

Notice of Proposed Regulation Under the Local Health System Integration Act, 2006 Local Health Integration Network Board Committees

Introduction

The Minister of Health and Long-Term Care on behalf of the Government of Ontario invites public comments on the proposed regulation made under the Local Health System Integration Act (LHSIA).

The act requires the board of directors of each local health integration network to establish, by by-law, the committees of the board that the minister specifies in regulation. The proposed regulation prescribes two LHIN board committees – **an Audit Committee and a Community Nominations Committee** - and their responsibilities. A copy of the proposed regulation is attached in Schedule “A.”

The LHIN board committees would assist in promoting effective internal governance structures and would ensure consistency across LHINs. The LHIN board could establish other committees or could use the full board to manage its governance functions.

Under the act, the minister is required to publish a notice of proposed regulation in the Ontario Gazette, give notice of the proposed regulation and allow at least 60 days for public comment.

Overview of the Legislation

The Local Health System Integration Act was passed on March 1, 2006 and received Royal Assent on March 28, 2006. The legislation seeks to promote an integrated health system to improve the health of Ontarians through better access to health services, coordinated health care and effective and efficient management of the health system at the local level by local health integration networks (LHINs).

The act sets out the powers and functions of the LHINs as crown agencies; requires community engagement and planning for the provincial and local health system; provides authorities to integrate and fund health service providers and ensure accountability.

Proposed Regulation under the Local Health System Integration Act

The proposed draft regulation would set out the following:

- LHINs would be required to establish an **Audit Committee** and a **Community Nominations Committee**. The committees would report to and be accountable to the LHIN board of directors.
- LHIN boards would have the discretion to determine the committees' composition, the appointment process and term of appointments for committee members. They may also add to the basic mandates of the committees as appropriate to the LHINs corporate objects and as permitted under LHSIA.

The proposed regulation would set out the responsibilities of the committees as follows:

The **Audit Committee** would be responsible for reviewing, advising and making recommendations to the LHIN board about:

- the LHIN's obligations with respect to appropriate accounting and financial reporting;
- the annual appointment of an auditor;
- the annual audit plan;
- the audited financial statements of the LHIN;
- appropriate risk management activities; and
- who a health service provider should appoint as its auditor to audit its accounts and financial transactions, if required

The **Community Nominations Committee** would be responsible for:

- giving notice to the public of vacancies on the board of directors and informing the public about the objects and the role of the LHIN;
- identifying potential board appointees through a local community nomination process; and
- making recommendations to the board about potential appointees to the board of directors.

LHINs would have the ability to establish additional committees and responsibilities to address local needs and priorities.

Invitation to Provide Written Comments

Interested parties are invited to make **written comments** on the proposed regulation on or before **July 27, 2006.**

When preparing your response, please consider whether you agree with the proposed regulation, whether it should be changed and provide any other relevant comments you think might be useful.

Submit Written Comments to:

LHIN Legislation – LHIN Board Committees Regulation
Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care
15th Floor, 56 Wellesley Street West
Toronto, ON M5S 2S3

Fax: 416-327-8313

Email: LHINLegislation@moh.gov.on.ca

The minister will consider comments received on or before **July 27, 2006** during the final preparation of the regulation. It is at the discretion of the minister whether to amend the proposed regulation.

A final regulation under the Local Health System Integration Act would be published in the Ontario Gazette. For updates please monitor the ministry's website at www.health.gov.on.ca.

A copy of the legislation is available from Publications Ontario, 50 Grosvenor Street, Toronto, ON M7A 1N8 or from <http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca>.

Additional information is available on the Ministry's website at www.health.gov.on.ca.