



## MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Temporary Patient Beds Announced for The Willett

**Brantford, ON (November 17, 2017) –**

On October 23, 2017, Ontario Health Minister Dr. Eric Hoskins announced additional government funding for hospitals across Ontario to make more patient beds available as hospitals prepare for an increase in demand due to flu season.

As part of this funding, the Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant Local Health Integration Network (HNHB LHIN) received additional funding for temporary beds to be allocated throughout the LHIN based on need.

As a result, the Brant Community Healthcare System (BCHS) has been provided with an additional 32 temporary surge beds for flu season.

“Brant Community Health care System has shown itself to be a valuable healthcare partner within the HNHB LHIN. As the LHIN continues to address the ongoing demand on hospital resources, we will continue to work closely with our hospital and community partners to look at innovative solutions to meet patient needs,” said Donna Cripps, HNHB LHIN CEO.

To help accommodate patient flow and utilize available space, these additional beds are being assigned to The Willett in Paris. These beds will help to decrease congestion at the Brantford General Hospital (BGH).

Next week, renovations at The Willett will begin as we work to ensure the facility and patient rooms are prepared for patient accommodation. We will start utilizing these temporary patient rooms at the start of January.

“The available space at The Willett provided us the opportunity to be creative in our thinking. This interim allocation will help to alleviate overcrowding at the BGH site during flu season, which is always a difficult time for the BCHS,” said Dr. Glenn Bartlett, BCHS interim CEO.

Staff at both The Willett and BGH will have all resources and supports they need to provide the best possible care for their patients and for the communities we serve.

**For further information, please contact:**

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**About The Brant Community Healthcare System**

The Brant Community Healthcare System is a fully accredited, award-winning health-care organization, and an affiliated teaching site of the McMaster University Michael G. DeGroot School of Medicine. Brantford General is a regional acute care health centre and the Willett, Paris is an ambulatory centre providing urgent care.