

Almaguin Highlands Health Council Presentation to MAOHT Collaboration Steering Committee

August 2025

Purpose of Today's Presentation Almaguin Highlands Health Council (AHHC):

Who we are

Our mission

Our ask of patients, families, caregivers and our healthcare partners

AHHC - Who we are



Municipal Partners from 10 Almaguin Highlands Municipalities

Healthcare Provider Partners

-MAHC Hospital

- Muskoka Almaguin OHT

- Almaguin Highlands FHT

- Sundridge & District Medical Team

- Many others...

Community Partners

- Residents

- Patient/Family /Caregiver

- Economic Development

- Many others...

Our Mission

AHHC is:

- Committed to the Health for All approach, particularly with respect to community and local government being key partners in local healthcare delivery, and
- Preparing for the future of healthcare in Almaguin Highlands by finding ways to support patients, families, caregivers and our healthcare partners to eliminate barriers to people getting the care they need in Almaguin Highlands



Our Ask

- Of patients, families, and caregivers:
 please tell us what 'you' need to help
 eliminate barriers to getting the care 'you'
 need in the Almaguin Highlands region,
 and
- Of healthcare partners: please tell us which initiatives you will be undertaking in the next 3 to 5 years to enhance service delivery in the Almaguin Highlands region, and which initiatives you would like to undertake but lack the local resources or support to undertake them.

Then AHHC will:

- Use this input to identify opportunities for local government to work with you to support enhancement of healthcare delivery in the Almaguin Highlands region, and
- Host a public summit to share the results.





- https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/AlmaguinHealth careProviders
 - Healthcare provider survey sent to each CSC member by email
 - One-on-one meetings can be arranged for those providers wishing to provide a more detailed narrative
- https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/AHHC2025
 - Patient, family, caregiver survey posted on each municipality's website and paper copies available throughout the Almaguin Highlands region

In Closing

- AHHC is asking patients, families, caregivers and our healthcare partners to participate in the survey, or meet with us one-on-one to share your plans for delivery of healthcare in the Almaguin Highlands region because,
- Working together we know we can achieve our mission.





Questions?

Appendix of Survey Questions

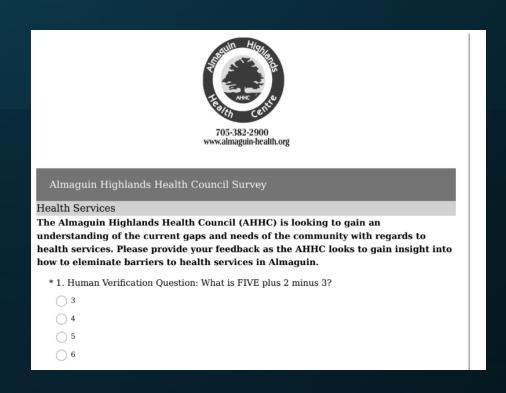
Healthcare Provider Survey



AHHC Survey for Healthcare Providers

1. Please tell us which initiatives you will be undertaking in the next 3-5 years to enhance
service delivery in the Almaguin Highlands region?
2. Which initiatives would you like to undertake but lack the local resources or support to undertake them?
3. Looking beyond the 5-year horizon, what technology and service delivery innovations do you anticipate will have a direct impact on the ability to move more healthcare services closer to home (or in home) forpatients?

Patient, Family, Caregiver Survey



Almaguin Highlands He	alth Council Survey	
Primary Residence		
2. Which municipality are y	ou from?	
Perry	Ryerson	South River
McMurrich/Monteith	Magnetawan	Machar
Kearney	Strong	Opowassan
Armour	Sundridge	
Burk's Falls	Oly	
Other (please specify)		
3. Are you a:		
opermanent resident		
 Seasonal resident 		
O Tourist/visitor of the area		

Almaguin Highlands Health Council Survey			
maguin Local Healthcare Inform	ation		
4. If you are a permanent resident o provider located?	f Almaguin, where is your current family healthcare		
Burk's Falls	○ Huntsville		
Sundridge	Parry Sound		
O South River	North Bay		
Other (please specify)			
far are your traveling to access your			
	provider is not located within the town you reside in, how family healthcare practioner? Over an hour drive		
far are your traveling to access your	family healthcare practioner?		
far are your traveling to access your Under 15 minute drive	family healthcare practioner? over an hour drive		
far are your traveling to access your Under 15 minute drive 15-30 minute drive 30-60 minute drive 6. When you require healthcare servare some of the costs/ longterm expenses	over an hour drive Not Applicable		
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far are your traveling to access your Under 15 minute drive 15-30 minute drive 30-60 minute drive 6. When you require healthcare servare some of the costs/ longterm experience. Gas/mileage	r family healthcare practioner? over an hour drive Not Applicable vices not currently available in the Almaguin region, what		

Almaguin Highlands Health Council Survey Seasonal Resident or Visitor Information 8. Do you have an interest or plans to move to the Almaguin area in the next 5 years? Yes No Undecided

7. Are you on a waitlist for a local healthcare provider?			
Yes, I am currently without a family healthcare provider			
Yes, I am on a waitlist, but am currently with a healthcare provider from outside of the region			
No, I am already with a local healthcare provider			
No, I am with with family healthcare provider from outside of the region and will continue to travel outside the area for family care.			
Other (please specify)			

10. What services do you need to travel outside of the Almaguin area for?				
11. What do you need to eliminate barriers to health services within Almaguin?				
12. Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey. Please let us know if you have any				
other comments or questions that were not addressed in this survey.				

