



Nomination

Healthy relationships, healthy teams

Northeastern Ontario FHT Network (NEOFHTN)



This network includes Cochrane FHT, Huron Shores FHT, Municipality of Assiginack FHT, East End FHT, Elliot Lake FHT, Blue Sky FHT, Englehart & District FHT, BurksFalls FHT, Espanola & Area FHT, Chapleau and District FHT, Great Northern FHT, City of Lakes FHT, Haileybury FHT, Kirkland Lake FHT, South Algonquin FHT, Manitoulin Central FHT, Superior FHT, Northeastern Manitoulin FHT, Temagami FHT, NORD-ASKI FHT, Timmins FHT, Baawating FHT, Wawa FHT, Parry Sound FHT, West Nipissing FHT, Powassan & Area FHT, Iroquois Falls FHT, and the five Northeastern QIDSS.

NEOFHTN was created in 2007 and consists of 27 FHTs across Northeastern Ontario. This network was developed to ensure that the FHTs and their health care partners were well positioned to effectively manage through significant uncertainty within the ever-changing environment of primary care. This network of interprofessional teams are committed to sharing common challenges and linkages within limited local health services, vast geography and northern rural lifestyle. The network stays connected through an annual in person meeting, quarterly OTN meetings and email communication for ongoing support, problem solving and resource sharing. The network has insured that FHT's stay well connected not only with each other but with community and regional partners – breaking down barriers and creating a connected health care system in the North.

As partners in healthcare, patients are at the heart of what this network accomplishes. Understanding the barriers to care such as access, limited resources, cultural diversity, and in particular the social determinants of health are paramount to the success of improving health outcomes. With this in mind, face-to-face presentations to the NEOFHTN have included patients describing their needs and challenges when attempting to navigate the health care system. Patients have been included in the development of topics for the annual NEOFHTN conference and their success stories will be shared as the network supports equitable access to care across Northeastern Ontario.