

IPAC Hubs

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Helen Bedkowski
Hoorah Emami
Sam MacFarlane

- Meet our IPAC Hubs team at Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health (OCMOH)
- History of the IPAC Hubs
- Learn how the IPAC Hubs have supported retirement homes beyond COVID-19
- Lessons learned from the IPAC Hubs evaluation
- Hear from Schlegel Villages about support(s) received from their IPAC Hub

OCMOH IPAC Hubs Team

History of IPAC Hubs

Why and When

- On September 30, 2020, the Ontario government announced an investment of \$2.8 billion as part of the province's comprehensive plan [Keeping Ontarians Safe: Preparing for Future Waves of COVID-19](#) to prepare for the immediate challenges of the fall with the second wave of COVID-19 along with the flu and other respiratory infections.
- As part of that initiative, local networks of IPAC expertise were developed.
- 31 Hubs were established in response to the significant IPAC gaps identified in congregate living settings (CLSs) and have become essential to building a sustainable IPAC infrastructure to protect Ontario's most vulnerable populations.

Who are the Hubs?

- The Hubs are local networks of IPAC expertise who work with CLSs to support them in implementing IPAC programs / measures.
- They focus on adapting IPAC best practices to local settings e.g., tailor IPAC guidance to the specific circumstances / environment of retirement homes. Their ability to understand CLSs has increased since the start of the pandemic.
- They offer IPAC expertise and services in a supportive role i.e., influence vs. authority.

How do IPAC Hubs fulfill their role?

- Providing IPAC education to increase knowledge or understanding
- Delivering training to support skill development
- Hosting platforms (i.e., community of practices) to address common IPAC concerns and brokering relationships
- On site visits to support tailoring recommendations to the local context
- Translating IPAC evidence / best practices and support implementation
- Supporting the development / implementation of outbreak management plans in conjunction with Public Health Units (PHU) and CLSs
- Supporting the development of IPAC programs within CLSs
- Coaching and mentoring of CLS staff who have responsibility for IPAC in their settings

Who do the Hubs support

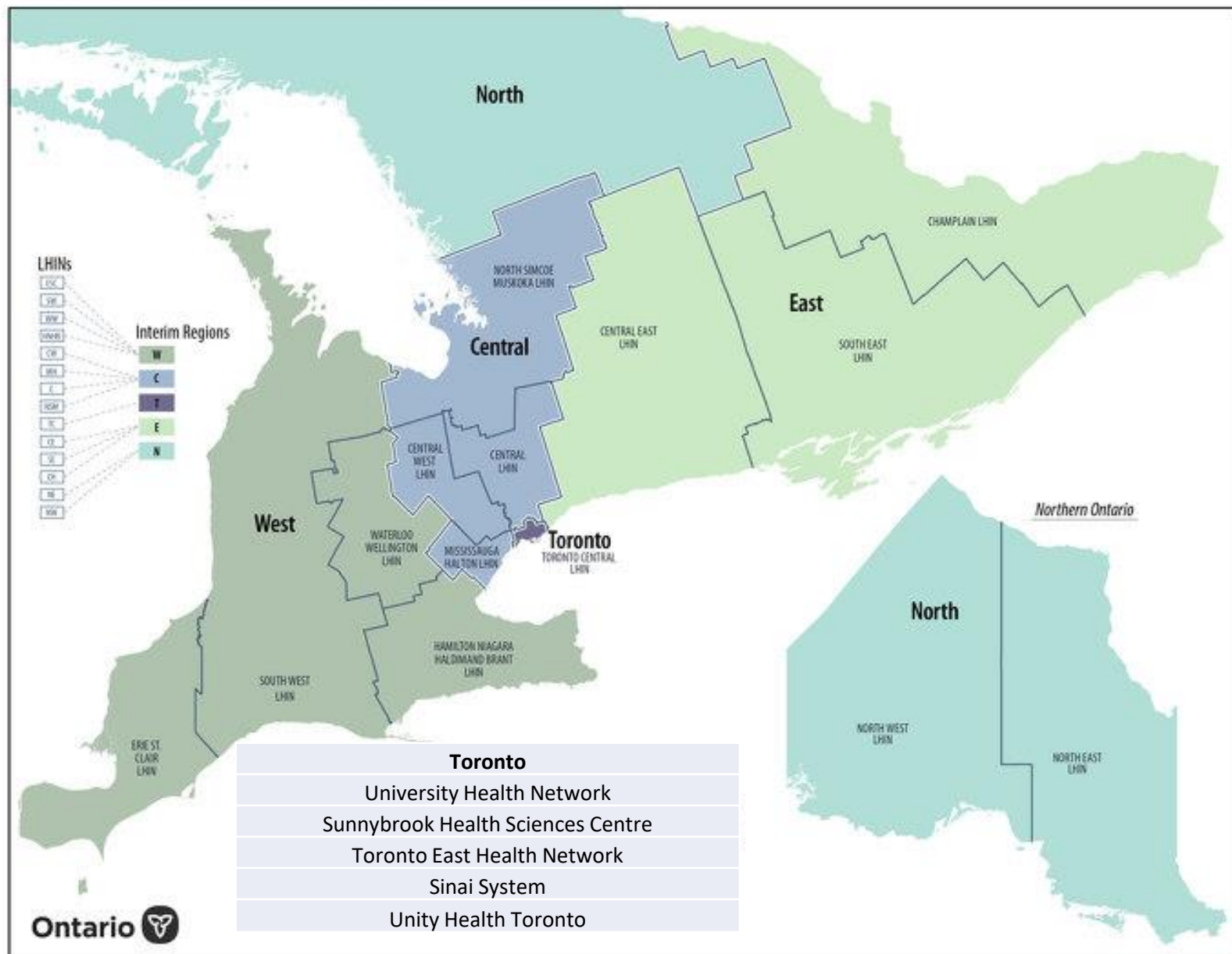
- Hubs have provided services and support to CLSs across Ontario: 5684 CLSs across 5 sector ministries (MLTC, MCCSS, MSAA, MMAH, MOH).
- Examples:
 - Long-term care homes (LTCH)
 - Retirement homes (RH)
 - Shelters
 - Assisted living
 - Supporting housing
 - Residential group homes
 - Violence against Women residential
 - Anti Human Trafficking residential
 - Indigenous Healing and Wellness Strategy residential
 - Youth Justice Custody and Detention Facilities

