

Shelburne beds get reprieve

By WES KELLER
Freelance Reporter

The 22 long-term-care beds at Shelburne hospital got at least a brief reprieve when Central West Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) delayed approval of the Headwaters Health Care Centre (HHCC) budget until it gets more information.

HHCC CEO Cholly Boland said in a phone interview the hospital Board presented its budget to the LHIN last week "but they wanted more information."

to give as much information as they need to make a decision," he said, but wouldn't elaborate when asked what kind of information the LHIN wanted. Instead, he said he would prefer if such information came from them.

At HHCC's budget meeting two weeks ago, it had become clear that a balanced budget hinged on a plan to transfer 22 of the Shelburne long-term complex care's beds to Orangeville. It also became clear that the General Medical Staff, internists and Emergency Room staff,

among others, were opposed. But the consensus of the Board, and its almost unanimous vote in favour, suggested there was no alternative if the budget were to be balanced.

At the LHIN, CEO Mimi Lowi-Young said Tuesday her Board, which is generally the funding agency and overseer of health-care services, has not only to see that budgets are balanced but is also concerned with the process.

Part of that process is "community engagement, both internal and external," she said. And LHIN does

not want to see a reduction in programs. Whether to move programs from one location to another or not would be "an internal decision," one for the hospital Board.

But "we have to look at what they're proposing" including what improvements need to be made at HHCC to accommodate the program.

Ms. Lowi-Young said the final decision would be "soon," perhaps even as early as this week - maybe even at a meeting last night.

So the reprieve might be short lived.

U.S. consul general to speak locally

The Rotary Club of Orangeville, The Greater Dufferin Homebuilders Association, and the Greater Dufferin Area Chamber of Commerce will present United States Consul General Kevin Johnson as the guest speaker for their 2010 Industry Luncheon.

Mr. Johnson has represented the U.S. as Consul General in Toronto since August of 2009. Joining the Foreign Service in 1983, he served in eight embassies in Europe and Latin America as well as in Washington

before coming to Canada.

Mr. Johnson served as Deputy Chief of Mission (DCM) in Oslo, Norway from 2006 to 2009, and as DCM in Asuncion, Paraguay from 2003 to 2006. He is a 2003 distinguished graduate of the National War College in Washington D.C.

Previously, he served as Counselor of Embassy for Political Affairs in San Salvador from 1999 to 2002, and Senior Watch Officer in the Department of State's Operations Center 1998-99. He was an American Political Science Association Congressional Fellow, working in the office of Senator Richard Lugar from 1997 to 1998, and served as a political officer in Helsinki 1994-1997 and in San Salvador 1990-1993 when he covered the end of the Salvadoran civil war and successful peace process. He served earlier in administrative

positions in Bonn, Germany and Buenos Aires, Argentina and as a Vice Consul in Bogotá, Colombia.

Mr. Johnson holds a Masters in National Security Strategy from the National War College and a Masters in International Affairs from Columbia University. He completed his undergraduate degree in International Studies at American University in Washington, also serving as an intern in the State Department's Bureau of International Organization Affairs.

Kevin is married to America Johnson and has two grown sons. He will be speaking on several issues that our two nations have in common.

The event will take place

at the Best Western Orangeville next Thursday, February 11. Doors open at 11:30 with Mr. Johnson's speech running from 12:10 to 12:55. Mr. Johnson will be available for questions from the media following lunch at approximately 2:00.



FAMILIES IN MOTION DAY: February 15 has been proclaimed as Families in Motion Day in Orangeville. The Family Day activities, planned by the Parks and Recreation Department, runs from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Alder Street Recreation Centre, with free skating, free swimming, and free children's games and activities. For the complete schedule visit www.orangeville.ca or pick up an event card at the recreation centres, the libraries and Town Hall. Mayor Rob Adams encourages everyone to participate in Orangeville's in motion activities and celebrate Family Day. From left to right at the proclamation signing are Children's Recreation Programmer Tracy Kelly, Mayor Adams, Radhika Rateja, Alexis Whyton (front left), Brianna Gier, Saya Rateja (front right), Kelsey Anthony, Kendyl Burgess, and lifeguard Wendy Hunter.

Contributed Photo

Correction

The photo of Bert Gauthier being honoured as citizen of the year by the Lord Dufferin IODE, run last week, contained misinformation regarding who is in the picture. The cutline should have read, left to right, Pam Cohen, Joyce Gauthier, Bert Gauthier and Ronnie Inglis.

Library launches local history centre

The Orangeville Public Library has launched a revitalized local history centre at its Mill Street location.

Resources on the Town of Orangeville and Dufferin County are now located in one central site in the library for easy access. New titles have been added to the local history collection as well as re-introduced titles that have been in storage in

recent years. The local history centre also boasts a new state-of-the-art digital microfilm reader that allows users to scan microfilm and microfiche to an e-mail, CD, memory stick or printer. An image can be magnified many times and visually

adjusted for maximum printing quality.

Technical services coordinator Kim Welsh says the library is committed to growing the local history collection.

Several local family genealogies will be available as well as material such

as Jack Brooksbank's collection of drawings of Dufferin.

Orangeville District Secondary School recently donated a DVD of older yearbooks and a documentary on their recent anniversary celebration.

The updated collection

has been made possible thanks to the community contributions at book sales, the Dufferin County Museum and Archives for contributions to the print collection, and Van Harten Surveying for a contribution to purchase the microfilm reader.

CARRIER OF THE MONTH



Jacob Green is the Citizen carrier of the month for January. The Grade 7 Credit Meadows student delivers 80 papers in the area of Eastview Crescent and Lawton Court. His interests extend far beyond going to school and delivering papers, though. Jacob participates in downhill skiing and dirt biking, plays classical guitar and is interested in remote control cars. Down the road, he aspires to be a pilot.

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