

Ministry of Health  
Community Surgical and Diagnostic Centres  
**Calls for Applications Open Webinar Presentation**

April 19, 2024

# Agenda

- 1 Overview of Community Surgical and Diagnostic Centres
- 2 Overview of Process - Calls for Applications
- 3 Overview of Application
- 4 Overview of Licensing Considerations & Evaluation Approach
- 5 Closing Remarks & Next Steps



# We Welcome Your Feedback

- The feedback form serves as a **targeted forum for webinar participants** to share **their insights and inputs** regarding the Calls for Applications process.
- It will remain open for **2 weeks**.
- The link will be **shared via email** to webinar attendees after this session.
- There will also be a **feedback form** for attendees to **complete after each of the upcoming Call specific webinars**.

*The Ministry will take all feedback into consideration and will share an **FAQ document** that will be posted on the Ministry's website as part of the Calls.*



# **1. Overview of Community Surgical and Diagnostic Centres**

# ICHSC Program Overview

## Background & Context

- On September 25, 2023, the ***Integrated Community Health Services Centres Act*** (ICHSCA) replaced the *Independent Health Facilities Act* (IHFA).
- The ICHSCA provides a **funding and licensing mechanism** for **community surgical and diagnostic centres** to support the **provision of OHIP-insured diagnostic services, surgeries, and procedures**.
- Community surgical and diagnostic centres have been providing **OHIP-insured services** in the community for over 30 years.



### Overview of Community Surgical and Diagnostic Centres

- ✓ Established in a variety of settings
- ✓ Profit or not-for-profit
- ✓ Individual or a corporation
- ✓ May also provide uninsured services

# Common FAQs About ICHSC Licences and Funding

## What is an ICHSC licence?



An ICHSC licence **enables the Ministry to provide facility funding** to a licensee in support of the overhead costs for specific listed insured services. It is **not a licence to operate a facility or perform clinical services.**

## Who is eligible to apply?



The Director shall **consider all applications submitted in response** to a Call. This could include: (1) An individual or group of individuals; (2) An existing clinic; and (3) A hospital.

**Note:** Any additional eligibility criteria will be communicated through the Call material.



## What is a facility cost?

A facility cost is **funding paid to a licensee in support of the overhead costs** for specific insured services.

**Note:** Physician claims (i.e., professional fees) for insured services provided in an ICHSC that are paid by OHIP in accordance with the [Health Insurance Act](#) (HIA) and its regulations including the [Schedule of Benefits for Physician Services](#) (Schedule) are separate from a facility cost.

# Three New Calls for Applications in 2024 to Expand Centres

**In 2024, three Calls for Applications** will be launched to expand community surgical and diagnostic centres for MRI/CT imaging services, GI Endoscopy procedures, and Orthopaedic surgeries. *At this time, there are no additional Calls for Applications planned for any other services.*

