



TORC Fall 06 Forum

September 25-26th  
Sudbury, Ontario

**Rural Health and the  
new LHINs: What Can  
We Expect?**  
*Exploring the impact of  
Local Health Integration*

THE ONTARIO RURAL COUNCIL

# TORC Summer 2006 Update

## New Executive Director Joins TORC

**GUELPH** - TORC's Board of Directors has announced the start date for the Council's new Executive Director.

**Harold Flaming** will join the TORC office on July 17<sup>th</sup> and spend his inaugural weeks getting acquainted with the membership and operational end of the organization.

TORC recently announced the appointment of Harold Flaming as Executive Director following a successful, active executive search this past spring. "We were really pleased with the quality and quantity of applicants," reports TORC chair Al Lauzon. "We definitely thank them for their interest and are very much looking forward to welcoming Harold to the TORC office this summer."

Harold joins TORC on the heels of a well-respected career with OMAFRA, where

he held positions in the Land Use Planning Division and later the Community Economic Development Unit, where he spent many years as Program Lead.

In accepting his new position, Harold cited his Ontario Public Service career as having provided him with a strong foundation in understanding the nature and complexity of issues within the rural dynamic.

"The strength of TORC depends upon effective communication...and our ability to establish and implement initiatives that truly address the needs of the membership, our partners and rural Ontario overall," noted Flaming.

"I believe TORC can build on its strengths and play a significant role in improving the state of rural in this province."

## TORC sets date for AGM

TORC Members are asked to set aside **September 7th**, and mark it on their calendars as the date of the 2006 TORC Annual General Meeting (AGM).

As with every year, TORC Board elections will precede the AGM and TORC members can expect to receive the annual election poll via e-

mail over the course of the summer.

Plans are under way to host the AGM in Guelph, with all relevant information to be confirmed in the weeks ahead. Members are asked to stay tuned to the TORC website ([www.torc.on.ca](http://www.torc.on.ca)) where details will be posted as they become available.

## Fall Forum Focus: Rural Health and the LHINs

**SUDBURY** - Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs) are front and centre as the topic of focus at TORC's upcoming Fall 2006 Forum.

**"Rural Health and the LHINs: What Can We Expect?"** will take place September 25-26, 2006 in Sudbury. The one and half-day event will be presented in partnership with the Centre for Rural and Northern Health Research (CRaNHR).

"With the introduction of LHINs to Ontario, the provincial government has embarked upon a significant restructuring and regionalization of our health care system, in terms of the planning, funding and coordination of health services," notes Jim Whaley, chair of

TORC's Rural Health Working Group and Forum planning committee.

Whaley reports Forum participants can expect to hear from the leaders of several of Ontario's new LHINs about their specific plans to address the rural health

challenges in their respective regions. Participants will also gain from the experiences of regional health authorities in other provinces about the impact regionalization has had on their rural and northern health care. Stay tuned for more details @ [www.torc.on.ca](http://www.torc.on.ca) in the weeks ahead.

## Conference Presentations Now Posted on TORC Website

For those who may have missed THE Rural Development Conference 2006 or simply want to revisit some of the words spoken, the TORC website now hosts both keynote and workshop presentations from the April conference, ***Celebrating Today's Rural: Community Building through Innovation.***

Just follow the link: <http://www.torc.on.ca/events.shtml#2>