

Ontario's Growing Health Care Dilemma—Part Two

By Doug McGregor

Sometimes it's good to be little provocative. It gets people thinking including those who are doing the provoking.

Such was apparently the case when I wrote my previous essay on Ontario's health care problems. In it, I suggested the restructuring of the LHINs won't help and could be a distraction to what is important.

So why the heck did I say that? After all, LHINs are big, expensive, bureaucratic organizations, aren't they? (Note: I am using the present tense. The LHINs still exist as there is not an announced replacement structure. It's only their boards of directors that have disappeared).

So in order to understand their value you need to understand their role. To my mind they primarily have three very different responsibilities.

1) They are a Health Care funding agency. Provincial funds are dispersed through the LHINs to the hospitals and agencies such as Mental Health and Addictions. (Important to note doctors are NOT funded by the LHINs as they bill OHIP directly for their services). This funding is allocated on deep analysis done by the LHIN of where the needs are. The amount of data the LHIN has, and can analyze, is truly outstanding. Money will always be finite and needs to be dispensed on some kind of allocation process so this function is a necessary evil.

To perform this function our South East LHIN had about 50 people. Note that they are managing budgets of well in excess of \$1 billion that covers Brockville, Kingston, Belleville, Picton, Trenton, Bancroft etc.. Some will argue about them being top heavy and / or some being overpaid but it wasn't a lot of people to do what they have to do.

2) Home and Long Term Care Services. This is an operational function of the LHIN that they took over in the last couple of years when they absorbed the former Community Care Access Centres (CCAC). If you need home care or a nursing home bed, these are the people you contact who will organize those services. You will know this is an important service if you ever had a loved one in need of this kind of help. When the LHINs absorbed this function they had to do so with a significant reduction in managers. Hence some of the 50 people mentioned above became responsible for some of these services.

3) Health Care evolution and **integration**. The "I" in LHIN was all about this. While I know some would disagree, this is where the LHINs did not do well since the deck was severely stacked against them. Without the ability to "control" primary care through funding initiatives such as improved access to physicians and proactive programs to treat COPD etc. they were doomed to never make much of a dent.

(Continued on page 6)

SOUTH BAY UNITED CHURCH SPRING DINNER



May 1, 2019

SOUTH BAY UNITED CHURCH
 2029 COUNTY ROAD 13
 4:30 TO 6:30 P.M.

PHONE : 613 476-8388

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Children 12 & under: \$8.00

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The U.C.W. met at South Bay United Church hall on Wednesday, April 10, at 1:00 p.m.

President Sandra opened with our theme hymn, purpose and our Lord's Prayer.

Sandra's devotional was based on Mathew 11, verses 25-30. If we are not asked to do things but think we don't have the strength, let God be in charge of getting things done.

Six members answered roll call with show and tell. Sandra showed a homemade quilt over 100 years old with names, dates and beautiful squares embroidered on each piece. The book, "*The Educational Tapestry*", containing information and personal accounts about South and North Marysburgh was also presented.

The March minutes were accepted as reviewed and thirty sick calls were made.

Our fish fry supper for Wednesday, July 3rd, was discussed and finalized.

The ladies are going to make muffins for after the Easter Sunday sunrise service –April 21st.

The fees for use of the church and kitchen were discussed with the decision to bring our concerns up at the annual general church meeting.

Alice once again challenged the ladies with a brain teaser contest amidst a few groans.

Our meeting closed with our U.C.W. prayer.

The afternoon terminated with a social time over a delicious lunch provided by Maureen and Karen. We thank you ladies for keeping us happy.

South Bay United Church for 2019

Wednesday, July 3rd – Fish Fry 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Perch and pickerel
Salads, rolls, baked beans
Homemade desserts
Tea, coffee, lemonade

Adults: \$16.00; 10 years and under \$8.00

Saturday, November 16 – Luncheon and Craft Sale

11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Bake Table
Homemade soup, sandwiches, dessert, tea, coffee



Milford Library Branch **Check It Out**

By Aaron Nash

Easter weekend is almost upon us. On Saturday, April 20, bring your bonnets and hats for decorating to Milford Branch Library—after you've had your pancake breakfast at Town Hall, that is. We'll be creating colourful holiday headpieces from 10:00-10:45 AM at the Milford Branch. All decorating materials will be supplied.

