

# Accountability Agreement Update

## New Co-Chair Joins JPPC Accountability Committee

Later this month, the JPPC's Accountability Committee will bid farewell to one of its co-chairs, Mary Kardos Burton, Assistant Deputy Minister (ADM), Acute Services Division, and welcome Hugh MacLeod, ADM, Health System Accountability and Performance Division. Hugh will join co-chair Mark Rochon, President and CEO, Toronto Rehabilitation Institute, who has represented hospitals on the committee since its inception in February 2006.



Mark Rochon  
Co-Chair, JPPC  
Accountability Committee  
President & CEO Toronto  
Rehabilitation Institute

### In Brief

ADM Hugh MacLeod joins Mark Rochon as the new co-Chair of the Accountability Committee

York Central Hospital will be piloting an innovative performance improvement methodology

Ministry's existing IM structure is being re-evaluated but WERS will remain operational



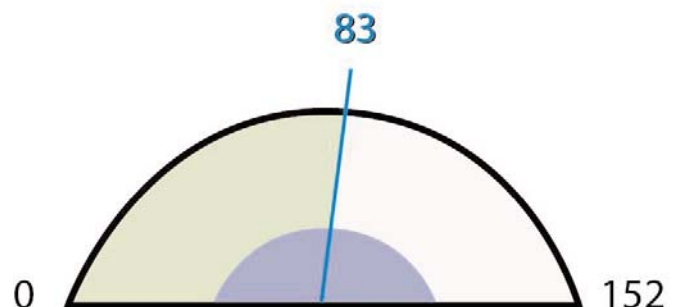
Mary Kardos Burton  
Co-Chair (outgoing), JPPC  
Accountability Committee  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Ministry of Health and  
Long-Term Care

"The Accountability Committee has benefited from Mary's leadership during a period of significant change in Ontario's health system. Especially valued was her steadfast commitment to improving hospital planning and accountability, as well as her ability to bridge hospital and Ministry objectives and issues," remarked Rochon.

"On behalf of the committee I would like to thank Mary and formally welcome Hugh to his new role. We look forward to his participation and to working with him to advance Ontario's health system transformation agenda."

Kardos Burton joined the committee with a commitment to work closely with hospitals as they implement service improvements. "The achievements

### Hospital Agreements Ready for Signature



of this committee stem from the expertise and dedication of those around the table and from the solid advice provided by the field. I have enjoyed being part of this process and wish all those involved continued success.”

“I am looking forward to building on the collaborative approach that is characteristic of this committee, as we work together with our subcommittees on making accountability processes as effective as they have been over the past years,” said MacLeod. “We will continue to engage in the kind of constructive conversations that are needed to advance Ontario’s accountability agenda for our mutual benefit and that of patients.”



Hugh MacLeod  
Co-Chair (incoming), JPPC  
Accountability Committee  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Ministry of Health and  
Long-Term Care

For more information on the Accountability Committee, visit: <http://www.jppc.org/ha/>.

## Ask the Ministry

**Q:** Will hospitals still use WERS on April 1?

**A:** Yes they will.

To reduce the burden of reporting on health care providers and in view of the LHIN’s expanded responsibilities, the Ministry is looking to streamline its data collection processes and enhance reporting mechanisms.

To that end, the existing Information Management structure, which includes the Web Enabled Reporting System (WERS), is being re-evaluated as part of a comprehensive strategy. In the meantime, hospitals will continue to submit data to the Ministry through the WERS.

Hospitals can expect to receive prompt and detailed notification of any changes to current processes.

## York Central Hospital Tests New Self-Improving System™ Methodology

York Central Hospital will be piloting an innovative methodology designed to increase the quality and timeliness of patient care, the work-life balance of employees, and the efficiency and stewardship of resources.

Following a call for proposals issued in December, the Ministry awarded the contract to EC Murphy Walsh Inc., which calls its methodology the Self-Improving System™. York Central Hospital was selected as the test site by the Ministry.

“We are delighted to have been asked to participate in testing this new process. It reflects our dual focus on improving patient care outcomes, satisfaction, and on achieving a higher quality of work-life for our employees,” said CEO and President Bruce Harber. “It actually complements a capacity-building initiative already underway in our hospital aimed at improving patient, staff and physician satisfaction.”

This latest approach is part of a range of initiatives available to the hospital sector and supported by the Ministry, which are intended to assist hospitals in meeting their performance obligations under the Hospital Accountability Agreements.

The pilot will start in January and continue through February, with a report being provided to York Central’s Board, executive leadership, and the Ministry on February 9.

For more information about this new initiative, visit the Ministry’s website, Hospital Planning and Accountability, at [http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/project/hosp\\_plan/hosp\\_plan\\_mn.html](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/project/hosp_plan/hosp_plan_mn.html).

Bruce Harber also invites other CEOs to contact him directly should they want to find out more about this new process. He can be reached at [bharber@yorkcentral.ca](mailto:bharber@yorkcentral.ca).

## Key Links and Resources

- Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care's Hospital Planning and Accountability website  
[http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/project/hosp\\_plan/hosp\\_plan\\_mn.html](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/project/hosp_plan/hosp_plan_mn.html)

- Joint Policy and Planning Committee website - Accountability Section  
<http://www.jppc.org/ha>

- EC Murphy Walsh Inc.  
<http://www.ecmurphywalsh.com>

**New**

- Ministry's Transitioning to the LHINs website  
[http://www.health.gov.on.ca/transformation/lhin/lhin\\_mn.html](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/transformation/lhin/lhin_mn.html)

## Accountability Agreement Update

*Accountability Agreement Update* is published by the Joint Policy and Planning Committee (JPPC), in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and the Ontario Hospital Association (OHA). It is intended to keep senior executives in Ontario hospitals informed of new developments related to the province's ongoing negotiations with hospitals towards achieving balanced budgets and the signing of accountability agreements.

### Tell Us What You Think

We welcome your feedback. Let us know whether you are finding this newsletter helpful, or write to us with your suggestions or questions to:

Paula Neves  
Consultant, JPPC  
Tel: 416-599-5772, ext. 224  
Email: [pneves@jppc.org](mailto:pneves@jppc.org)



Ontario Joint Policy and Planning Committee  
415 Yonge Street, Suite 1200  
Toronto, ON Canada  
M5B 2E7  
Tel: (416) 599-JPPC (5772)  
Fax: (416) 599-6630  
<http://www.jppc.org>