



Building a Climate Change Strategy in a FHT

**Climate Change
is a health issue.**



June 6, 2024

'Absolute miracle' breakthrough provides recipe for zero-carbon cement

By Michael Irving
May 23, 2024

GUELPH
Climate
Action
NETWORK



for our spring events!

Take the Community
Climate Change Survey

THE LANCET

This Journal Journals Publish Clinical Global health Multimedia Events About

COUNTDOWN | VOLUME 402, ISSUE 10413, P2346-2394, DECEMBER 16, 2023
Download Full Issue

The 2023 report of the *Lancet* Countdown on health and climate change: the imperative for a health-centred response in a world facing irreversible harms

Marina Romanello, PhD • R. • • Claudia di Napoli, PhD • Carole Green, MPH • Harry Kenward, PhD • Pete Lampard, PhD • Daniel Scamman, PhD • et al. • Show all authors • Show footnotes

Published: November 14, 2023 • DOI: [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(23\)01859-7](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(23)01859-7) • Check for updates

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Executive Summary

Climate change *IS* a health issue!

Organizational Commitment

Guelph FHT Strategic Priorities

Strategic Priorities 2023 - 2027



VISION *The Best Care for Everyone*

MISSION Comprehensive team-based primary health care in Guelph and area.

VALUES Collaboration | Inclusivity | Knowledge | Sustainability | Trust

Improve Access to Primary Care

We will...

- Support patients in need of family doctors
- Strengthen Integrated Primary Care Teams in collaboration with Ontario Health Team Partners



Support Workplace Wellness

We will...

- Increase staff and physician engagement activities
- Develop and implement strategies to support individual and team well-being



Embed Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

We will...

- Provide staff and physicians Equity, Diversity and Inclusion training and knowledge
- Implement progressive patient care and workplace policies



Create a Culture of Sustainability

We will...

- Support implementation of green healthcare strategies
- Promote greener and healthier lifestyles and community



Advance Digital Health

We will...

- Promote effective use of digital tools and communications
- Protect patient and provider privacy and security



Charging the Battery

- **GREEN Council**
- Individual Champions
- Practice-based Teams



The Original Five!

Climate Change is a health issue.

Here's what we're working on to combat climate change:



Mask Recycling



Exam Paper



Inhaler



Batteries



Virtual Visit

Do What Works For Your Office!

Climate Change is a health issue.

Climate change is the greatest current population health concern. Reasons include more wildfires, water and air pollution, and extreme weather and temperature trends which lead to more disease, allergies, malnutrition, heat stress, and other illnesses.

Here's what Guelph Family Health Team is working on to combat climate change:

- 
 - The Guelph FHT provides over 35,000 patient care days a year requiring medical masks by providers and staff
 - Recycling these masks helps reduce the environmental impact of safe healthcare practices
 - HOW TO GET INVOLVED** - Ask your doctor's office if they recycle their masks and if patients can recycle their masks too!
 - [To learn more:](#) 
- 
 - If all Guelph FHT doctors used exam table paper, it would use over 1,200 kg of paper a year!
 - Exam paper is not needed when cleaning practices are used instead
 - HOW TO GET INVOLVED** - Notice no exam table paper at your visit? It's OK! Your doctor's office is saving paper while keeping you safe.
 - [To learn more:](#) 
- 
 - Metered dose inhalers are common in asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disorder care
 - 100 inhaler doses release greenhouse gas, as much as driving a car 290 km
 - HOW TO GET INVOLVED** - There are more environmentally friendly, effective inhalers that can be used. Talk to your Health Care Provider to learn more.
 - [To learn more:](#) 
- 
 - Many medical devices rely on batteries
 - 24 hr blood pressure monitoring machines use batteries that cannot be reused once the machine is returned!
 - Last year, Guelph FHT did 450+ of these visits, using 1,800 batteries
 - HOW TO GET INVOLVED** - Ask your clinic to reuse batteries, switch to rechargeable batteries and properly dispose to help reduce battery waste.
 - [To learn more:](#) 
- 
 - Phone or video appointments reduce travel (less carbon emissions)
 - No need for face masks and other protective equipment (less waste)
 - HOW TO GET INVOLVED** - Not all appointments can be done virtually. Think about if phone or video can meet your needs when you book an appointment.
 - [To learn more:](#) 



Tracking Climate Change Action in Guelph FHT Locations

Clinic	Mask Recycling	A I	Battery Reuse	A I	Exam Table Paper	A I	MDIs Alternatives	A I	Virtual Care	A I	Clinic Green Committee	A I
Arbour Family Medical Centre Inc.	Interest		Active						Active			
Guelph FHT Head Office	Active		Active		N/A		N/A		N/A		Active	
Primary Care at Home	Active								Active			
Dawson Road Family Medical Clinic	Active		Active		Active				Active		Active	
Downey Family Medical Centre	Interest		Active		Active		Active		Active			
Gordon Street Family Medical	Interest		Active		Active				Active			
Chancellors Way Medical Arts - 202									Active			
Norfolk Medical Centre 305	Interest		Active		Active		Active		Active		Active	
Acorn to Oak Scottsdale 302	Active		Active		Active				Active		Active	
Morrison Medical Centre	Interest		Active		Active		Active		Active			
Hope Health Centre	Active		Active		Active		Active		Active		Active	
Westmount 306	Interest		Active		Active		Active		Active			
Westminster Woods Medical Centre			Active		Active		Active		Active		Active	
Wyndham	Active				Active							

Engage the Team

GREEN EATING. GREEN THINKING.