Afterwards, come with us to the fairgrounds for an easter-egg hunt, where there will be horse-drawn wagon rides, hot dogs and hot chocolate, and maybe even a visit from the Easter Bunny.

Coming soon! In 2018 the Friends of the Milford Library fundraised for new furniture and exterior improvements. Now the Friends are looking to enhance the front lawn area, making it a more inviting place to sit and read (or to use the free 24/7 WiFi) and providing sun protection. The fundraising total is up to about \$7,500, after The Women's Institute donated \$1,000. Keep on the lookout for these Milford Branch upgrades, and be sure to contact us at 613-476-4130 if you're interested in joining the Friends.Rendez-vous 2019

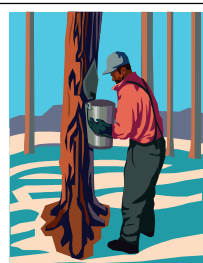
In further news, two of PEC's favourite literary events have joined forces to create the County Reads Authors Festival for 2019, taking place April 25-27 at St. Mary Magdalene Anglican Church in Picton. The first event will be County Reads on April 25, hosted and moderated by County author Ken Murray. Over the next two days book-lovers will have an opportunity to hear from celebrated authors such as Shaughnessy Bishop-Stall, Brian L. Flack, Camilla Gibb, Cornelia Hoogland, Debra Komar, et al. (For more information and to purchase tickets, go to peclibrary.org/countysreads.)

On Friday, April 26, it's Rendez-vous 2019, a FREE event sponsored by Le Cercle Français de Milford and the PEC Library, featuring Wayne Grady and Dorothy Speirs. The theme is: "Translation Matters!" It's sure to be an engaging event at Mary Magdalene Church. Don't miss it!

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FRIENDS OF THE ANN FARWELL LIBRARY, MILFORD

Would you be interested in joining the Friends of the Ann Farwell Library?

The Friends support our library in Milford in a number of ways, like fundraising for the new library furniture and exterior improvements made in 2018.

They also participate in a number of community activities like the Milford Fair, the Soapbox Derby and the library Halloween and Christmas celebrations.

The Friends meet on the third Thursday of each month. If you'd like to get involved, drop in or call the library (613 476-4130) or contact Dorothy at 613 476-8435.



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Copy & Advertising Deadline for the Next Edition of The Mirror is May 10th

The South Marysburgh Recreation Board

**The Marysburgh Mimmers
The Milford Fair Board**

Meetings, Events, Announcements

Wii Bowling

Milford Town Hall
Thursdays to May 2
1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

We need more players for a FUN afternoon

Fair Board Meeting

Milford Town Hall
Wednesday, May 8, 7:00 p.m.

Recreation Board Meeting

Milford Town Hall
Tuesday, May 28 at 7:30

Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 20

2nd Annual Soap Box Derby

Saturday, July 12

*To reserve the Milford Town Hall
or Mt. Tabor, please contact:*

*Bruce Dowdell at 613.476.8891
vidvar@kos.net OR*

Leon McConnell at 613.476.6606

Back the Build

Give to Your New County Hospital

The *South Marysburgh* Mirror

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Life In The Past

Nelson Hicks' Journals
April 1929

Transcribed by Sarah Moran Collier

Mon. 1 - Wind blew a gale all day doing a lot of damage threw the county. Molley Brooks Barns blew down Eddie Rorke Barn some of the roof blew off And there were series of other Barns that was wrecked.

Tue. 2 - Wrex is home for a week. We moved some straw out of the Barn. Royden helped Willie Jenkins saw some wood.

Wed. 3 - Royden took a grist up to Milford I trimmed trees.

Thu. 4 - Mirt and I went up to Eddie Rorkes He has two carpenters there firming the roof on his Barn.

Fri. 5 - Alva Collier took 3 calves over to Picton for me. Collin Hudgins Sent some over too. I went over with Alva and came home with Collin

April 18 - Took Sow down to Coopers

Thu. 25 - To day It has rained all day We haven't done anything on the land yet.

Wed. 24 - Mr. Morden was here for dinner.

Fri. 26 - Mirt and I went over to Picton Got Kathleen and went back to Lloyd's after Dinner went over to Belleville. Wrex came home with us He was vastienated for Small pox.

