

SMITHS FALLS NURSE PRACTITIONER-LED CLINIC
BOARD CHAIR - ANNUAL REPORT - October 18, 2014

As the Chair of the Board of Directors of the Smiths Falls Nurse Practitioner-Led Clinic, I am honored to spearhead this strategic resource aimed at increasing self-care capacity and empowerment.

This begins with the individual and progresses through to family, community and the population health care of Smiths Falls and the surrounding area. The clinic provides support, assists and partners in decision-making with individuals about personal health care and health care issues with focus on health and wellness including the social determinants of health. Information, education, root cause analysis, linking health and the determinants of health such as: income, social status, personal health practices and cultural practices are fundamentals of the Nurse Practitioner role.

The Nurse Practitioner lens looks not only at holistic care planning for the individual but holistic care planning for the population as well. This places the Smiths Falls Nurse Practitioner-Led Clinic in a pivotal partnership position delivering care driven by the unique health care needs and determinants of health as experienced by their unique patient population. The Smiths Falls Nurse Practitioner-Led Clinic plays an important role in the improvement of access to quality, cost-effective and comprehensive front-line health care promoting health capacity.

The patient experience is always paramount and empowering patients to be vested in their own health care will lead into the evolution of system change in fulfilling Ontario's Action Plan for excellence in health care.

I want to finish by commending Nancy Unsworth, our Executive Director, and her staff for the tremendous job they have done over this past year. Leeann Brennan provides the administrative support so critical in ensuring Nancy has the support she needs to both oversee the clinic but also practice as a Nurse Practitioner. The Nurse Practitioners and Registered Nurses each embrace their enhanced scope of practice, through the College of Nurses of Ontario, the xxxxxxxx . This is a real demonstration of their commitment to their profession and their clients/patients. Ensuring the clients/patients are the center of all they do is paramount and this they demonstrate every day.

Finally thank you the Board of Directors for the support you give to both Nancy, myself and the clinic. The Board of Directors, management and staff can take pride in what the Smiths Falls Nurse Practitioner – Led Clinic has done and will endeavour to continue to do – ‘ensure the patients know they can count on timely access to quality care.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ruth S. Kitson – RN, BScN, MBA, CHE
Chair – Board of Directors
Smiths Falls Nurse Practitioner – Led Clinic

