

Ministry of Health Community Surgical and Diagnostic Centres **Orthopedic Surgery Call for Applications** **Open Webinar Presentation**

December 18, 2024

Agenda

- 1 Overview of the Integrated Community Health Services Centres (ICHSC) Program
- 2 Overview of Orthopedic Surgery Call for Applications
- 3 Requirements for the Call
- 4 Facility Costs and Locality
- 5 Information We May Require You To Provide
- 6 Overview – Licensing Considerations & Evaluation Approach
- 7 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 Orthopedic Surgery Call for Applications process. **Your feedback will be used to enhance Call design.**
- The form will **close on January 8, 2025.**
- The link will be **shared via email** to webinar attendees after this session.

The Ministry will take all feedback into consideration.



1. Overview of the Integrated Community Health Services Centres (ICHSC) Program

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 a facility cost?



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

Is any additional funding provided?



Facility cost funding is the **only funding the Ministry provides to an ICHSC**. Funding is not provided to ICHSCs for any of the following:

- Establishing a new Health Facility
- Acquisition, installation or replacement of equipment
- Renovation or expansion of an existing Health Facility
- Any other capital or leasehold improvements

Does the facility cost include payment to physicians?



No, these fees are **separate from a facility cost**. Physicians bill the Ministry directly for their professional fees for insured services and are paid directly by the Ministry as outlined in the Schedule of Benefits: Physician Services.

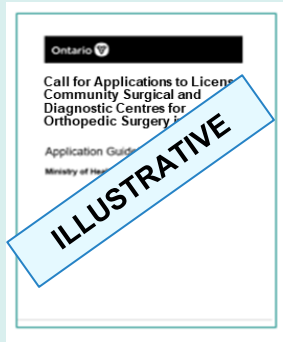
How long is a licence term?



Licences for ICHSCs are typically issued for a **5-year period**.

2. Overview of Orthopedic Surgery Call for Applications

Overview of Orthopedic Surgery Call for Applications



The Director of ICHSCs is planning a Call for Applications in accordance with s.5 of the ICHSCA, to **consider the issuance of new ICHSC licences** in accordance with s. 6 of the ICHSCA for **insured Orthopedic Surgery procedures in community-based settings in Ontario.**



This Call is being issued for the establishment and operation of one or more integrated community health services centres to:

- Improve access to orthopedic surgery services when and where Ontarians need it.
- Strengthen reporting to support better patient care.



The Call will be open to all Applicants, including new centres seeking to become an ICHSC, existing ICHSCs seeking to be licenced for an additional service and public hospitals.

