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## News Release/ Communiqué

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For Immediate Release  
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### **OHQC Discusses Health Care with Aboriginal Community**

Thunder Bay, ON – Access issues such as transportation and language barriers, including translation and interpretation, were two of the challenges identified with health care delivery in the aboriginal community during today’s Ontario Health Quality Council roundtable discussion.

“The objective of today’s roundtable discussion was to hear about the quality of health care delivery in the aboriginal community,” explained Ray Hession, Chair, Ontario Health Quality Council.

The discussion focused on primary health care for aboriginal populations and the extent to which it is safe, effective, patient-centred, accessible, efficient, equitable, integrated, appropriately resourced, and focused on population-health.

Earlier in the day, the Council participated in a videoconference with health care providers from the local and surrounding area through Contact North. The Council also held a reception for local health care and community leaders.

“The Council has had the opportunity to speak with health care providers and hear first hand some of the challenges that Aboriginal, northern and remote communities face in delivering health care. The information we heard today will help us determine what the Council will report on in the future,” added Hession.

The Ontario Health Quality Council is an independent agency funded by the Government of Ontario through the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. The Council reports directly to Ontarians on access to publicly funded health services, health human resources in publicly funded health services, consumer and population health status, and health system outcomes.

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*The report is available at [www.ohqc.ca](http://www.ohqc.ca)*

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