Sat. 27 - Wrex Floral and I went over to Picton Got a new suit of clothes for Wrex.

Sun. 28 - Lloyd Luise came down Kathleen went over to Picton with them went they went home Wrex stay home not feeling very good.

Tue. 30 - Royden took Wrex out to Lloyds Floral went over to help Luise with her house cleaning.

(For reasons unknown, Nelson made no diary entries between April 5th and April 18th)



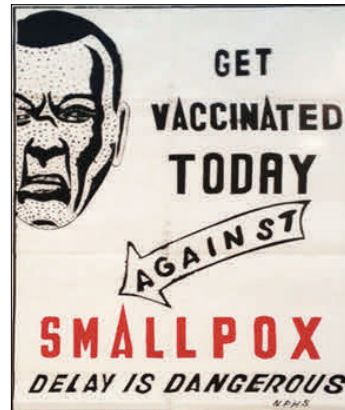
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ST. PHILIP'S ANGLICAN CHURCH 2019 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday, April 27	Spring Yard & Rummage Sale
Monday, May 20	Annual Black Creek Canoe Trip
Wednesday, August 7	Corn and Pork Roast
Sunday, September 22	Blessing of the Animals
Saturday, October 5	Fall Yard & Rummage Sale
Saturday, November 23	Christmas Event

Sarah's Research Notes Insight, Information & Anecdotes About Nelson Hicks' Journal Entries

Wrexford gets his small pox vaccine from the immunization clinic in Belleville and is laid low after. Along with diphtheria and influenza these diseases continued to threaten life. Small pox, known as "The Spotted Monster" reached peak incidence in 1927 in Canada. Diphtheria, known as "The Strangling Angel of Children", reached a peak of 9,000 cases in 1924. In January 1929, a famous winter "mercy flight" of 2000km between Edmonton and Fort Vermilion delivered diphtheria antitoxins in the face of an outbreak. Vaccines had been only available as expensive imports, but by this time a pioneering lab in Toronto was creating them. They were produced as a public service for free distribution through provincial health departments, so that young men like Wrexford could stay safe and well, a precursor to our modern day healthcare system.



Milford Friendship Circle

The Circle ladies met at the home of Mary Creasy Thurs. April 4 at 1:30 p.m.

President Margaret opened with one of her quips: Wouldn't our days be dreary and long if all went right and nothing wrong and wouldn't our world be dreary and flat if we had nothing to grumble at.

Mary had two clever sayings for *Thought for the Day*:

- The best time to do something is between yesterday and tomorrow.
- Keep your face to the sun and you cannot see the shadow. That's what the sunflowers do.

The ladies discussed what the future holds for our group. Since our numbers are so few, a suggestion was made to get together once or twice a year to keep in touch. Our last meeting will be held in June as a pot luck lunch. Maureen is having our May meeting on Thurs. May 2nd.

Mary entertained us with some old riddles from sixty years ago after which she supplied a lovely lunch and a social time. Marg thanked Mary on behalf of the group.

Gossip!

*Personal Notices, Announcements
& Random Notes*



Apart from smiling and posing for this image, everyone in the picture participated in last year's Black River Canoe Trip on the Victoria Day long weekend. Organized by St. Philip's Anglican Church in Milford, the 24th edition of this event takes place on Monday, May 20th beginning at 11:00 a.m. and culminating at the Black River B&B about two hours later depending how quickly you paddle or how much you encourage your partner to paddle. More information is available here, on page 18 <http://peptbo.ca/photos/custom/PDFs/2019Nature%20Matters.pdf>

Congratulations, Sarah!

99.3 County FM, has appointed a new volunteer team to broadcast its ArtScene program, including Sarah Moran. ArtScene is featured every Friday on The Grapevine news and information hour, airing each weekday following the noon news and repeating every weekday evening following the 6:10 pm Farm Report.

Sarah will be a reporter-at-large, recording feature interviews with artists in their studios and artistic events throughout the County.

For those who don't know her, Sarah has lived in The County since the late eighties. She is Director at Large for the Prince Edward County Arts Council board and also a member of the Save Picton Town Hall work group, and is a volunteer at the Milford Fair. Importantly, she contributes the Nelson Hicks diary transcriptions and the Grow Your Own column (with Nancy butler) to The Mirror.