1



## MRI/CT

Call for Applications in  
Spring 2024

2



## GI Endoscopy

Call for Applications in  
Summer 2024

3



## Orthopaedics

Call for Applications in  
Fall 2024

## **2. Overview of Process - Calls for Applications**



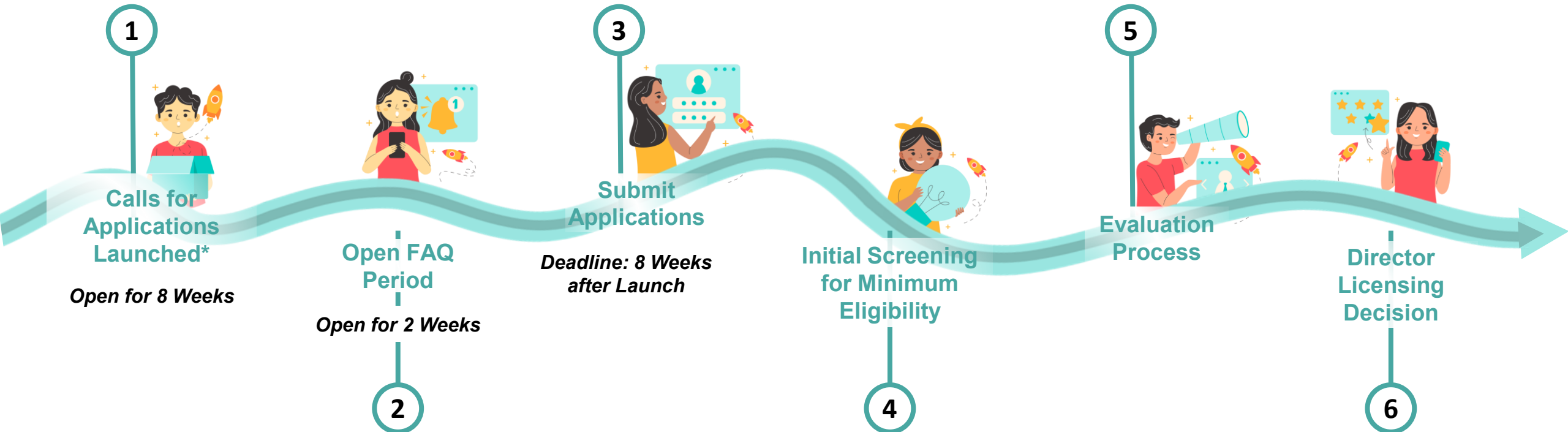
## Overview of Calls for Applications

The Director of ICHSCs will issue Calls for Applications in accordance with s.5 of the Integrated Community Health Services Centres Act (ICHSCA), to consider the **issuance of new licences for MRI/CT, GI Endoscopy, and Orthopaedics in accordance** with s.6 of the ICHSCA.

### A CALL FOR APPLICATION SHALL SPECIFY:

- ✓ The **service or services to be provided** in the community surgical and diagnostic centres;
- ✓ The **locality** in which the community surgical and diagnostic centres is to be located;
- ✓ Such **other requirements and limitations** as the Minister considers relevant; and
- ✓ The **final date for submission** of applications.

# Process and Estimated Timelines



# **3. Overview of Application**

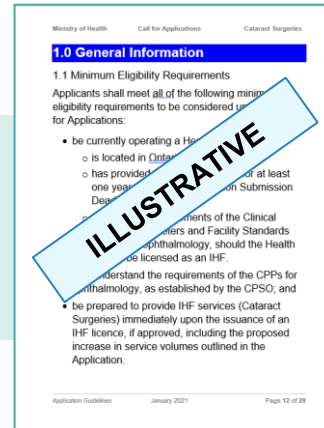
# Application Format

## Application Guidelines



**Guidelines to assist Applicants in completing the Application Form**

## Minimum Eligibility Requirements



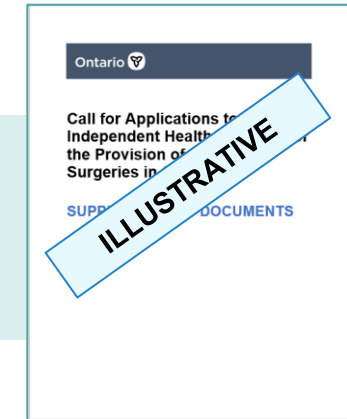
**Foundational requirements that Applicants must meet to be considered for evaluation**

## Main Submission



**Questions for Applicants to answer that describe their current or proposed operations**

## Supplementary Documents



**Additional documents to support the Application Form**



**The Call will be posted on the 'Resources for community surgical and diagnostic centres' webpage on the Ontario.ca website once launched: [Resources for community surgical and diagnostic centres | ontario.ca](#).**

# What We Provide & What We Require



## What you can expect us to provide can include:

We will **provide you with key information** for the procedure for which you are applying, including the following:

- ✓ **Minimum Eligibility Requirements\***
- ✓ **Facility Costs for Licensed Services**
- ✓ **Scope of Clinical Services**
- ✓ **How to Access Facility Quality Standards**
- ✓ **Grounds for Disqualification**
- ✓ **How to Contact Us** During the Application Process
- ✓ **Question Submission Period**
- ✓ **Updates** on the Call Process

## What we may require you to provide can include:

1

**General Business Information** which includes, for example, Applicant information and operating timelines, conflict of interest, business and criminal offense history, CPSO Certificate of Professional Conduct, governance model, legal status, etc.

2

**Attestations from Applicants** which includes, for example, compliance with Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) requirements, compliance with the Quality Assurance Program and facility standards, certified fire safety, emergency and evacuation planning, and IPAC checklist etc.

3

**Additional ICHSCA Requirements\*** which includes requirements as specified by the Director.

*\*More information on subsequent slides*

# Minimum Eligibility Requirements

## Overview



## Illustrative Examples

Minimum eligibility requirements are **foundational requirements** that Applicants must meet to be considered for licensing.

- ☐ Has the Applicant, any officer, director, or person with an **interest affecting control** been **petitioned into bankruptcy** or filed for the **appointment of receivership** over the last 5 years?
- ☐ Has the Applicant, any officer, director, or person with an **interest affecting control** been **convicted of a criminal offence**?
- ☐ Does the Applicant agree to **comply with the Quality Assurance Program** (e.g., on-site inspections) and **facility standards**?
- ☐ Is the Applicant prepared to **provide ICHSC services within a specified timeframe**?

