

January 17, 2020

SCIO BUDGET DEPUTATION

Dear Minister Phillips and the 2020 Pre-budget Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to present our 2020 budget submission.

As a specialist community service provider since 1945, **Spinal Cord Injury Ontario** (SCIO) effectively optimizes care, services, and supports for individuals managing a spinal cord injury (SCI) and their families. We exist to ensure every Ontarian with an SCI has access to support, services and advocacy to live independent and healthy lives within a fully inclusive Ontario.

While we applaud the Ontario Health Team (OHT) initiative, our goal today is to draw your attention to the fact that the OHT health transformation will not, alone, adequately support people with traumatic spinal cord injury and acquired brain injury (ABI). We believe that it is also essential to develop a standardized, best-practice, province-wide approach to managing neurotrauma that can be implemented across all OHTs.

SCIO, along with other key stakeholders in neurotrauma, is a committed partner of Ontario Neurotrauma Foundation's (ONF) work to develop a Neurotrauma Pathway of Care for Ontario.

The neurotrauma community has come together to start the process of reviewing and analyzing the current system of supports and services for neurotrauma with a goal to chart the ideal state of services and supports to improve functional recovery in neurotrauma in Ontario.

To move this critical goal forward, we ask that this government commits funding to support the creation of a neurotrauma pathway of care strategy. Pathways such as the one we are proposing are not new; the Ontario Stroke Pathway is a proven success and we are basing our approach on this model.

ONF's proposal, which SCIO fully endorses, is currently in front of government and available for you today.

Our government can do better in supporting the SCI and ABI population. Let's take the opportunity to make a significant step forward in health system change. With essential investments, Ontario can be a leader in neurotrauma recovery in Canada and around the world.

Why is this important:

When our Health Minister Christine Elliott announced the creation of the OHT Initiative, she used the example of a person with a SCI using a ventilator in her riding who was unnecessarily warehoused in ICU for almost three years without any opportunity to live at home with the right supports. This should not happen to anyone however it is still happening today and our OHT initiative alone won't resolve this problem. Evidence informed neurotrauma pathways of care is the solution!

The MOH stated goal is to ensure Ontarians receive high-quality health care services where and when they need them. The government has defined that goal in terms of the Quadruple Aim: Improved Patient Experience; Better Health Outcomes; Better Value; and Improved Physician Experience.


We believe that, working with Government, we can develop standards and pathways for SCI and ABI that will have significant positive impact on every aspect of the Quadruple Aim.

Will you join us in supporting ONF's Neurotrauma Pathway of Care initiative?

Sincerely,



Peter Athanasopoulos
Director, Public Policy
Spinal Cord Injury Ontario
petera@sciontario.org



TRANSFORMING THE CARE OF ONTARIANS LIVING WITH **NEUROTRAUMA** THROUGH NEUROTRAUMA CARE PATHWAYS

WHY THIS IS CRITICAL TO THE SUSTAINABILITY OF OUR HEALTHCARE SYSTEM IN ONTARIO



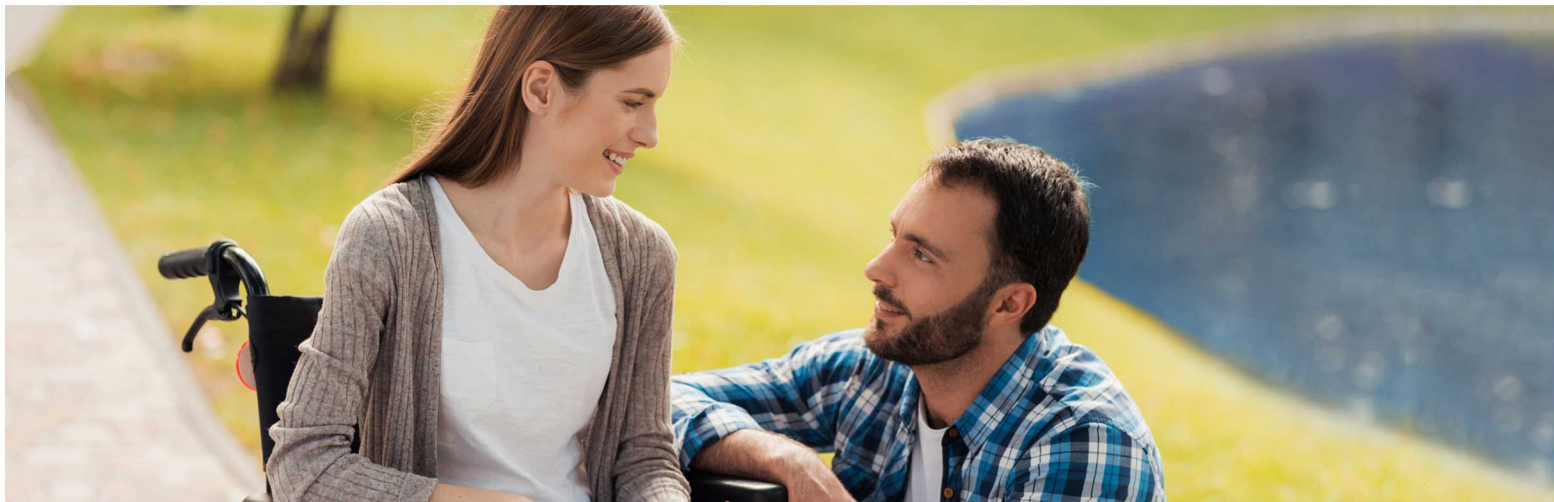
Ontario Neurotrauma Foundation
Fondation ontarienne de neurotraumatologie