South Bay U.C.W. and Milford Friendship Circle Upcoming Meetings & Events

Thursday, May 2 – Milford Friendship circle will meet at the home of Maureen Rudd at 1:30 p.m. Thought for the day – Maureen; Roll Call – Sing, Say or Pay; Program – Food Bank

Wednesday, May 8 – U.C.W. will meet at South Bay United Church for a pot luck lunch at 12 noon. The regular meeting will start at 1:00 p.m. Devotional – Jan Collier; Roll call – Remembering Mother; Program - Karen Guernsey; Objective – Bring a favourite recipe.

ST. PHILIP'S ANGLICAN CHURCH WOMEN

YARD & RUMMAGE SALE



SATURDAY April 27, 2018

ST. PHILIP'S CHURCH HALL

MILFORD

10:00 a.m-1:00 p.m.

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DONATIONS SHOULD BE TAKEN TO HALL BY WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 10
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(*Healthcare' continued from page 1*)

What I concluded when I was on the Hospital Board was that the LHIN was a necessary structure. It was local and, more importantly, had local community knowledge. The LHIN has helped get the new Health Hub in Trenton established and helped secure the future of the new Picton hospital. Even though they are still bureaucratic in nature, their arm's length relationship to the Health Ministry helped them play the role of a supportive advocate.

So what about the future? Well, like most I have no insight as to what are the government's plans are beyond the limited details of what has been announced.

However the opportunity here is to properly integrate primary care into the existing health networks so that the capacity and accessibility challenges can be addressed. This might involve legislative changes as well as the cooperation of the OMA and the respective colleges of Physicians and Nurses. Neither the government nor the colleges are known for their collaborative relationships or responsiveness so don't hold your breath while this gets worked out. Who knows, perhaps the recently announced Ontario Health Teams will accomplish this?

The downside re the reorganization is the loss of local accountability. The new province-wide management organization has a single board of directors made up of 12 people. I can guarantee it will be very difficult to access this group with a local issue. In the short term, until a LHIN replacement structure is announced and executed, programs will stall and confusion will reign.

In the long term it remains to be seen whether a centralized structure will deliver benefits that outweigh the local accountability drawbacks.

Doug McGregor is nearing the completion of his 1st decade in South Marysburgh. He is a retired engineer, a proud and long time member of the Milford Fair Board and served on the local hospital board for a number of years. He shares a home on South Bay with his wife, two dogs and three cats and an unknown number of mice.



Volunteer firefighter chief, Randy York, supervises ice rescue training at the Milford Mill Pond on a cold April morning.

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Druella Acantha Malvina's Column

Gem for the month: It is a great pleasure to do a good deed in secret and have it found out by accident.

A Canadian is someone who drinks Brazilian coffee from an English tea cup and munches a French pastry while sitting on his Danish furniture, having just come home from an Italian movie in his German car. He picks up his Japanese pen and writes to his MP to complain about the American takeover of the Canadian publishing business.

The bride, white of hair, stoops over her cane
Her footsteps, uncertain, need guiding
While down the church aisle with wide, toothless smile
The groom in a wheelchair comes riding
Now who is this elderly couple thus wed?
You'll find when you've closely explored it
That this is that rare, most conservative pair
Who waited 'til they could afford it.

Foresters – tree wise men
Wedding cake – tiers of joy
An apartment door – saxophone for sale
On neighbour's – Hooray!
On dentist's office – Open
Underneath- Wide

The Minister phoned the local Board of Health to ask that a dead mule be removed from in front of his house. The young clerk who answered thought he'd be smart. "I thought you ministers' took care of the dead?" he remarked.

"We do," answered the Parson, "but first we get in touch with the relatives."

- ◆ Change is inevitable – except from a vending machine.
- ◆ Nothing is impossible for the man who doesn't have to do it himself.
- ◆ An ounce of keeping your mouth shut sure beats a ton of explanation.
- ◆ Having a full length mirror in a small apartment is like having a guest who never leaves.
- ◆ Television has opened many doors...mostly on refrigerators.

Lady to the new chauffeur: "Clarence, I am not accustomed to calling my chauffeurs by their first names. What is your surname?"

Clarence: "Darling, madam."