YOUR HEALTH

Diabetes
 Heart Health
 Blood Pressure
 Mental Health
 Dementia
 Weight Management
 Osteoporosis
 Inflammation
 Heartburn
 Constipation
 Bloating
 Diarrhea
 Longevity
 Cancer

AND

YOUR PLANET

Greenhouse Gases
 Land Use
 Food Equality
 Biodiversity
 Water Use
 Deforestation
 Fossil Fuel Use
 Fertilizer Pollution



Healthy you, healthy planet.



GREEN EATING. GREEN THINKING.

Name: _____

My G.E. G.T. Plan

- Add one meatless meal every week
- Add more vegetables each day (eg. 2 cups)
- Add more fruit each day (e.g. 1.5 cups)
- Add one local food every _____ (e.g. day, week, month)
- Switch two animal proteins (e.g. beef, pork, processed meats) for two plant proteins every week (e.g. ¼ cup nuts, 2 tbsp peanut butter, or a ¼ cup of peas, beans, lentils)
- Add healthy fats each day (e.g. 2-3 tbsp olive/canola oil, 1 small avocado, ¼ cup nuts/seeds)

Notes:

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Resources



Communication and Advocacy

THINK Green
Green Council Newsletter / April 2024 / www.guelphfht.com/guelph-fht-green-healthcare

UPCOMING Spotlight Event
Film Screening and Panel Discussion
Climate Action in our community.

2040
The Guelph Family Health Team proudly supports Climate Action in our community.

Film Screening and Panel Discussion
Climate Solutions for All: Our Resilient Future

What is the Guelph FHT doing?
The Family Health Team is encouraging our region to...
Green Committee Spotlight
Investigate Invasive Species

Call for photo submissions
Any group or individual who would like to contribute a photo to our...
Green Committee Spotlight
Investigate Invasive Species

- The Best Care for Everyone -

THINK Green
Green Council Newsletter / April 2024 / www.guelphfht.com/guelph-fht-green-healthcare

Choosing Wisely
Choose Wisely is a national patient safety campaign that...
Primary care has an opportunity to reduce its impact on climate change!
The 2023 Report Card on Health and Environment in Canada...
Additional Green T-shirt
Earth Day Event - Saturday, April 20 - from 10am-12pm...
Why is this work important?
Climate change is now the greatest threat to public health in Canada...
Want to learn more?
How can you get involved? Join or start your own...

- The Best Care for Everyone -

How Is Your Clinic Going Green?

Do you have an update to your Guelph FHT Clinic involvement? Let us know if you're Active or Interested!

A - For Active | **I - For Interested**

Area	Active	Interested	Not Contacted	Not Contacted	Not Contacted	Not Contacted	Not Contacted	Not Contacted	Not Contacted	Not Contacted	Not Contacted	Not Contacted	Not Contacted	Not Contacted	Not Contacted	Not Contacted	Not Contacted	Not Contacted	Not Contacted	Not Contacted
Green Council																				
Green Committee																				
Green Team																				
Green Champion																				
Green Ambassador																				
Green Leader																				
Green Supporter																				
Green Observer																				
Green Participant																				
Green Volunteer																				
Green Member																				

Join the Guelph FHT Green Collective Today!

For more information email michelle.siroth@guelphfht.com

Climate Change is a health issue.

Zoom meeting screenshot showing participants: Dale Mills, Chair GHFT; Martina; Soren Slatkovsky; Ross Kirkconnell - Guelph Family Health Team; chungyingchou; Evan Ferrari eMERGE; Dominique O'Rourke (she/her-elle); David Crammer.

Guelph FHT Green Council
guelphfht.com/guelph-fht-green-healthcare/

Guelph Family Health Team

- Newsletter
- Community Awareness
- Media / Social Media
- Elected Officials
- Ontario Health Team
- Community Awareness



Climate Change is a Health Issue - Annual Green Health Day



From Dawson Road Family Medical Clinic to Guelph Family Health Team Head Office, from Norfolk Family Medical to Westminster Woods Medical Centre; so many Guelph FHT locations participated in [#ClimateAction](#) efforts on Monday for [#EarthDay](#) and [#GreenHealthDay](#)! Even our great friends at Guelph Community Health Centre got involved!

➤ Invitation to OHT Partners



Learn and Share >>



www.cape.ca



Partnerships for
Environmental Action by
Clinicians and Communities
for Hospitals / Health
care facilities

www.peachhealthontario.com



www.choosingwiselycanada.org



Thank you!

