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Media Release

Central West LHIN Announces Board Chair Appointment *McGuinty Government Appoints Maria Britto*

May 5, 2011: Central West Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) Board Chair, Joe McReynolds, is pleased to announce the appointment of Maria Britto as the incoming Chair of the Board of Directors of the Central West LHIN. Maria Britto's appointment is effective June 9, 2011.

Maria has over 30 years experience in business, charity and community involvement. She served as the first female President of the Brampton Board of Trade and in 2002 she was named Business Person of the Year. She served as the Chair of the Brampton and Area Community Foundation. Until recently, she served as a Board member of William Osler Health System and currently Maria is Chair of the Community Council for the Women's Abuse Shelter in Brampton.

Working closely with business, government and community organizations Maria is committed to building positive working relationships to the betterment of her community.

Maria has volunteered with the Peel Children's Aid Society and has served on the advisory Board for the Salvation Army. She spent fifteen years with the City of Brampton's Economic Development Committee and Ambassador Program as well as serving on the Management Board for the Small Business Enterprise Centre and as a member of the Employment Resource Council for the Peel Board of Education. Maria is a recipient of the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal, and she was recently named 2010 Citizen of the Year by the City of Brampton,

For over 26 years Maria has operated as an independent contractor within the real estate industry. Ranked among the top realtors in the industry, she received the Lifetime Achievement award in 2011.

Quotes:

"Central West is leading the process of creating a better health care system for its local residents. Maria Britto's extensive leadership experience will enable the continuation of this work, following the excellent stewardship of outgoing Chair, Joe McReynolds." – **Deb Matthews, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care**

"I am very pleased to welcome Maria to the Central West LHIN. As the inaugural Chair for the LHIN, I have participated in working with our communities and Health Care Providers in achieving some real accomplishments. I know that Maria will continue to lead the Board through the achievement of our Health System Plan, ensuring the residents have access to the best care available." – **Joe McReynolds, Central West LHIN Board Chair**

"I'm honoured to have been asked to take on this important role. This is a critical time for our health care system. Through working in partnership with the LHIN's health service providers, I believe we can improve the health care experience for residents of the Central West LHIN." – **Maria Britto**

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Fast Facts

Joe McReynolds has served a full term and has been Chair since June 2005. During his tenure the Central West LHIN has built a local health system that is meeting the needs of the diverse communities making up this LHIN. Under Joe's leadership:

- The Central West LHIN funds over \$745 million of health care services delivered in the communities of the Central West LHIN.
- The Central West LHIN has the lowest Alternative Level of Care (ALC) rate in the province. ALC measures how many people are waiting in hospital for services that could be delivered in the community. A low ALC rate generally means that people are getting the care they need when and where they need it.
- Brampton Civic Hospital was opened as the largest community hospital in the Province.
- Plans for the redevelopment of the Peel Memorial hospital site are well underway for the Peel Memorial Centre for Integrated Health and Wellness
- An innovative concept of local Health and Care Centres is being implemented in the communities of Shelburne and Bolton to coordinate health care services in the local community and help address unmet local needs.
- The Central West LHIN Board conducted several governance to governance workshops with other health service providers to support Board development across the health system.
- Two Integrated Health Service Plans and the Health System Plan were developed to outline the health care priorities of the LHIN and how each would be specifically addressed through a coordinated system of health care.

Fast Facts

- Directors are appointed by the Provincial Government through an Order-In-Council for a term of one to three years, subject to two terms up to a six-year maximum.
- Board members possess relevant expertise, experience, leadership skills, and have an understanding of local health issues, needs and priorities.
- The Board of Directors is accountable, through the Chair, to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care for the LHIN's use of public funds, and for its results in terms of goals and performance of the local health system.
- The Central West LHIN is responsible for planning, integrating and funding local health services – hospitals, long term care facilities, the community care access centre, community health centres, community support services and mental health and addictions agencies.

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