Grey-Bruce OHT

YEAR IN REVIEW

2025-2026

Working toward a better healthcare experience for you close to home.



Grey-Bruce OHT

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



The 2025-2026 fiscal year was another successful and productive year for the Grey Bruce Ontario Health Team. Through partnership, collaboration and a shared commitment to improving care, we continued to make meaningful progress across our local health system.

Throughout the year, we focused on improving access to primary care, strengthening the coordination and integration of services, advancing health equity and building stronger relationships across Grey Bruce.

I would like to extend a special thank you to our OHT staff team and leadership, including Dr. Kelly Fenn, Dr. Libby Cox, Dr. Debbie Dyke, Dana Howes, Kathy Irwin, Nichol Cruise and Kate Barnard, for their leadership, expertise and continued commitment.

I would also like to recognize the members of our Primary Care Network Board and Coordinating Council, as well as the many physicians, nurse practitioners, health and social service organizations, municipalities and community partners who contributed to this work.

The accomplishments highlighted in this report demonstrate what is possible when we work together with a shared purpose.

Thank you for your continued partnership and commitment to improving health care for everyone living in Grey Bruce.

Lindsay Johnston

Lindsay Johnston
Executive Director
Grey Bruce Ontario Health Team

THANK YOU TO OUR GBOHT STAFF TEAM & LEADERSHIP

PCN Board Members

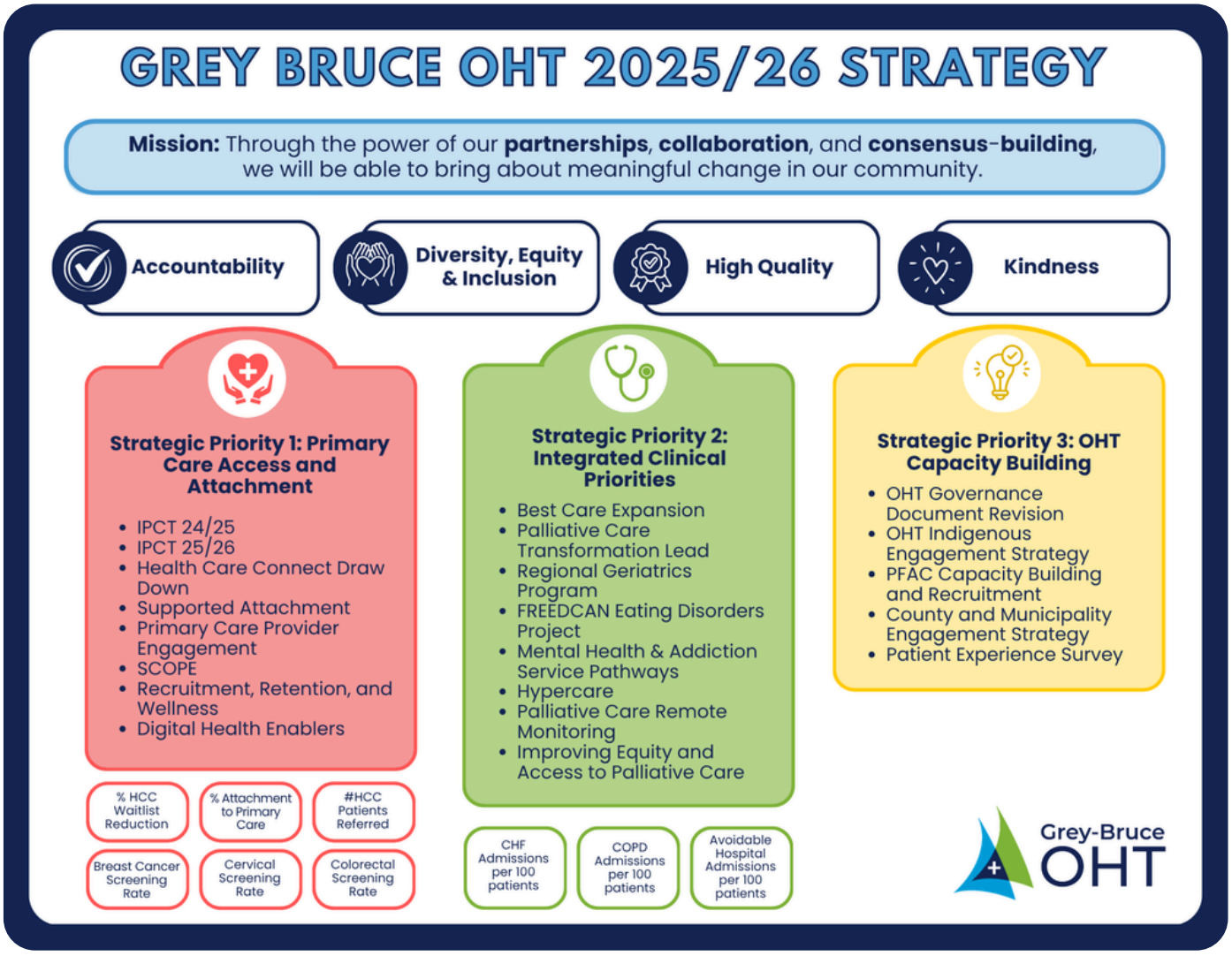
Coordinating Council Members

All health, social service and community partners

2025-2026
GBOHT YEAR IN REVIEW

The 2025-2026 fiscal year was marked by meaningful progress and strong collaboration across the Grey Bruce Ontario Health Team. Working alongside health care, social service, municipal and community partners, the GBOHT continued to improve access to care, strengthen system coordination and build a more connected, equitable and responsive local health system.

The following strategy reflects our shared vision for a healthier Grey Bruce.



STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1

PRIMARY CARE ACCESS AND ATTACHMENT

OUR GOALS

- Expand access to team-based primary care.
- Design and implement a program that supports primary care providers to attach more patients.
- Clear the pre-January 1, 2025 Health Care Connect waitlist.
- Increase physician and nurse practitioner engagement across the GBOHT Primary Care Network.

PROGRESS IN 2025-2026

- Facilitated the writing and submission of five successful IPCT proposals
- Supported implementation of all Round 1 proposals (Round 2 approved in Apr 2026).
- Developed and implemented the GBOHT Supported Attachment Program, available to all medical clinics in Grey Bruce.
- Supported physicians to attach new patients and reduced the pre-Jan 1, 2025 Health Care Connect waitlist by more than 90%.
