

Analysis of Provincial Government's Statements and Potential Implications for Health Services ¹		
Issue	Provincial Government's Statement ²	Analysis /Potential Implications
Emergency Medical Services		
Emergency Room wait times	Expand progress on wait times to more services, including emergency room visits.	Monitor progress on reduction of wait times in emergency rooms and subsequent impact on EMS off load delays.
Hospital funding	Invest 100 million in growth funding for hospitals in our fastest growing communities.	Provision of resources addressing emergency room wait times may positively impact EMS off load delays.
Long Term Care & Seniors		
Aging in place funding impact	Support Ontario seniors who want to stay in their own homes with an easy-to-access basket of services. See Attachment 1 on implications for Community Services.	Significant increase in funding to the Central LHIN (\$106, 521, 000) for LTC Community Support Services in York Region. Previous funding totalled \$43 million. Possible approval of expansion requests for Region of York Supportive Housing Program (ACLP) and other Day Centre and Outreach Programs. More information is needed to assess what type of programs will be offered, how the province will assess aging in place needs and how funds will be allocated, but this strategy does offer new possibilities in the area of health prevention and promotion for Seniors. A recent report to Health & EMS Committee noted that York Region has a growth rate for seniors (age weighted population) that is almost double the Provincial rate (June 21, 2007).
Enhanced	Improve the level of care in long-term care homes with	This will result in enriched RN staffing for LTC facilities in York

¹The analysis is focused on programs and services provided through the following branches of the Community and Health Services department: Emergency Medical Services, Long Term Care and Seniors, and Public Health.

² Includes positions from party platform, related fiscal plan, and other campaign announcements or responses to election surveys. Pre-election announcements, including the 2007 Ontario Budget, are not included unless part of the platform or where noted to clarify a platform statement.

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<i>Standards of Care</i>	2,000 new nurses.	Region. There may be a possible increase of RN's for York Region's LTC facilities (Newmarket & Maple Health Centres).
<i>LTC bed shortage</i>	Build 35,000 long-term care beds over 10 years.	This may lead to the approval of additional LTC beds in York Region. This could provide funding for York Region's LTC bed proposals for Markham, Georgina and expansion requests for existing facilities.
<i>Access to mental health services</i>	Continue to enhance the strength of mental health and addictions services with increased funding and strong provincial policy direction. See Attachment 1 on implications for Community Services.	Clarification is required regarding policy direction impact, allocation of new funds and what impact, if any, changes would have on current mental health programs for seniors.
Public Health		
<i>Make schools healthier</i>	Ban trans fats from all school cafeterias, prescribe a healthier menu that conforms to the new Canada Food Guide, and reduce the rate of childhood obesity.	Clarification is required regarding Public Health unit's involvement regarding the implementation of these programs/policies. More information is needed to assess if a childhood obesity program or policy could be partnered with new or existing Regional programs to maximize impact.
<i>Reduce the incidence of cervical cancer</i>	Cover the cost of the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine to prevent cervical cancer.	This re-confirms the Province's three year commitment to fund the school-based HPV vaccination program for grade eight (8) females. York Region Community and Health Services nursing staff will administer the vaccine through school-based clinics with MOHLTC funding.
<i>Dental services</i>	Support dental services for low-income Ontario families. See Attachment 1 on implications for Community Services.	Clarification is required regarding criteria that would identify target group and how these services would be delivered.