



# MEDIA RELEASE

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## **BETTER TOGETHER!**

### **ALMONTE GENERAL HOSPITAL AND CARLETON PLACE & DISTRICT MEMORIAL HOSPITAL BOTH AWARDED ACCREDITATION WITH EXEMPLARY STANDING**

Almonte General Hospital (AGH) and Carleton Place & District Memorial Hospital (CPDMH) have both been awarded *Accreditation with Exemplary Standing* from Accreditation Canada.

This is the highest level of Accreditation and is awarded to organizations that go beyond the requirements and demonstrate excellence in continuously improving patient and resident care. The surveys took place at the two hospitals, as well as Fairview Manor. Only a small number of healthcare organizations receive this designation.

“This is a milestone to be celebrated, and we congratulate you and your team for your commitment to providing safe, high quality health services,” notes Julie Langlois, Chair, Accreditation Decision Committee.

“We are proud to have met the highest national standards for quality improvement and patient safety,” says Mary Wilson Trider, President and CEO. “This exemplary result is a reflection of everyone’s hard work and commitment to high quality care for our patients and residents.”

The two hospitals worked closely together to prepare for the surveys. “We shared best practices and learned from one another,” explains Mary Wilson Trider. “In fact, some of the survey meetings were held together for the two organizations, including Community Partners, Principle Based Care and Decision Making, Leadership and Quality Management. We were pleased to include members of our Patient and Family Advisory Committees in the process as well.”

The surveyors congratulated all teams on their success, sharing comments from patients, residents and families. They noted that the overall sentiment heard both in Almonte and Carleton Place was that: “The hospital is the heart of the community and our community is our heart.”

In Almonte, patients said: “There is love at this hospital.” and “You can feel the commitment of the people working here.” In Carleton Place, patients said: “We are very fortunate to have such high-quality care right here in Carleton Place.” and “Staff go out of their way to help patients get the care they need.”

The two hospitals are part of the Mississippi River Health Alliance. The Alliance formalizes the commitment between the two hospitals to share best practices and learn from one another. The result is a more consistent experience for patients and residents.

“This is another great example of the benefits of the two hospitals working together,” notes Rob Clayton, Board Chair, CPDMH.

AGH/FVM Board Chair Randy Larkin agrees. “Together, we have one goal. The best care close to home.”

Hospital accreditation through Accreditation Canada is a voluntary exercise that reviews a health care organization’s care and services. It includes an intensive self-assessment, a survey visit with a team of health care professionals and a comprehensive survey report. The process also involves interviews with staff, residents, physicians, volunteers, patients and families, Board and community members. The surveys took place from May 27 to 31, 2019.



-30-

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