



News Release

The Réseau recommends South East LHIN identify Kingston Community Health Centres as Francophone site for Primary Care

For immediate release

Ottawa / Kingston, October 2, 2020 — The **French Language Health Services Network of Eastern Ontario** (the Réseau) recently released [‘Improving Access to Primary Care in the City of Kingston’](#). This report addresses a long-standing primary care gap in health care continuum for Francophone residents who live in the City of Kingston.

Under Ontario’s **French Language Services Act (FLSA)**, there are nine identified health service providers in the Kingston area, but none had a primary care mandate.

This document summarized existing literature and created an impact analysis of potential solutions for the community. As a result, the Réseau recommended to the South East Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) that it identifies the Kingston Community Health Centres (KCHC) as a comprehensive primary care service point for the Francophone community. The Réseau also worked with the KCHC board or directors and senior leadership to ensure that it was aware of what identification entailed.

‘We currently offer a comprehensive range of primary care services and already possess a considerable human resource capacity with some degree of French language proficiency,’ Mike Bell, KCHC Chief Executive Officer commented. ‘The decision to proceed with French language service identification under Ontario’s FLSA also aligns with our organization’s mission to be a dynamic provider of integrated services that empower people and build communities.’

Pending approval from the South East LHIN, representatives from the Réseau will work very closely with the board and staff of the KCHC on their path towards designation over the coming months. *‘The Réseau is very pleased that the KCHC has embraced the opportunity to be identified and work towards FLSA designation’*, said **Jacinthe Desaulniers**, Réseau President and Chief Executive Officer. *‘We have excellent resources to share with the KCHC team and we*



can definitely start on several parts of the designation process while we await the South East LHIN's decision.'

For more information, download report: ['Improving Access to Primary Care in the City of Kingston'](#).

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The Réseau is a Francophone organization that engages the community in all its diversity and the health system in order to improve the active offer and access to a continuum of quality health services in French.

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