



## **BCHS Seeks Members for Community Engagement Committee**

Bonnie Adamson, Supervisor, BCHS

We at the Brant Community Healthcare System (BCHS) know that public voices are important and need to be heard when it comes to providing healthcare in our community. That's why, as soon as possible, I am establishing a Community Engagement Committee as the BCHS works to enhance patient care.

Like all Ontario hospitals, BCHS is established and highly regulated under the authority of the Public Hospitals Act. BCHS is a not-for-profit corporation governed by a volunteer Board of Directors selected from the community. We are currently without a Board, but we will be seeking new members for the Board of Directors in 2018.

In normal circumstances, a President and CEO, reporting to the Board, is responsible for the day-to-day management of a hospital. Currently, as the BCHS is under supervision as a result of an Investigator's report submitted to the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care earlier this year, our interim CEO is Dr. Glenn Bartlett, who is ably reforming and realigning daily operations so that BCHS can deliver the best results possible to the communities it serves.

With that as background, let me elaborate on the Community Engagement Committee for which we will be seeking volunteer, unpaid members. They will be appointed for at least a one-year term and the mandate of the Committee will be re-examined once a new hospital Board and permanent CEO are in place, which will likely be sometime in 2018.

This Committee will assist the Supervisor and interim CEO to understand the nature of the communities that BCHS serves and their specific health service needs. They will advise the Supervisor as to the best strategies to engage community leaders and community groups, provide community perspectives on current and emerging issues affecting BCHS, strengthen public voices in delivery of BCHS services, advise on health service community concerns and on how to continuously improve communication between the community and the BCHS.

We are seeking a maximum of 12 volunteer members for the Community Engagement Committee who must be able to attend up to six meetings within a 12-month period. Eight members will be selected by the Supervisor after an application and interview process. Committee members of the public must be at least 18 years of age, live in Brant County (including Paris or the City of Brantford), have a sound knowledge of their community and a strong interest in healthcare delivery, although they must not have worked or currently be working in the healthcare sector, whether at the BCHS or elsewhere. Current or former employees of BCHS or its Foundation, current or former members of the BCHS professional staff and any immediate family members of same are also not eligible to apply. The remaining four members

of the Committee will be drawn, one each, from the BCHS Foundation Board, the BCHS Volunteer Association Board, one Council member from the City of Brantford and one from the County of Brant including Paris. Those four members will be selected by their respective organizations.

Meetings will be co-chaired by the Supervisor and member of the Community Engagement Committee and they will be held, on average, every two months or at the call of the Supervisor, but there will be no more than six meetings in a 12-month period. Meeting locations will alternate between the Boardroom at Brantford General Hospital and The Willett in Paris.

Members of the public who wish to be considered for membership should send a letter describing why they want to be a member of the BCHS Community Engagement Committee along with their employment history and/or CV to Ms. Bonnie Adamson, Supervisor, BCHS, by email to [communications@bchsys.org](mailto:communications@bchsys.org) or by regular mail to 200 Terrace Hill Street, Brantford, Ontario, N3R 1G9. All applications will be acknowledged. Some applicants will be interviewed in person as potential Committee members, and some of those interviewed will be offered a membership on this volunteer Committee. Please submit applications by Friday, November 17.

We look forward to working in partnership with this Committee to enhance our services and provide the best possible care for our community.