Lady: "Drive on, Clarence."

The proud father brought home a backyard swing set for his children and immediately started to assemble it with all the neighbourhood children anxiously waiting to play on it. When nothing seemed to go right, he spent time reading the instructions but still nothing seemed to work. Finally, he gave up and called upon an old handyman working next door.

The old timer came over, threw the directions away and had it together in a short time.

"It's beyond me," said the father, "how you put it together without even looking at the instructions."

"To tell the truth," replied the old timer, "I can't read...and when you can't read, you've got to think."

Exit Lines:

An Irish Prayer: May those that love us, love us; and those that don't love us, may God turn their hearts; and if he doesn't turn their hearts, may he turn their ankles, so we'll know them by their limping.

In one weekend build a Clay Barrel Oven

June 8-9, 2019

For the first time, Loyalist College is offering their unique **Clay Barrel Oven** building course in Prince Edward County. This is a result of a partnership with Black River Bed and Breakfast.

With the permission of Loyalist College, we are sharing this with you now since the course won't be online until the end of April. This gives anyone who is keenly interested the opportunity to register before the course is offered to the general public. As soon as that happens, it will fill up quickly.

Tuition is \$138.00 for two full days (19 to 59-year-olds), and \$113.04 for seniors (age 60+).

If you enjoy cooking and entertaining outdoors, this course is for you.

Contact Black River Bed and Breakfast to receive a copy of the early-bird registration form.

Conrad Biernacki and Brian Musselwhite, Black River Bed and Breakfast, BlackRiverBB@gmail.com,



**Copy & Advertising Deadline for the
Next Edition of The Mirror
is May 10th**

COUNCIL CORNER

By John Hirsch, Councillor Ward 9, South Marysburgh

Well, the snow has almost all disappeared, the ground is greening up and we are starting to get outdoors to do spring cleanup and see how our gardens have fared over the winter. The violent extremes of freeze and thaw we experienced this past winter have caused more than the usual damage to sensitive plants, certainly on my property. I am going to increase protection efforts, burlap etc. going forward as we deal with the effects of climate change.

This past winter has also been especially tough on our road infrastructure and County crews are busy making repairs.

ROADS

At Council, while approving the contract for cold patch mix (we use 100 tonnes every year!) Councillor Neiman and I asked staff whether they have adequately studied the methods we use to build/repair the various types of roads in the County to see if we are using best practices at the lowest cost. Not getting a satisfying answer, I agreed to put forward a motion asking for a more fulsome report on our whole road maintenance program. Stay tuned.

DEPUTATIONS

Over the last month Council has received 10 minute presentations from a number of organizations and individuals – Canadian Blood Services, promoting blood donor clinics; Natural Heritage Conservation-PEC on the importance of hedgerows, Quinte Conservation- an overview of their services to the County; and many more. You can watch all these on the County website by viewing the live stream for each meeting. This is a great way for organizations to educate Council about important issues. To register to make a deputation, just contact the clerk's office.

LOCAL EVENTS

Quinte Trash Bash will take place on Saturday, April 27. The annual event sees hundreds of volunteers across the region pitch in and help clean up their communities.

I hope that you take part in this worthwhile event. We live in a beautiful part of the world, and we can all do our part to keep it that way.

Supply kits are now available at Shire Hall or any of our seven landfill or transfer sites. You can also pick-up supplies and drop off collected litter from 9 am until 1 pm on Saturday, April 27 at the following locations:

- Ameliasburgh/Roblin Lake Park
- Sandy Hook Rd Public Works/Sand Dome – 75 County Rd 1
- Milford Town Hall – 3076 County Rd 10

And don't miss the **Milford Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 20** – brought to you by the hard-working South Marysburgh Rec Board, and the Black River Spring Festival coming up on May 18-19. More information on both these events appears elsewhere in this issue.

Out at the **Prince Edward Point Bird Observatory**, PEptBO is holding the annual spring birding festival with many events scheduled from May 11-20. See the website: peptbo.ca for details. And come out to see the brand new banding lab just built by the Canadian Wildlife Service – and meet our new bander-in-chief, Matthew Isles.

I can be reached by phone, text and email

www.jhirsch.com

jhirsch@pecounty.on.ca

613-846-0046

And don't forget, for immediate service the County help line is available:

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