great pride that WDMH recently announced that the Post RN degree program will be offered at the hospital beginning in September 07.

The hospital has also extended its research partnerships in the last year with education as a significant focus. The success of the inter-professional pilot project, in which medical, nursing, rehabilitation and pastoral care students learned together, was immediately followed by funding approval by the Ministry for a much larger project (September 2007-August 2009) involving seven partners, the objective of which is to build a community of health care professionals with particular competency in inter-professional education for the Champlain LHIN.

These initiatives in technology, education and research are strongly supported by the Board since they ultimately lead to better patient care for our local communities.

The organization continues to demonstrate strong fiscal management. The Board was successful in meeting its obligations set out in the 2006-2007 Accountability Agreement with the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care. The hospital reported a balanced budget, from hospital operations, at March 31, 2007. This was particularly impressive given the differential between inflation and funding increases. Once again, service reductions were avoided and, in fact, additional volumes were achieved in Obstetrics, Surgery, Ontario Breast Screenings and Emergency services.

This year the Board was pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Brian Devin as Chief of Staff. Dr. Devin is responsible for the quality of medical care and reports directly to the board.

The Board also welcomed new Directors Mr. Jim Mathieson, Ms. Kathy McIntosh and Ms. Lisa Little and said a fond farewell to Mr. Eldon Horner, Mr. Brian Mann, Mr. Terry MacLellan and Dr. Gerry Rosenquist with our thanks and appreciation for the many contributions to the success of this hospital.

The hospital welcomed Ms. Dawn Cooper as Chief Communications Officer. This role, in addition to her Managing Director role for the Foundation, is a key to promoting community connections with the hospital.

This year the hospital introduced a new logo as part of a new visual identity for a hospital fast becoming known as “the biggest and best little hospital in the country”. The vibrant colors which signal our agricultural roots and a modern look speak to the renewal that has been occurring.

This year, with the generous support of our communities, the hospital was able to introduce a new Laboratory Information System (LIS) which positions WDMH as an early adopter in the regional LIS solution. This will allow laboratory results from other hospitals to be linked for improved continuity of care and unnecessary repeat laboratory work. Other significant purchases include a bone mineral density unit to support hospital services for mature women and a sentinel node biopsy unit to support services for breast cancer.

The annual report provides an opportunity to thank all those involved in ensuring the ongoing success of our community hospital. This includes our physicians, staff and clinical and student volunteers as well as the many volunteers on our Board, the Auxiliary and Foundation.

The Winchester District Memorial Hospital continues to represent a model for community hospitals.

Regards,

Bruce Rowsell  
Chairperson, Board of Directors

Trudy Reid  
Chief Executive Officer