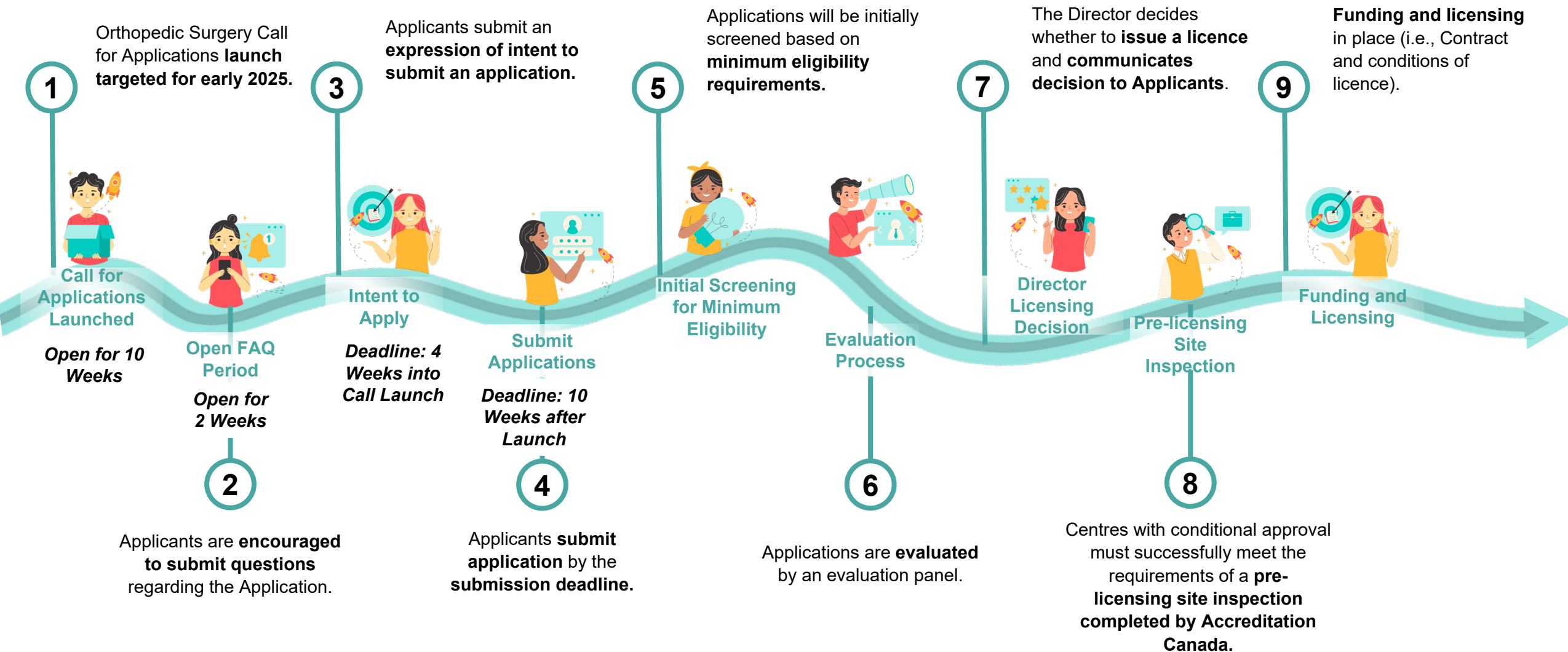


The Orthopedic Surgery Application Form will be supported by an **Application Guide**.



This Call for Applications will consider all applications that **meet the minimum eligibility requirements**.

Process and Estimated Timelines



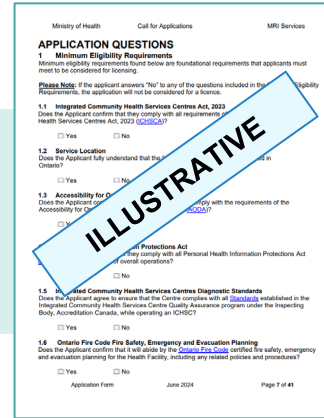
Application Format

Application Guidelines



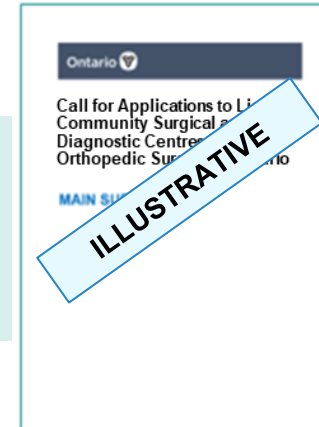
Guidelines to assist Applicants in completing the Application Form

Minimum Eligibility Requirements



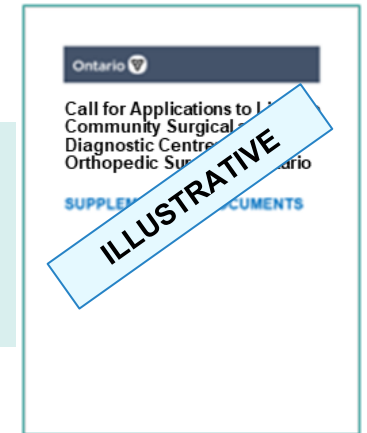
Foundational requirements that Applicants must meet to be considered for evaluation

Main Submission



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

Supporting 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](#).

How to Submit Applications

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](#).



Completed Applications **must be submitted electronically, via email, to the Ministry at ICHSC.Applications@ontario.ca** by the Application Submission Deadline, which will be identified in the Guidelines.



Please **submit only one email submission per proposed Health Facility location**. The email submission may include multiple attachments or a zip file attachment.

- Each ICHSC licence is restricted to one civic address.



For any questions **where a supporting file is required, there will be space in the Application Form to indicate the corresponding file name**.

Common FAQs on Who Can Submit an Application

The Call will be open to all Applicants, including new centres seeking to become an ICHSC, existing ICHSCs seeking to be licenced for an additional service and public hospitals.



Are public hospitals eligible to apply? Yes, provided the proposed ICHSC will not be located at or within the same building, premises, or place where a public hospital site is operated under the *Public Hospitals Act* (PHA). This requirement is to ensure regulatory clarity, financial transparency and accountability:

- Hospitals and ICHSCs are subject to different regulatory, Quality Assurance and funding model requirements under separate legislative frameworks.
- Funding provided to an ICHSC licensee is solely for the care of patients at an ICHSC and needs to be completely separate from the funding the corporation receives for the hospital purposes.



Can facilities in agreements with hospitals apply? Health facilities that are currently approved to temporarily operate under the subsection 4(2) of the PHA are eligible to apply, provided the proposed services are completely separate from services provided on behalf of the hospital.



Are joint applications permitted? Applicants may determine whether they work with another corporation or organization to submit an application. A licence can only be held by a single corporation.



Can sole proprietors apply? Sole proprietors can apply to the Call for Applications. The sole proprietor does not need to be a physician.

