Geriatric Day Hospital Pilot Program

An exciting new program for seniors residing in the Red Lake area is being piloted at the hospital in August through the collaborative effort of the Red Lake Family Health Team (RLFHT) and the Red Lake Margaret Cochenour Memorial Hospital (RLMCMH). The program is called the Geriatric Day Hospital Program and it is focused on bringing together the various health care providers under one roof to provide integrated, seamless care for seniors in the community. Patients in the program will be asked to come to the hospital one day per week for four weeks to be assessed by a multidisciplinary team, which includes a physiotherapist, social worker, registered nurse, clinical pharmacist and medical doctor. The goals of the program include:

- To reduce unnecessary visits to the clinic and emergency room.
- To reduce hospital admissions or length of stay.
- To maximize the length of time seniors can live independently in their own homes.

“This program will enhance the functional independence and quality of life for the seniors living in our community. It’s just another example of our ongoing effort to improve patient care, so our seniors will enjoy a healthy lifestyle at home”, Paul Chatelain, Hospital CEO.

The program is intended for adults aged 65 years and older with complex health concerns. At this time, the Geriatric Day Hospital Program is only accepting referrals from physicians and the allied health staff at the hospital. As the population in Red Lake and across Canada ages, our community will need programs like the Geriatric Day Hospital Program to help keep seniors healthy and independent.

Staff of the Geriatric Day Hospital Program multidisciplinary team.
From the left: Ashley Edwards (RN, RLFHT) Tracy Vilks, (Physiotherapist, RLMCMH), Jeannette Hager (RN, RLFHT)