- Hosted two Continuing Medical Education events for local physicians and nurse practitioners.
- Reduced administrative burden for local primary care organizations, physicians and nurse practitioners through digital enablers, custom forms and EMR efficiencies.
- Initiated the inaugural Primary Care Network Board to strengthen PCP voice in health system change.
- Supported a regional collaborative approach to Primary Care Provider recruitment, retention and wellness.

BY THE NUMBERS

7000+

Residents attached to local primary care (89% have a family physician or NP).

5,211 (97%)

Patients removed from the pre-January 1, 2025 Health Care Connect waitlist as of March 31, 2026.

$7 MILLION+

In base funding for team-based primary care secured through IPCT funding.

900

Patients supported through the GBOHT Supported Attachment Program.

80+

Custom EMR and OCEAN forms and 46 privacy compliant web-based form created.

1

Regional recruitment webpage developed collaboratively with the Grey Bruce Primary Care Recruitment, Retention and Wellness Collaborative.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2

INTEGRATED CLINICAL PRIORITIES

OUR GOALS

- Advance community-based care for individuals at risk or living with chronic disease to support primary care and reduce hospital use.
- Collaborate with regional partners to create initiatives geared towards improving quality and integration of care for local populations including: palliative care, older adults and mental health and addictions.

BY THE NUMBERS

900

Grey Bruce patients with COPD or CHF enrolled or impacted by Best Care service implementation and expansion.

98

Patients served through the Palliative Care Nurse Navigator Remote Care Monitoring Program.

PROGRESS IN 2025-2026

- Supported increased capacity of Best Care (COPD and CHF) HSP from 1.0 FTE to 2.0 FTE.
- Expanded Best Care to five additional sites in Grey Bruce, including sites without previous access to team-based care.
- Initiated and continued facilitation of the Mental Health and Addictions Service Delivery Working Group, a working group of the Grey Bruce Mental Health and Addictions Network.
- Expanded the Remote Care Monitoring (RCM) Palliative Care Nurse Navigator Program to additional sites on the North and South Bruce Peninsula and to support the Grey Bruce Palliative Medicine Group.
- Initiated and continued support of the Primary Geriatrics Project.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3

OHT CAPACITY BUILDING

OUR GOALS

- Strengthen patient, family and caregiver representation at decision-making tables.
- Strengthen Indigenous partnerships and support reconciliation.
- Build strong communication pathways between the GBOHT, Grey and Bruce Counties, municipalities of Grey and Bruce, provincial elected officials, community focused corporate partners, and additional health and social service organizations.
- Embed health equity and inclusion in all OHT initiatives.

BY THE NUMBERS

66% Average newsletter open rate for all FY 2025-2026 newsletters.