What We Provide & What We Require



What you can expect us to provide can include:

We will **provide you with key information**, including the following:

- ✓ **Minimum Eligibility Requirements**
- ✓ **Locality of the Call**
- ✓ **Scope of Clinical Services**
- ✓ **Facility Costs for Licensed 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 may include:

1

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

2

Attestations from Applicants which includes, for example, applicant conflict of interest declaration, applicant tax compliance declaration, IPAC Clinic Policy, etc.

3

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

**More information on subsequent slides*

Additional ICHSCA Requirements

The ICHSCA (s. 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 Call material



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

3. Requirements for the Call

Minimum Eligibility Requirements (1/2)

Overview

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

➤ Illustrative Examples

- ☐ Does the Applicant confirm that they **comply with all requirements of the Integrated Community Health Services Centres Act, 2023 (ICHSCA)**?
- ☐ Does the Applicant fully understand that the **licensed services must be performed in Ontario**?
- ☐ Does the Applicant agree to ensure that the Centre complies with all **Standards established in the Integrated Community Health Services Centre Quality Assurance program** under the Inspecting Body, Accreditation Canada, while operating an ICHSC?
- ☐ Does the Applicant confirm that the Health Facility will **comply with the requirements of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA)**?

Minimum Eligibility Requirements (2/2)

Overview

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

➤ Illustrative Examples

- ☐ Does the Applicant confirm that they **comply with all Personal Health Information Protections Act (PHIPA)** standards as part of overall operations?
- ☐ Does the Applicant agree to comply fully with **the mandatory pre-licensing inspection conducted by Accreditation Canada that is required, and that the Centre will need to successfully pass**, if the applicant is offered a licence to become an Integrated Community Health Services Centre?
- ☐ Applicants who are issued an ICHSC licence will **be required to submit information in the format and frequency as specified in the Transfer Payment Agreement (TPA)** that the Ministry will establish with the licensee.
- ☐ Does the Applicant confirm their understanding that **licensing requirements will include participation in digital connectivity and reporting requirement** (e.g., centralized waitlist management program, the regional central intake program, the provincial electronic health record, NACRS, etc.)?

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

Grounds for Disqualification

Overview

The Director may discontinue assessment of an Application and/or disqualify an Applicant at any time without penalty or liability.

➤ Illustrative Examples

- ☐ The Applicant fails to **submit or fully execute the Application**.
- ☐ The Applicant fails to **cooperate with the Ministry in its attempt to verify or clarify** any information provided in the Application.
- ☐ The Application reveals, in the opinion of the Director, a **conflict of interest**.
- ☐ The Applicant is known to have **prior knowledge or information** related to the **assessment evaluation** and **scoring system** for the Application.

Procedures and Patients Served at ICHSCs



Procedures in Scope at ICHSCs

There are specific procedures identified as in-scope to be performed at the Orthopedic ICHSCs.



Patient Selection Criteria

In compliment, these procedures will be combined with appropriate patients identified as candidates for orthopedic surgery in ICHSCs.

**In-Scope Procedures and Patients to
receive services at the Orthopedic
ICHSCs**



The ICHSC will receive facility cost funding for **eligible orthopedic surgery services**

Services eligible to be funded include:

- Primary unilateral hip joint replacement procedures
- Primary unilateral knee joint replacement procedures

A full list of eligible procedure codes will be provided in the Call for Applications Guidelines.

Note: The focus for the scope of services in ICHSC settings are for less complex hip and knee procedures



The ICHSC will consider relevant **patient selection criteria** for hip and knee orthopedic surgeries

Patients eligible for community surgery include:

- ✓ Elective
 - ✓ Non-urgent care
- ✓ Low-risk
- ✓ Definitive length of stay (same day surgery)
- ✓ Medically stable patients
- ✓ Patients with no or minimal medical co-morbidities
 - ASA 1 (healthy patient) or;
 - ASA 2 (mild to moderate system disease cause by other pathological processes)

Note: The patients receiving services in ICHSC settings are medically stable low acuity patients.



The ICHSC will be responsible for **specific elements of the patient's journey**



The ICHSC must ensure that:

- ✓ All patients are received through **referral by a Regional Intake** and assessed through **Rapid Access Clinics (RAC)**.
- ✓ ICHSCs will be responsible for several elements of the patient pathway:
 - Organizing appropriate **pre-operative planning and assessment**.
 - Performing the surgical procedure.
 - Ensuring that their patients receive adequate **post-operative care**.
 - Organizing appropriate post-operative **rehabilitation care** for their patients.



The ICHSC will be required to **establish a partnership agreement with a local hospital**

ICHSCs will be required to establish a formal partnership with a local hospital which includes:

- ✓ Demonstrating active **privileges** at a local hospital for:
 - Quality Assurance Advisors
 - All physicians that will be providing services at the centre.