*If the minimum eligibility requirements are not met, the application will not proceed to be reviewed by the Evaluation Panel.*

# Additional ICHSCA Requirements

The ICHSCA (Section 5) specifies the required contents for licence applications and must include but is not limited to:

**Services Provided:** A description of the service and how it will provide connected and convenient care

**Quality Assurance & Continuous Quality Improvement:** Details of the Applicant's quality assurance and continuous quality improvement programming

**Business, Clinical and Professional Experience:** The business, clinical and professional experience of the Applicant

**Physical Nature:** Details of the physical nature of the proposed integrated community health services centre

**Staffing Model:** A detailed staffing model and evidence of the sustainability of this model

**Consultation with Health System Partners:** A description of how the Applicant has consulted with health system partners

**Current Linkages with Health System Partners:** A description of the current linkages with health system partners

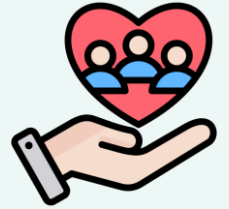
**Uninsured Services:** A description of any uninsured services that are being provided or will be provided

**Any other additional information** specified in the Call material



Applicants should refer to the [ICHSCA](#) for further details on the above.

## What Applicants Should Consider When Preparing Applications



- ✓ Detailed **description of the service or services to be provided** in the proposed integrated community health services centre and how it will provide connected and convenient care, including the Applicant's:
  - i. capacity to improve **patient wait times**;
  - ii. plans to improve **patient experiences and access to care** in the proposed integrated community health services centre; and
  - iii. plans to **integrate with the health system**.



## What Applicants Should Consider When Preparing Applications

- ✓ **Quality assurance and continuous quality improvement programming**, including policies for infection prevention and control.



## What Applicants Should Consider When Preparing Applications



- ✓ **Business, clinical and professional experience** of the Applicant, including how the Applicant will meet all governance and management responsibilities of the proposed integrated community health services centre.

## What Applicants Should Consider When Preparing Applications



- ✓ Details of the **physical nature of the proposed integrated community health services centre**, including its address and distance to other integrated community health services centres and hospitals.

## What Applicants Should Consider When Preparing Applications



- ✓ Detailed **staffing model** for the proposed integrated community health services centre and evidence of the sustainability of this model, including:
  - i. **staff classification with rates of compensation and ranges of compensation**, as applicable;
  - ii. the number of **staff required for each position**;
  - iii. the **model for staffing anaesthesia delivery**, if applicable, and;
  - iv. information regarding the **hospital privileges of physicians** who provide services at the centre, if applicable.

## What Applicants Should Consider When Preparing Applications

- ✓ Description of how the Applicant has **consulted with health system partners in the development of the application**, including any endorsement of the application by health system partners.



## What Applicants Should Consider When Preparing Applications

- ✓ Description of **current linkages with health system partners** and how the Applicant will maintain and improve those linkages to **promote optimal patient care pathways**.



## What Applicants Should Consider When Preparing Applications

- ✓ Description of any **uninsured services** that are being provided or will be provided at the proposed integrated community health services centre, including:
  - i. a description of any **charges for the uninsured services**; and
  - ii. a detailed description of the **processes for providing information and obtaining patient consent** in connection with any uninsured services.



## **4. Overview – Licensing Considerations & Evaluation Approach**





**The ICHSCA (Section 6) identifies what the Director considers when deciding whether to issue a licence.**

## Some examples of what is considered, include\*:

- The **current and future need for the service or services** in Ontario or any part of Ontario, taking into account the needs of diverse, vulnerable, priority and underserved populations and linguistic needs.
- The **extent to which the services to be provided** in the proposed integrated community health services centre **will promote connected and convenient care**.
- Whether the issuance of the licence would **improve the availability of the services** in the region specified in the Call for Applications.
- The **potential impact on health system planning**, including the availability of sustainable health human resources.
- The **potential impact on the co-ordination of health services**, based on consultations with health system partners.

*\*This list is not exhaustive. Please refer to the ICHSCA for the complete list of Director considerations.*

## OVERVIEW OF EVALUATION APPROACH



Applications that **meet minimum eligibility requirements** will be evaluated by a panel of evaluators.



Evaluators will review each **eligible application against defined evaluation criteria**.



The Evaluation Panel will **include a range of expertise**, including clinical advisors, for a balanced assessment of applications.



**Conflict of Interest and Confidentiality Agreements** will be required to be signed by evaluators to ensure a **fair and impartial evaluation process**.



Through this process, **recommendations will be made to the Director**, informing the licensing decisions.



Communications will be sent to all Applicants to **indicate final decisions**. There will be a **process for unsuccessful Applicants** to understand why their proposal was not successful.

# **5. Closing Remarks & Next Steps**

# Next Steps



Upcoming webinar on April 24, 2024, to provide an overview of the MRI/CT Call for Applications.  
There will be an opportunity to provide feedback on each of these webinars.

1



## MRI/CT Webinar

April 24, 2024  
4-5 PM EST

2



## GI Endoscopy Webinar

Date and time to be  
announced

3



## Orthopaedics Webinar

Date and time to be  
announced