

## **NEWS RELEASE**from Halton Healthcare Services

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## President & CEO announced for Halton Healthcare Services

Judy Wilson, Chair of the Halton Healthcare Services Board of Directors, today named Denise Hardenne, as the new President & CEO of Halton Healthcare Services (HHS).

Ms Hardenne, who had been appointed Interim President & CEO on March 31, 2014, takes over as successor to John Oliver, who retired April 30, 2014 after 23 years with the hospitals of Halton Healthcare Services.

"We are extremely pleased with this appointment," said Ms Wilson. "The Search Committee's decision to recommend Denise was unanimously supported by the Board. She is an accomplished senior executive in the healthcare sector with a proven track record. In addition to providing continuity and stability within the organization we are certain that under Denise's leadership we will continue to see HHS excel in the years to come."

"It is a great honour and privilege to be able to serve as President & CEO of Halton Healthcare Services," said Denise. "We have a great leadership team, dedicated staff and physicians, tremendous support from our volunteer and foundation organizations and exceptional community support. Each of our three hospitals play an important role in the communities we serve and HHS is highly regarded as a leader in community healthcare. I am looking forward to successfully completing our three capital projects, leading the continued evolution of HHS and assuring a strong future for this high performing healthcare organization."

Using the services of an executive search firm, the HHS Board initiated a comprehensive search process last October. Part of the process included an extensive stakeholder consultation that led to the development of a robust leadership profile. The national search garnered a significant response.

"The competition for this position was substantial," continued Ms Wilson. "The interest we received in the search process confirmed that HHS is a well-respected organization in the healthcare sector."

Ms Hardenne brings over 28 years of progressive leadership experience to the job. She joined HHS in 2000 as the Vice-President of Professional Practice. In 2007 she was promoted to Senior Vice President. Prior to being appointed Interim President & CEO she held the title of Executive Vice President for HHS and provided leadership for hospital operations, quality and enterprise risk management. In this capacity she was also the Executive lead for Operational Readiness planning across all three HHS Redevelopment projects. Denise has a demonstrated commitment and expertise in identifying and successfully implementing and sustaining operational efficiencies. She has a proven ability to balance the quality and fiscal agenda.

Denise is an alumnus of the University of Saskatchewan graduating with BScN and McED degrees. She has a Wharton School of Business Fellowship in Management for Chief Nurse Executives and has completed the Rotman Not-for-Profit Governance Essentials Program. She also has an MBA degree from Queen's University and is an Academic Mentor for Masters level students for the U of T Health Services Administration Program.

Denise has been a designated Health System surveyor with Accreditation Canada for the past 15 years and has served as an external expert consultant for the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and other healthcare organizations to assist with the completion of operational efficiency reviews.

"I look forward to working with the Board and my colleagues on the senior team to ensure the organization continues to deliver high quality patient care experiences to our communities," said Ms Hardenne.

"Denise is a tremendous asset to the organization and we are very fortunate that she has accepted this role," concluded Ms Wilson. "We are confident that her vision and leadership will further advance HHS' mission of providing quality compassionate care and services to meet the diverse needs of our population and to be leaders in working towards a healthier community."

Halton Healthcare Services (HHS) is a progressive, multi-site healthcare organization comprised of three community hospitals - Georgetown Hospital (GH), Milton District Hospital (MDH) and Oakville-Trafalgar Memorial Hospital (OTMH). Together these hospitals provide healthcare services to more than 300,000 residents in the communities of Oakville, Milton and Halton Hills. With an outstanding reputation as a workplace of choice and a good community partner, HHS hospitals have been recognized for their best practices in a number of patient safety and patient care initiatives. In 2013, HHS was Accredited with Exemplary Standing - the highest possible status granted by Accreditation Canada. Halton Healthcare Services has an operating budget of \$280 million.

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