

# Information Release

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## ***thehealthline.ca Information Network Welcomes New Board Members***

To support its continued growth, thehealthline.ca Information Network recently recruited three new board members.

“We’re delighted to welcome these talented and committed individuals,” said Glen Kearns, Chair of the Network board. “They bring fresh energy and new perspectives to an already strong board.”

Kearns, a long-time member of the board, serves as Integrated Vice President, Diagnostic Services and Chief Information Officer for London Health Sciences Centre and St. Joseph's Health Care, London, Ontario. “I see the Network as an important piece in the healthcare puzzle,” he says. “It uses advanced technology to help healthcare providers work together to make care better. It also provides consumers and providers with reliable information about health services. The health system is complex, so a resource like this is critical.”

Jane Berardini, one of the new board members, is a public health nurse in maternal and child health. “Providing access to health resources and supports and connecting people to their community are very important to me,” she says. “I use thehealthline.ca regularly in my work. I encourage patients and caregivers to use it too.” Berardini says she’s excited to be able to contribute to the development of the Network.

Also new to the Board are Alan McCafferty, a strategic consultant, and Penelope Salvarakis, a senior project coordinator at eHealth Ontario.

The Network is best known as the home of thehealthline.ca, 14 regional websites that provide up-to-date information about health services to Ontario patients, doctors, and health care providers. It is a provincial resource created and maintained by the Network in partnership with Ontario’s Local Health Integration Networks and Health Shared Services Ontario.

But the Network is much more, says Kearns. “We get involved in a variety of initiatives,” he says. “Working with dozens of health organizations across Ontario, we have developed initiatives ranging from a free collaboration platform and a listing of specialist physicians, to ‘mini-sites’ for specialized patient populations and an online screening tool for older adults at risk.” Earlier this year, thehealthline.ca team received the South West LHIN Quality Award for its contribution to the South West Assess and Restore Project.

Kearns adds: “The Network is always looking for health system partners who share our commitment to collaboration, sharing, and innovation.”

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***About thehealthline.ca Information Network***

*thehealthline.ca Information Network is a non-profit organization dedicated to helping consumers and providers navigate the complex healthcare system, and to helping managers and planners improve efficiency, access, and quality. It is governed by a Board of Directors and operated on a day-to-day basis from a head office in London, Ontario. thehealthline.ca website, launched in 2002 serving London and Middlesex has grown to serve all of Ontario with 14 regional sites listing more than 45,000 health and community services from more than 20,000 organizations. The Network is involved in more than 35 other initiatives involving information sharing and collaboration across the healthcare spectrum.*

[informationnetwork.thehealthline.ca](http://informationnetwork.thehealthline.ca)