

Pembroke Regional Hospital Is Excited To Be Part Of An Expanded Alliance Of Eastern Ontario Hospitals Using The *Epic* Digital Health System

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Pembroke Regional Hospital is excited to announce that it will be joining five other Eastern Ontario hospitals in the adoption of *Epic*, the health information system which features the *MyChart* patient portal.

Together with Arnprior Regional Health, Glengarry Memorial Hospital, Hôpital Montfort, Queensway Carleton Hospital and The Royal, PRH will be part of an expanded launch of the digital health records system in the fall of 2026 which will ensure that patients and health care providers across Eastern Ontario have seamless access to health records while improving care coordination and patient outcomes.

Once the onboarding is complete, patients and health care providers at any one of the 16 partner organizations collectively known as the Atlas Alliance, will have access to the patient health records they need with just a few clicks. *Epic's* implementation and oversight will be managed by The Ottawa Hospital (TOH).

Cameron Love, TOH President and CEO explained that the expanded scope of the implementation project means that Pembroke Regional Hospital's go-live for *Epic* will be taking place later than initially anticipated. "This extended time to implementation takes into account the expanded workload to onboard six hospitals, the need to recruit for larger implementation teams, and the lead up training that will need to take place in order to ensure everyone is ready for go-live."

However, he said the end result of having 16 hospitals all on the same platform will be a real game changer for patients who often have appointments at multiple hospitals in the region and will soon, under *Epic*, have a single digital health record that can be accessed through *MyChart* and by any of the Atlas Alliance partners.

Acknowledging the work that Pembroke Regional Hospital has already completed in advance of *Epic's* implementation, and the enthusiasm of the health care team, Mr. Love said that having an expanded network of hospitals using *Epic* will result in a stronger, more integrated system that will be of great benefit to all. "The additional lead time will also allow us to ensure a smooth transition and integration of the *Epic* system, ultimately leading to better patient care and health outcomes."

PRH President and CEO Sabine Mersmann said the hospital's multi-million dollar investment in *Epic* will completely transform the hospital from working with a paper-based patient record to having a fully integrated electronic system.

This means that when patients are transferred between hospitals, critical information will be available immediately to their new health care team and patients won't have to repeat their medical history over and over. The result will be more seamless, coordinated care and a greater sense of empowerment for our patients and their families.

From a recruitment perspective for physicians and other health care professionals, *Epic's* adoption will represent a standardized way of care delivery regardless of location and the hospital's learners will also be more comfortable moving between hospitals knowing the system and way of doing things is all the same.

"Onboarding with five other hospital partners will mean significant cost savings and incredible collaboration as we will all have access to the same standardized care pathways and best practices," Mrs. Mersmann said.

Acknowledging that this change project will represent the largest our hospital has ever undertaken, Mrs. Mersmann said "Our team and our community are more than ready for this technological advancement and we are doing all we need on our end to prepare our hospital for this transformation."

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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