SPINAL CORD INJURY ONTARIO
LÉSIONS MÉDULLAIRES ONTARIO



OBIA
ONTARIO BRAIN INJURY ASSOCIATION
education • awareness • support



ONTARIO DOES NOT HAVE A COORDINATED NEUROTRAUMA SYSTEM

To maximize neurotrauma recovery and reduce the burden of health care costs from a fragmented and complex system, Ontario requires a Neurotrauma Care Pathway similar to the best practice pathways implemented by Cancer Care Ontario and the Ontario Stroke Network.

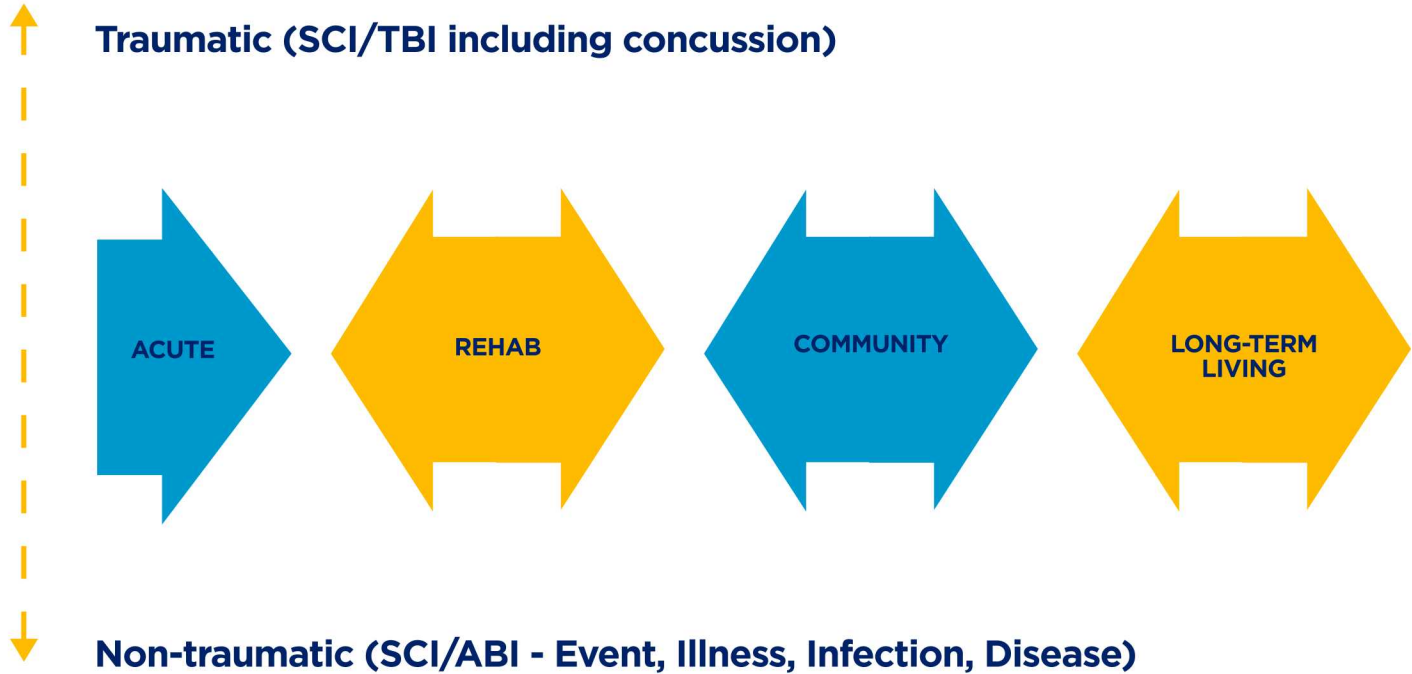
The Benefits:

