



Ontario
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

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The Hon. Deb Matthews
Ministry of Health and Long Term Care
10th Fl., Hepburn Block
80 Grosvenor St
Toronto, ON M7A 2C4

Dear Minister Matthews:

I am writing on behalf of my constituents, several municipalities and the Greater Dufferin Chamber of Commerce who have expressed dismay about the possible closure of the Shelburne site of Headwaters Health Care Centre.

The hospital Board is being forced by the Central West LHIN to contemplate this drastic action in order to balance their budget. This would be the latest in a series of program reductions at our community hospital. Earlier this year the out-patient physiotherapy program was eliminated.

When the Central West LHIN was created they put together an Integrated Services Plan (October 2006) that indicated per capita spending on health services was the lowest among the 14 LHINs, including funding for hospitals. Despite this data (see page 12 of the report) that demonstrated clearly that my community is not receiving its fair share of health resources, your government has not made strategic investments needed to improve per capita funding. Instead, the Central West LHIN continues to push for more reduction; reductions that seem to have the greatest impact on the northern part of the Central West LHIN.

Compassionate care close to home has been the vision of Headwaters Health Care Centre for many years. I believe patients in our community should have equal access to community health services and I would urge your government to address the funding inequity.

The Central West LHIN should be championing the needs of patients in Dufferin-Caledon. Instead they seem to be simply demanding that we make do with less care than other parts of the province.

I look forward to receiving your timely reply to this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sylvia Jones'.

Sylvia Jones, MPP
Dufferin-Caledon