200 Vulnerable and marginalized unattached patients successfully attached to a primary care provider through the Primary Care Without Walls Initiative.

300 Patients enrolled during fiscal year 2025-2026 at Noongwa Wellness IPHCO.

44 Patients with 480 encounters served through the IEAPC Program.

PROGRESS IN 2025-2026

Annual GBOHT OHT Communication Plan developed and implemented. Plan includes:

- Quarterly OHT Partner Newsletter
- Quarterly OHT Primary Care Network Newsletter
- Quarterly Community Newsletter
- Quarterly Municipal Updates (also shared with County Councils, Staff, and local MPPs)

New Indigenous Primary Health Care Organization (IPHCO) established in Nawash Unceded First Nation.

Indigenous Primary Care Provider seat filled on the Primary Care Network (PCN) Board (Leadership and Decision Making Table).

Community Council seat filled on the OHT Coordinating Council (Leadership and Decision Making Table).

Implemented the Improving Equity and Access to Palliative Care (EAPC) Navigator role, serving Indigenous, homeless, and vulnerably housed populations in Grey Bruce.

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS

The progress highlighted throughout this report was made possible through the dedication, expertise and collaboration of many.

We extend our sincere appreciation to our partner organizations, physicians, nurse practitioners, hospitals, health and social service providers, Indigenous partners, municipalities, elected officials, patients, families, caregivers and community organizations.

Your continued commitment, leadership and willingness to work together strengthen our local health system and support better care for the people and communities we collectively serve.

Together, we are building a healthier Grey Bruce.

GBOHT STAFF TEAM

Lindsay Johnston
Executive Director
Provides strategic leadership for the Grey Bruce Ontario Health Team, overseeing governance, operations, partner engagement, and the implementation of the OHT's strategic priorities.

Dr. Debbie Dyke
Clinical Lead
Provides clinical leadership and strategic guidance to support primary care integration, physician engagement, and the continued development of the Primary Care Network.

Kate Barnard
Project Manager
Leads the planning, coordination, implementation, and evaluation of strategic OHT initiatives, working collaboratively with partners to advance shared priorities.

Kathy Irwin
Digital Lead
Leads the implementation of digital health solutions that improve patient and provider experiences, streamline workflows, and reduce administrative burden across the health system.

Nichol Cruise
NP, Primary Care Access & Attachment Lead
Leads initiatives that improve access to primary care, including patient attachment, Health Care Connect, supported attachment, and preventive cancer screening initiatives.

Audrey Peters & Jessie Nusselder
Registered Nurses, Supported Attachment
Providing direct patient onboarding support to local Physicians and Nurse Practitioners.

Matt Milencoff
Population Health & Systems Performance Analyst
Provides data analysis, performance measurement, and population health insights that support evidence-informed planning, decision-making, and system improvement.

Julie Henderson
SCOPE Nurse Navigator
Supports primary care providers by coordinating access to specialist services and community resources for patients with complex health needs.

Taylor Deakin
Palliative Care Transformation Lead
Works with healthcare organizations and providers to strengthen palliative care through education, coaching, and implementation of Ontario's adult palliative care model.

Rachel Gallagher
Administrative & Project Coordinator
Provides administrative and project coordination support to the Executive Director, leadership tables, committees, and OHT initiatives.

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HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS

Physicians, nurse practitioners, hospitals and clinical teams.

HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICE PARTNERS

Health and social service organizations working together for our communities.

INDIGENOUS PARTNERS

Indigenous communities and organizations advancing culturally responsive care.

MUNICIPAL & GOVERNMENT PARTNERS

Grey and Bruce Counties, municipalities and elected officials.

PATIENTS, FAMILIES & COMMUNITIES

Thank you to everyone who shares their voices and helps shape our work.



Grey-Bruce OHT

LOOKING AHEAD TOGETHER



The 2025-2026 year strengthened our partnerships, expanded access to care and advanced important health system priorities.

As we look ahead, the GBOHT remains committed to building a more connected, equitable and responsive health system that reflects the needs and values of the people and communities we serve.

We will continue to work together with our partners, providers and communities to create lasting improvements and better health outcomes for everyone in Grey Bruce.

Thank you for being part of this important work.

A SHARED COMMITMENT TO BETTER HEALTH

COLLABORATION
We achieve more when we work together.

PARTNERSHIP
Strong relationships create stronger communities.

COMPASSION
People are at the centre of everything we do.

ACCOUNTABILITY
We are accountable to our partners and our community.

IMPACT
Together, we are building a healthier tomorrow.

CONNECT WITH US

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info@greybruceoht.ca

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