IPAC Hubs by Region in Ontario

| Central |
|--------------------------------|
| North Central Region Hub (RVH) |
| North York General |
| Trillium Health Partners |
| William Osler Health System |
| Southlake Regional |
| Markham Stouffville Hospital |
| Halton Healthcare |
| Mackenzie Health |
| Humber River Hospital |

| West |
|---------------------------|
| South Western Health Unit |
| Hamilton Health Sciences |
| St. Mary's Hospital |
| Windsor Regional Hospital |
| Grey Bruce Public Health |

■ Hospital ■ Public Health Unit



| East |
|-------------------------------------|
| Kingston Health Sciences Centre |
| Ottawa Hospital |
| Scarborough and Rouge Hospital |
| Lakeridge Health |
| Peterborough Regional Health Centre |

| North |
|---------------------------------------|
| Sudbury & District Health Unit |
| Northwestern Health Unit |
| Algoma Public Health Unit |
| North Bay Parry Sound District Health |
| Porcupine Health Unit |
| Thunder Bay District Health Unit |
| Timiskaming Health Unit |

How the IPAC Hubs Supported Retirement Homes

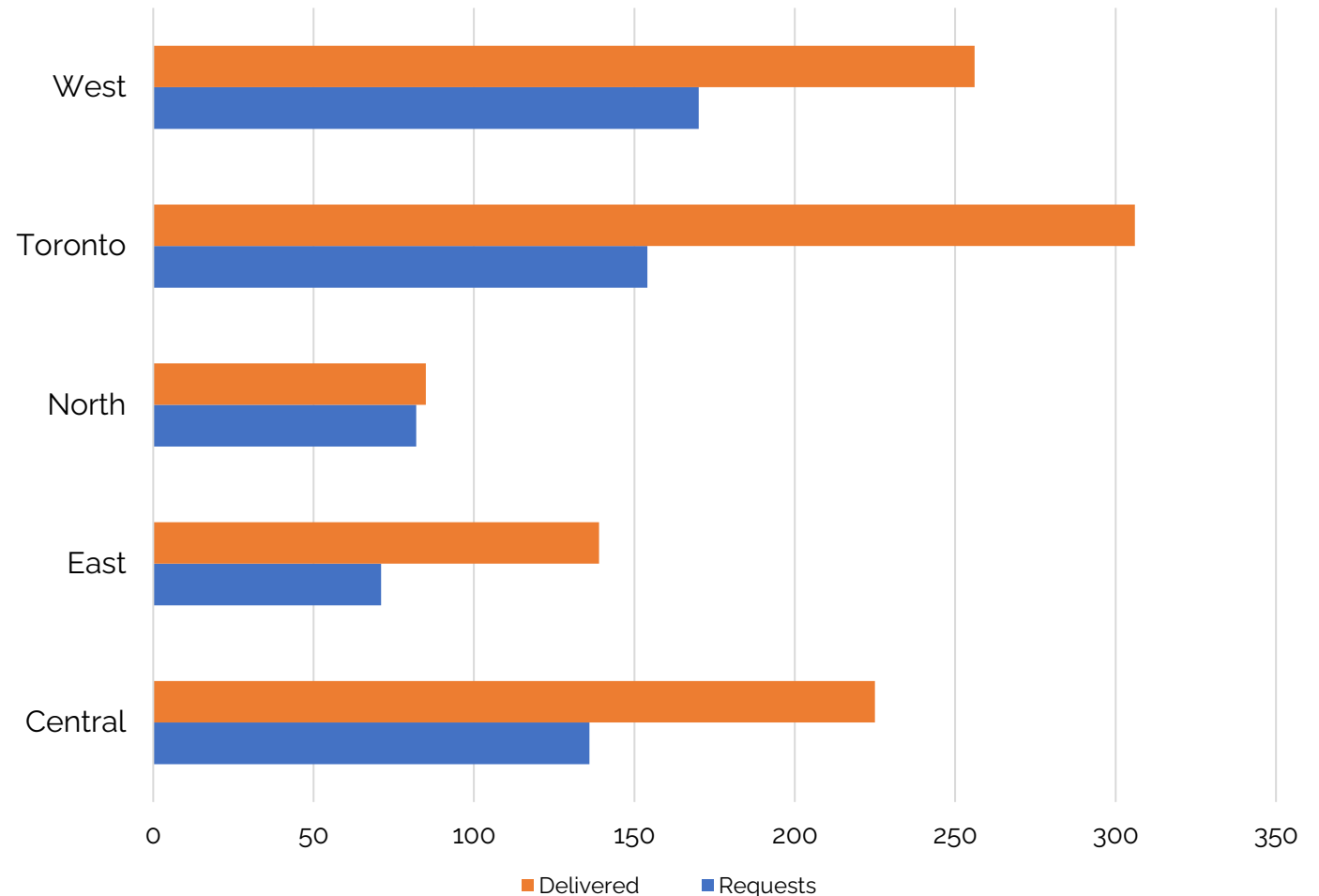
Monthly data report

- Since January 2021, OCMOH has generated reports from the data that Hubs submit.
- These reports include:
 - Services requested
 - Services delivered (onsite and remote)
 - Feedback-on-what they are seeing; gaps; concerns; successes
 - IPAC Risks

Supporting Retirement Homes

- RHs have been the second most served setting after LTCHs.
- Between July - December 2022, there were 4,206 requests for IPAC Hub services from RH with 5,813 services delivered.
- Between July- December 2022, there were 1275 onsite services delivered to RH.

Retirement Homes: IPAC Hub Services Requested and Delivered
December 2022