Almaguin Highlands Health Council Survey				
Health Services				
What types of health services do you access Primary care with a family physician or nurse practitioner	Mental Health Therapy			
X-ray services Lab/bloodwork services Physiotherapy services	Ontario Telelmedicine Network Diabetes Management Foot care clinic			
Other (please specify)				



AHHC HISTORY

Budget Cuts Impact the Almaguin Highlands

Healthcare services in Burk's Falls drastically reduced by MAHC

Mobilization

Initially directed to North Simcoe - Muskoka LHIN, then later directed to NorthEast LHIN; AHHC not-for-profit org formed; healthcare provider forums held; public engagement

Business Plan

Initial Business Plan, supporting a Community Health Centre approach, finalized; web site developed

Services Added / Retained

Wheelchair van transportation (East Parry Sound Community Services) added; lab / x-ray services confirmed (MAHC); Burk's Falls retained building ownership; building upgrades completed



Joined Muskoka&Area OHT (along with physicians from BF and Sundridge) as Supporting Partner. Members of Collaborative Steering Committee, Health Human Resources Working Group, Digital Working Group





Renewed Focus

Refocused AHHC on 4 "pillars"; started development of physician re-engagement; physician recruitment (NOSM)





Services Added

COVID Assessment Centre; continued to document healthcare needs



Membership Updates

AHHC membership updated as result of elections; additional OTN funding from municipalities



2018

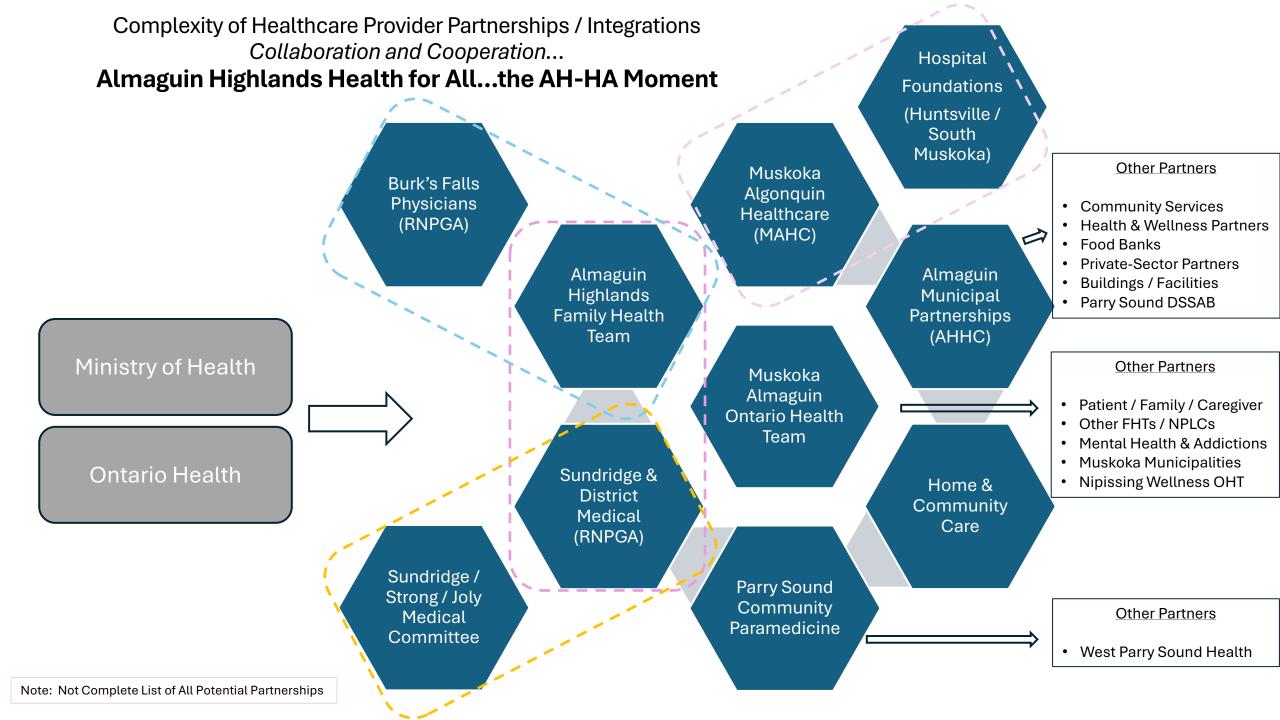
Services Added / Retained

Ontario Telemedicine (OTN) services upgraded





...throughout this timeline we have had to fight to keep existing services, not just try to add new ones...



RECENT HIGHLIGHTS

✓ AHHC targets \$9.5m toward MAHC redevelopment + additional \$2.5m Almaguin-focused services (\$12-m over 12 years)

✓ MAHC Local Share goal accomplished



✓ BFFHT renamed Almaguin Highlands FHT

✓ AHFHT becomes transfer payment org for new primary care funding, enhancing integration with Sundridge

✓ Huntsville Hospital Foundation kicks off Almaguin-focused capital fund-raising

✓ Renewed Almaguinwide healthcare strategy / roadmap (continued integration with all healthcare partners)

Target

Oct 2025

Dec 2023

June 2024

Target

Aug 2024

✓ Province announces primary care funding increase for Sundridge and Burk's Falls (now Almaguin Highlands) FHT (total ~ \$600k)

Feb 2024

✓ Additional Nurse Practitioners and new programs at AHFHT and Sundridge (result

√ Target immediate reduction of current primary care wait list

of new funding)



