

An Open Letter to GTA/905 Residents

If you live in Durham, Halton, Peel or York here are some things you may not know about your high growth community.

GTA/905 Quick Facts:

Ontario's population growth rate between 2004 and 2005: **1.1%**
GTA/905 Region's population growth rate for the same period: **4.0%**
GTA/905 Region's average population growth (2001 to 2006): **107,320 per year**
Population of City of Kingston: **119,153**
Number of hospitals in Kingston: **2**
Number of new hospitals in GTA/905 since 2001: **0**

Percent of total Ontario population growth occurring in GTA/905 2003: **67%**
Percentage of new hospital funding given to GTA/905 hospitals in 2003: **14%**

Per capita funding for hospital services in Ontario in 2006: **\$824**
Per capita funding for hospital services in the GTA/905 in 2006: **\$573**

Acute care beds per 1,000 residents in Ontario: **1.44**
Acute care beds per 1,000 residents in GTA/905: **0.91**

Health care premiums contributed by GTA/905 residents (2005): **\$576M+**

Provincial government sponsored study on access to healthcare:

For 9 of 12 procedures GTA/905 residents had rates of access lower than Northern Ontario

The GTA/905 Healthcare Alliance is an association of local hospitals serving the three million residents of the high growth regions of Durham, Halton, Peel and York. We are concerned. Unfair funding is adversely affecting our communities. It is hurting everyone, healthcare providers and patients alike.

Why must GTA/905 residents go elsewhere for treatment when they could receive the care they need, in their own community, if their local hospital only had a fair share of the provincial funding? Our hospitals are efficient, high quality and cost effective. We say enough is enough. It is time for better healthcare close to home.

If you know others in the GTA/905 who would be interested in these facts please feel free to forward this letter to them. All GTA/905 residents should be made aware of the current situation. If you want to do more, please contact your local MPP, express your concern and ask for your fair share of provincial health care funding.

For more information about the status of hospital care in the GTA/905 or for a convenient way to contact your MPP please visit our website at: www.gta905health.com

Sincerely,



Kirk W. Corkery
Chair, GTA/905 Healthcare Alliance