

**North Simcoe Muskoka Local Health Integration Network  
Decision issued pursuant to s.25(2)(a) of the  
Local Health System Integration Act, 2006**

**Integration:** The Friends and Caregivers Muskoka/Parry Sound

**Date:** Monday, June 25, 2007

**Parties to Decision**

The following organizations are in agreement with the decision:

- The Friends
- Caregivers Muskoka/Parry Sound

**Facts**

1. The above organizations, in agreement to this decision, are publicly funding community support service agencies. Caregivers Muskoka/Parry Sound is a health service provider funded by the NSM LHIN providing services to Muskoka and Parry Sound districts. The Friends is a health service provider funded by the NE LHIN providing services to Parry Sound and Muskoka districts.
2. The purpose of the proposed integration is to develop a fully integrated service delivery model to ensure the best continuum of care for their clients by amalgamating the two organizations.
3. The two organizations have had an on-going productive relationship over the past 10 years, with the latter 4 years exploring opportunities to work better together.

**Process**

The NSM LHIN received verbal notification of the discussions in progress in the summer of 2006. Since then, two letters were received (September 18<sup>th</sup> and December 28<sup>th</sup>, 2006) informing the ministry and the LHINs of the possible amalgamation and request for financial support.

The NSM LHIN and the NE LHIN have participated in discussions with both organizations on several occasions to explore solutions for the two organizations to realize full amalgamation in a cost-effective manner.

**Analysis of Intended Integration**

The integration of *The Friends* and *Caregivers Muskoka/Parry Sound* will achieve significant economies of scale and scope; provide enhanced services and a continuum of care for clients across the districts of Parry Sound and Muskoka while at the same time providing significant support to the staff at *Caregivers Muskoka/Parry Sound*. This integration can be seen as a win-win situation for clients, communities, staff, and the participating organizations.

**Decision**

Pursuant to subsection 25(2)(a) of the Local Health System Integration Act, 2006 (LHSIA), through the facilitation of the North Simcoe Muskoka LHIN, *The Friends and Caregivers Muskoka/Parry Sound* are hereby required to amalgamate their organizations and proceed to full integration, for completion by March 31, 2008.

**Authorized Signature**

As authorized by the Board of Directors at the June 25, 2007 Board of Directors' meeting, this decision is signed by the Board Chair on behalf of the:

**North Simcoe Muskoka Local Health Integration Network**

Signature:           RJ Rosen          

Date:           JUN 26 2007          

Name:           Ruben Rosen          

Title:           Board Chair