



OHT Impact Fellows Program

Please complete this form to indicate your OHT's interest in hosting an Impact Fellow. Refer to the [Call for Hosts](#) for instructions.

The deadline for EOIs is May 25, 2021.

Interested OHTs are encouraged to [reach out to program staff](#) early on to discuss potential ideas. OHTs may submit more than one EOI but may only host one Impact Fellow at a time.

Please note that submitting an EOI does not guarantee that the OHT will be matched with a fellow.

1. OHT Name	Muskoka and Area Ontario Health Team
OHT Location	Muskoka (Gravenhurst, Bracebridge, Huntsville)
OHT Website (if applicable)	https://www.engagemuskoka.ca/MAOHT
2. OHT Primary Contact	Marsha Barnes
Primary Contact Email	marsha1@rogers.com
Are you willing to be contacted by prospective Fellows to discuss projects?	<input type="button" value="Yes"/>
3. Host Mentor	Dr. David Mathies
Position / Title	Co-Chair, Muskoka and Area Ontario Health Team

4. OHT Priority Areas

The MAOHT grew out of several years of work that was undertaken by a group of committed individuals with advice and assistance from Dr. Steini Brown for a project known as MAHST.

The MAOHT's priorities include: improving information management and developing robust population health information management tools and analytics; advancement of digital health and virtual tools; launching 2 to 4 high impact initiatives to advance integration and improve outcomes; launching the new governance structure (see attachments) that includes a clinical advisory committee and patient/family/caregiver advisory committee; continuing to work together to address the evolving challenges from the pandemic.

5. OHT Goals

Establish tools, processes, reports and develop the capacity to plan, assess, monitor and evaluate integration and care initiatives using population health information and analytics.

6. Proposed Projects

The MAOHT Fellow is being requested to lead the development of a population health management and analytics strategy. The Fellow would work under the direction of the Collaboration Steering Committee and would be supported by Partner resources and collaborate with the MAOHT Project Manager.

MAOHT Partners have limited capabilities to access, analyze, interpret and utilize the patient and population information available in provincial data bases as well as partner information systems.

A primary objective for the MAOHT Fellow would be to develop a population health management strategy that is well matched to the attributed population and local challenges and secondarily to determine and report on the impact of priority projects newly formed in the region. As such, developing a method of extracting and reporting on available data, throughout the region, will be a key role for the Fellow.

Like many OHTs Muskoka and Area has identified seniors with one or more chronic or mental health conditions as our priority population. MAOHT has a significantly older population that is increasing as many retire to the area.

The area faces unique challenges with a significant seasonal population that more than doubles the total residence in the summer, significant rural geography with poor internet access, high rates of dementia and low SES. The Muskoka region of Ontario is a large geographic area (3940.48 km²) with a population of just over 60,000 residents, increasing several fold in the summer months due to a very large seasonal resident population and tourism (Statistics Canada, 2016). The region's acute care hospital, Muskoka Algonquin Healthcare (MAHC), provides services at two hospital sites which are 41 km apart. Demographically the population consists of 27% seniors, 55% adults, and 18% youth (Statistics Canada, 2016). These factors create unique challenges and require innovation, collaboration and flexibility to address. The region has individuals residing in the most deprived areas of the OHT with three times the rate of premature mortality (HSPN, 2021).

In addition, the Fellow would be supporting these MAOHT projects through the definition, development and use of key indicators. These indicators will be used to evaluate the overall effect of each program and provide continued surveillance moving forward. The Fellow would assist the MAOHT in understanding the impact and challenges associated with the seasonal population and visiting population as well as the access patterns and needs of the permanent population.

The MAOHT will be embarking on a strategic planning process and the expertise of a Fellow would be a key asset in informing and guiding the development of this plan.

Project Summary

The MAOHT Fellow is being requested to lead the development of a population health management and analytics strategy.

The Fellow would develop a population health management strategy that is well matched to the attributed population and local challenges and secondarily to determine and report on the impact of priority projects newly formed in the region.

The Fellow would assist the MAOHT in understanding the impact and access challenges associated with the seasonal population and visiting population.

The expertise of a Fellow would be a key asset in informing and guiding the development of the MAOHT strategic plan.

7. Desired Competencies

The ideal Fellow would have:

- a strong interest in health analytics,

- the ability to access and analyze large data sets,
- a foundational understanding of provider data sets and how to extract data for analysis,
- the ability to synthesize and develop concise reports for decision making,
- the ability to extract population health data from partner EMRs to supplement provincial data sets,
- willingness to work as part of a team,
- well developed communication skills.

Does Your OHT Require a Fellow with Bilingual Proficiency?

No

8. OHT Environment

The MAOHT is ready and excited about the opportunity to host a Fellow.

The MAOHT has built a strong foundation for decision making, has in place governance committees, advisory committees and working groups with a broad cross section of providers (including hospital, over 80% of primary care providers, home care (public and private), paramedics, and mental health providers).

Our identified mentor is a well respected primary care physician in the community and is a champion of the OHT concept.

The MAOHT hired a full time project manager and administrative assistant in February and has two part time strategic advisors that the Fellow would be able to collaborate with on a regular basis. Potential exists to work with a Partners to publish articles should that be an interest of the Fellow.

The Fellow would formally work under the direction of the Collaboration Steering Committee and he/she would have weekly access to the Operations Working Group for guidance and support.

The MAOHT has chosen projects to undertake this year. These will be in initial stages of operation or development when the Fellow would come on board. As noted above it is anticipated that the Alliance Council would be starting a strategic planning process this Fall.

The Fellow will have the ability to work with Dr. Lisa Allen, Research Coordinator, Huntsville Physicians, South Muskoka and Party Sound Local Education Groups. Lisa has a background in immunology/oncology and coordinates and manages all research for the area, completes grants, manuscripts, and ethics applications. Currently there are 15 successfully funded rural research projects, Lisa can help the Fellow in areas of research design, development, data collection and follow-through. Areas of research include opioids, geriatric care, and assessing the need for specialized care in rural practice (cancer care, geriatrics, palliative care, hospitalist care, data collection and management).

Preferred Work Arrangement for Fellow

Flexible depending on candidate needs

9. Opportunities for Professional Growth and Development

The MAOHT provides a unique and valuable learning environment and experience for a Fellow.

The Partners are a well functioning, collaborative executive team with a shared vision and strong commitment to the communities they serve.

The MAOHT provides an opportunity to build a strategy for population health information management from the ground up working with an experienced leadership team that is committed to using the information to plan, develop and evaluate current and new programs and services.

The challenges faced by the area due to geography, demographics and seasonal population flows provides an opportunity to inform foundational thinking for OHT population based funding methodologies.

As a volunteer member of the Laurentian University Research ethics Board for more than five years, Lisa will be available to work with the Fellow to educate and support them, and participants, as required to ensure ethical boundaries of all parties are maintained.

10. Additional Information

Attached please find a list of MAOHT Partners, and the approved MAOHT Vision, Values and Principles. The MAOHT is in the final stages of partner Board approval for a Collaborative Decision Making Agreement (Alliance Agreement) that provides a robust governance structure (see attached organization chart).

File Upload

