

## MEDIA RELEASE

**For Immediate Release:**

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### **London Health Sciences Centre establishes new organizational structure to drive innovative, inclusive and compassionate care**

**(LONDON, Ontario)** – Committed to meeting current challenges and building an even stronger health care system for the community, London Health Sciences Centre (LHSC) is establishing a new organizational structure to drive innovative, inclusive and compassionate patient-centered care.

The appointment and onboarding of candidates is currently underway. It includes those who have led in executive positions at LHSC for a number of years, as well as five new team members.

Over the past few weeks, LHSC internally announced a number of appointments, including Cathy Vandersluis as President, University Hospital; Nash Syed as President, Children's Hospital; and Deborah Wiseman as President, Victoria Hospital. While LHSC is one unified team, it is also a dynamic organization in an evolving health system. Recognizing this, each President will work collaboratively with staff, physicians and leaders to strengthen our mission of care, teaching and research.

“The pandemic has created unique challenges for health care systems across the country,” said Dr. Jackie Schleifer Taylor, LHSC President and CEO. “As we focus on recovery and system transformation, we are building a disciplined and talented team that will leverage LHSC’s legacy of care and innovation to drive change. Our team will collaborate across the system to meet the health care needs of those in our region.”

The executive team will strengthen LHSC in the following ways:

- **Organization-wide oversight.** LHSC is re-configuring leadership oversight accountabilities across the organization, while still empowering effective, hospital-specific leadership. This will ensure LHSC's staff, physicians and leaders are aligned in building an environment of service excellence that results in the highest quality care.
- **System innovation.** LHSC is partnering to enhance care and drive research into future innovations by working more closely with regional, national and international partners and systems. The benefits will include a seamless care experience for patients and families, access to new treatments through clinical trials, and deepened relationships across the health system.
- **Human resources and wellness.** LHSC is investing in its people through the development of comprehensive recruitment and staff wellness strategies, with the Human Resources and Workforce Wellness Executive having direct accountability for staff wellness. LHSC is caring for its teams in order to best care for the community.
- **Health disciplines.** LHSC is further empowering the expertise and talent of its workforce. Health Human Resource constraints have been a concern throughout the pandemic and now more than ever, LHSC must ensure all health disciplines, from physiotherapists to pharmacists, are supported in their practice. The organization will deepen relationships with regulatory colleges, professional associations, colleges and universities to ensure LHSC is an employer of choice for tomorrow's practitioners. The goal is to build back our resources while fostering a supportive environment of ongoing learning and continuous improvement.
- **Academics.** LHSC is fortifying its mission as one of Canada's largest teaching hospitals and growing its affiliation agreements with world-class academic institutions. The benefits include fostering an inclusive learning culture, strengthening relationships with Western

University and Fanshawe College, and recruiting tomorrow's health care practitioners.

“In the coming months, we will assign specific accountabilities for other critical functions like capacity and social accountability, including equity, inclusion and Indigenous health,” added Dr. Schleifer Taylor. “I’m proud to collaborate with this team of strategic visionaries. Each one recognizes that they are here to serve patients, families, staff and physicians. We’re incredibly fortunate to benefit from their skill and I look forward to working alongside them as we reimagine and re-establish the future of health care.”

### **Quick Facts**

- LHSC is establishing a highly-skilled executive team that includes existing executives as well as five new team members. The new team members are:
  - Tammy Quigley, System Innovation and Business Development Executive
  - Deborah Wiseman, President, Victoria Hospital
  - Abhi Mukherjee, Corporate Services Executive/CFO
  - CJ Curran, Corporate Health Disciplines Executive
  - John French, Clinical Diagnostics Executive (joint appointment with St. Joseph's Health Care London)

### **About London Health Sciences Centre**

With roots going back a century and a half, London Health Sciences Centre (LHSC), is an award-winning, research-intensive acute tertiary and quaternary teaching hospital, one of only 14 such hospitals in Ontario. LHSC is also home to Children's Hospital, one of just four acute tertiary care paediatric hospitals in the province. Our unique place in the health system positions us well to inform and advise on provincial, national and international health policy. We are the cornerstone of care for many specialized programs and services in Western Ontario. And, as a major provider of emergency care and through our community hospital mission, we also care for the more than 400,000 people who call London home as well as many in surrounding communities. With Ontario's health system

continuing its transformation, LHSC has an opportunity to inform it and to place itself at the locus of the regionalized health system by virtue of its size, specialized capabilities, research and education capacity and its current regional footprint. LHSC's formal relationship and strong bond with Western University provide a mechanism for collaboration to enable the delivery of high-quality care through a process of continuous learning and research. At its core, the affiliation is a reciprocal relationship that leverages the learning, teaching and care environments of both Western University and LHSC. LHSC is a 15,000 person strong team of physicians, staff and volunteers – collaborators, innovators and pioneers, meeting the care needs of those we serve and charting a course for the future.

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