Challenges and Gaps

- Top areas of IPAC concerns identified in December 2022:
 - Outbreak management (managing mixed outbreaks)
 - Health Human Resources (HHR)
 - High turn over
 - Fatigue
 - Transition from rules based to critical thinking
 - Routine Practices
 - PPE (not performing N95 seal check; donning and doffing; glove use; storage)
 - Hand hygiene (refilling ABHR; absence of ABHR; fatigue)
 - Environmental cleaning (use of trigger spray)

Findings of the IPAC Hubs Evaluation

IPAC Hubs Evaluation Findings:

- 20% response rate (142 settings participated) from RHs as part of CLS engagement.
 - Of these homes, 26% of RH respondents indicated they did not receive services from an IPAC Hub.
- According to the feedback of some sector ministries, RHs communicated that they weren't aware of how to reach out to the IPAC Hub, and contact information was not clear.
- In the past 6 months, 31% of all services were delivered to RHs while only making up 14% of the total number of sites.

IPAC Hubs Evaluation Findings:

- 72% of RHs surveyed agree that IPAC Hubs helped reinforce the importance of IPAC in their settings.
- 90% of Hubs agreed that they collaborated effectively with CLSs, especially with LTCH and RH sectors.
- 77% of CLS survey respondents agreed that the IPAC Hubs were effective in enhancing IPAC capacity (e.g., knowledge, skills or tools) in their CLS.
- 69% of CLSs survey respondents agree “I feel more confident guiding IPAC activities in my CLS as a result of the IPAC Hubs”.

Schlegel Villages on working with their IPAC Hub

We encourage you to reach out to your IPAC Hub.

For additional information and to get connected
with your local IPAC Hub email:

IPACHubs@ontario.ca

Reach us at IPACHubs@ontario.ca