- Highest level of functional recovery
- Health Equity
- Cost Avoidance
- Keeping people out of hospital
- Right place, right time, right care
- Evidence informed best practice

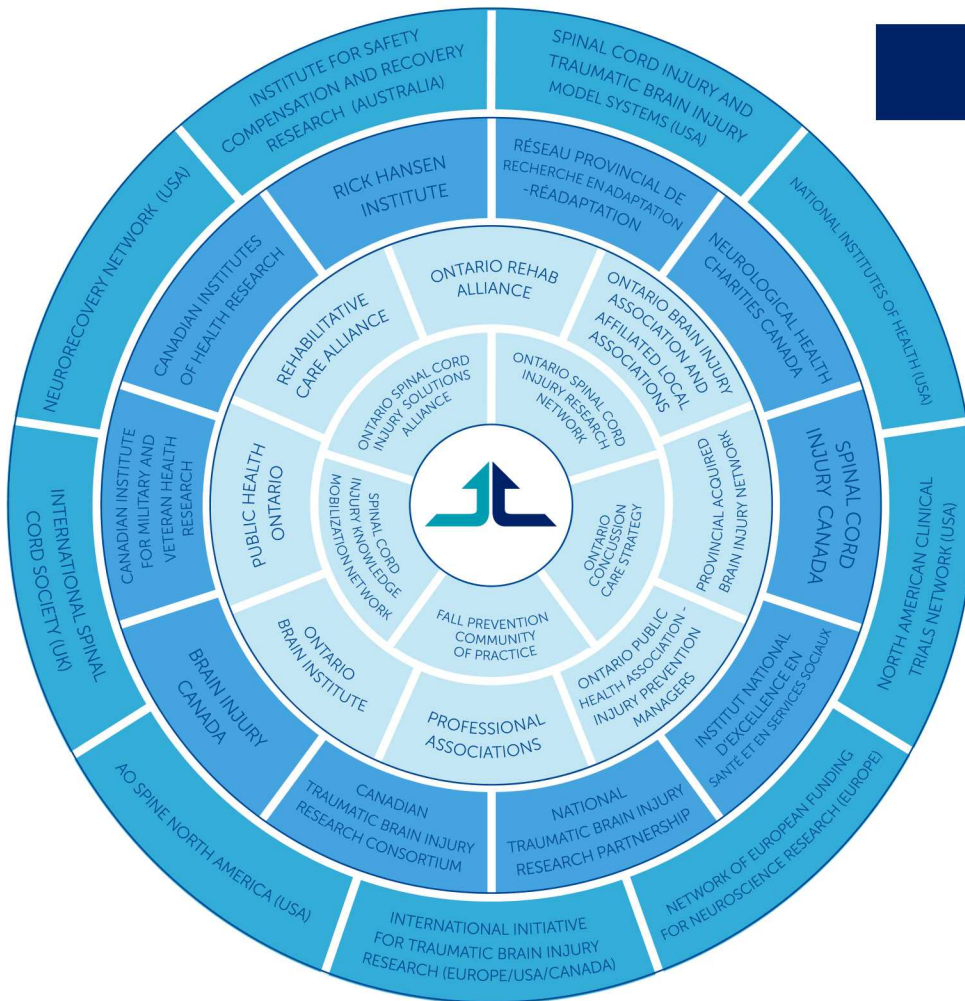
**THERE IS A COMPLEX INTERPLAY BETWEEN PUBLIC & PRIVATE FUNDING
STRUCTURES/MECHANISMS AND THUS INCONSISTENT CARE**



NEUROTRAUMA PATHWAYS OF CARE



OUR COMMUNITY



PROVINCIAL

NATIONAL

INTERNATIONAL

ENDING HALLWAY MEDICINE - IMPROVING HEALTH CARE OUTCOMES

IMPACT OF NEUROTRAUMA



Improving Outcomes & Reducing Costs through Evidence Informed Solutions. To address:

- **Overdependence on Emergency Department Use**
- **Over Hospitalization to manage preventable secondary complications**
- **Lack of Access to Primary and Community Care**
- **Uncoordinated and disjointed care**
- **Unjustifiable regional variations in standards of care and practice**
- **Preventable occurrences such as Seniors, falls**



COMMITMENT

- Our community, through ONF, will **maximize impact** to the \$2-3 billion cost of neurotrauma injuries in Ontario.
- At a cost of only \$1.4 Million a year **over 3 years.**
- Full Proposal already submitted to the Ministry of Health.

For more information please contact Peter Athanasopoulos:
petera@sciontario.org