Accessing Facility Quality Standards



The ICHSC must meet **specific facility quality standards**



Accessing Call Specific Standards:

- **Details on how to access Accreditation Canada's requirements** for Orthopedic Surgeries will be provided in the Call material upon launch.
- **A mandatory pre-licensing inspection will be conducted by Accreditation Canada** which the Centre will need to successfully pass for the Applicant to be offered a licence to become an ICHSC.

Note: The Applicant must agree to comply with the Quality Assurance Program (e.g., on-site inspections) and facility standards.

4. Facility Costs and Locality

Facility Costs for Licensed Services



The ICHSC will be funded using a **cost per case funding** model established by the Ministry for eligible orthopedic services.



Hip Joint Replacement Cost

\$6,530; for primary unilateral hip joint procedures

Knee Joint Replacement Cost

\$5,797; for primary unilateral knee joint procedures

Note: This is funding from the Ministry in support of the overhead costs for the specifically listed insured services. Physician professional fees for insured services are separate from facility costs.

Locality of the Call



The ICHSCA requires
**the Call to specify the
locality**

- ✓ The Orthopedic Surgery Call for Applications is **province-wide**.
- ✓ Some examples of what the Director must consider when assessing applications, include*:
 - The **extent to which the services** are already available.
 - The **current and future need for the service or services**.

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

5. Information We May Require You To Provide



What Applicants should consider when preparing applications

- ✓ **What is the proposed timeline for becoming operational** for providing ICHSC services upon issuance of an ICHSC licence, including:
 - The estimated date for beginning to provide orthopedic surgery service delivery.
 - An explanation of how this date is feasible.
- ✓ **Approximate annual volumes.**
 - The estimated minimum and maximum number of services that could be provided annually at the proposed Health Facility.



**What Applicants
should consider when
preparing
applications**

- ✓ Detailed **staffing model**, including an organization chart, for the proposed integrated community health services centre and evidence of the sustainability of this model, including,
 - i. the number of **staff required for each position**.
 - ii. **staff classification with rates of compensation and ranges of compensation**, as applicable.
 - iii. the **model for staffing anesthesia delivery**.
 - iv. Information regarding the **hospital privileges of the Quality Assurance Advisor and all physicians** who provide services at the centre.
- ✓ What measures will be in place to **protect the stability of health human resources**, including evidence of partnership or coordination with hospital(s).
- ✓ Any upskilling or training programming built into the proposed Health Facility's staffing program.



What Applicants should consider when preparing applications

- ✓ How will licensing of the centre align with and support existing provincial objectives, including:
 - ✓ **reducing wait times.**
 - ✓ **integration with the broader health system** (e.g., coordination with public hospitals, considerations in health system planning).
- ✓ Description of how the Applicant has **consulted with health system partners** in the development of the application, including any **endorsement** of the application or **partnerships (formal or informal)** by health system partners.



What Applicants should consider when preparing applications



- ✓ Attestation of **future compliance with Quality Assurance Program and facility standards.**
- ✓ Description of **continuous quality improvement programming.**
- ✓ Description of **Quality Assurance policies and protocols.**
- ✓ Qualifications of **proposed Quality Assurance Advisor** (e.g., professional experience, academic affiliations, and their qualifications for the role).
- ✓ Description of **proposed physical space and equipment.**
- ✓ Description of how quality will be monitored in **compliance with quality and safety standards** and **generally accepted professional standards.**

Note: Applicants who receive conditional approval will be required to participate in and meet the requirements of a pre-licensing site inspection completed by Accreditation Canada as a condition of licensing.

Some Examples of Supporting Documents

Some Examples of Supplementary Documents

- ✓ **Certificate of Incorporation/Letters Patent**
- ✓ **Facility Operations Experience**, if applicable
- ✓ Detailed **Staffing Plan/Organizational Chart**
- ✓ **Map** that shows catchment area of the centre, location of the centre, location of the partnering hospital(s), any other hospitals that may receive emergency transfers, and any other relevant health system partners that the Centre may partner with in the delivery of services
- ✓ **Centre floorplan**, if applicable
- ✓ **IPAC Clinic Policy**
- ✓ **Certificate(s) of Professional Conduct**
- ✓ **Applicant Conflict of Interest Declaration**

6. 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**, through integration within existing health service structures and consultation 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** 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.

7. Closing Remarks & Next Steps

Next Steps



The Ministry will share a **feedback form via email** for **webinar attendees** to provide insights and inputs regarding the Orthopedic Surgery Call for Applications process. **The feedback form will close on January 8, 2025.**



The Ministry will issue a **public notification announcing** when the Orthopedic Surgery Call for Applications will be open.



The notification will include **directions to explain how to access the Application Form and accompanying materials.**



Once the Call is issued, there will be a **two-week period for Applicants to submit questions** about the Application Form to the Ministry.

All feedback should be provided through the feedback form