

# NEW OAKVILLE HOSPITAL *News*



AUGUST 2007

## ANOTHER MILESTONE FOR HHS

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On Monday, July 9, 2007, Halton Healthcare Services (HHS) welcomed the Honourable George Smitherman, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) to Oakville-Trafalgar Memorial Hospital (OTMH). The Minister was at the hospital to announce funding in the amount of \$12.5 million to support planning for the new Oakville Hospital.

“This is tremendous news for our communities. The capital funding announced today, will allow us to continue our planning efforts for the new Oakville Hospital,” said John Oliver, HHS President & CEO. “We thank the Government of Ontario for investing in the health of our communities and look forward to working collaboratively with them as this project proceeds.”

The funding will be used for preparatory work that must take place well before the first shovels hit the ground.

“The Government’s commitment to our hospital underscores the HHS mission of ‘Caring Today, Growing for Tomorrow,’” explained Mary Davies, Chair, HHS Board of Directors.

“This funding will allow our hospital to move ahead with planning for new facilities that will bring high quality health services to our community,” continued Kevin Flynn, MPP for Oakville.

The Town of Oakville has grown by leaps and bounds since OTMH first opened its doors on February 14, 1950. At that time, the Town of Oakville had a population of just 12,193. The original OTMH has undergone many expansions and renovations since then, but with the Town’s population nearing 170,000, a new hospital is definitely needed.



**LEFT TO RIGHT:** The Honourable George Smitherman, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, Mary Davies, HHS Board Chair, and John Oliver, HHS President & CEO.

“The Halton area is thriving so our government is investing in health care services so they can grow alongside the local population,” said Smitherman.



## ENGAGING THE COMMUNITY

Ensuring community involvement is very important to the success of the new Oakville Hospital project as it moves forward. “We were very pleased that so many community members wanted to participate in the focus groups,” said John Oliver, HHS President and CEO. “Community support and input is so important. A hospital must be built to suit the needs of the community it will serve and the best way to find out what those needs are is to ask.”

If you were unable to participate in one of the focus groups held in March, don’t worry. Throughout the

project’s lifespan HHS will be holding many community consultations to garner input about design and services, and to keep the community updated on the progress of the project.

“We received great feedback from our initial focus group consultations and are really excited to see what upcoming groups have to add to the discussion,” concluded Oliver.

Find out more about the feedback from our focus groups on the next page.

## THE VOICE OF OAKVILLE

In March of this year Halton Healthcare Services (HHS) held a number of community design assessment focus groups to help engage community in the planning and development of the new Oakville Hospital. Representatives from the Oakville community, former and current patients, visitors as well as physicians, hospital employees and volunteers were invited to be part of a planning process that will help shape the look and feel of the new Oakville Hospital by taking part in these focus groups.

The impetus for the focus groups came, in part, from the vision, established by the HHS Board of Directors, that the new Oakville Hospital will become a 'distinctive centre of healthcare excellence that will offer first-rate care in an innovative environment that supports the physical, emotional and spiritual health of both the people who come for treatment and those who deliver it'.

The focus groups were facilitated by two individuals, independent of HHS, who are experienced in developing patient-centered approaches to health care. The facilitators initiated discussions among the groups and participants were encouraged to voice their own ideas.

The focus group participants had many suggestions for what they would like to see in the new hospital. These suggestions were consolidated and prioritized as follows.

### Consensus Priorities \*

1. Single Patient Rooms
2. Welcoming, soothing entrance
3. Accessible, low cost parking
4. Soothing, internal environment throughout with natural light, colour and artwork.

### Patient Priorities

1. Single rooms with toilets, shower, patient-controlled lighting
2. Improved parking
3. Use of environmentally sensitive, green design concepts
4. Better family/waiting spaces
5. Create a soothing, calm environment throughout.

\* The consensus priorities were those that were considered important across all the focus groups.

### Community Priorities

1. A welcoming entrance with lots of natural light and healthy food vendors
2. Accessible, low cost parking
3. Create a soothing, calm environment throughout
4. Support and accommodations for patients and families
5. Single Patient Rooms
6. A good triaging system in the Emergency Room
7. Electronic, transferable medical records.

### Staff Priorities

1. Single rooms with space for families to be with the patient
2. 24-hour access to healthy food choices for staff, patients and visitors
3. Calm, quiet outdoor spaces for patients and staff
4. Separate entrances for staff, outpatients and visitors
5. Adequate storage in all areas of the hospital
6. Conduct additional departmental focus groups.



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### Why can't the current site be expanded?

There is simply not enough space. The current site is situated on less than 10 acres of land. This acreage is too small to accommodate the projected increases in service demands from the growing community. At least fifty (50) acres are required to build an adequately sized facility that can grow into the future.

In addition to this, multiple expansions at

OTMH over its 57-year history has resulted in a fragmented building that cannot be effectively expanded, renovated or regenerated.

### When will construction begin?

The current schedule projects a construction start date in the latter part of 2010.

### How long will it take to build?

The current schedule projects an occupancy date in 2013.

### Is Dundas and Third Line the best location for the new Hospital?

The land will provide the opportunity to not only expand and enhance existing services but also ensures that we will have the capacity to grow with the community in the years to come.

## FUNCTIONAL PROGRAM SUBMITTED

Halton Healthcare Services (HHS) recently celebrated the submission of the Functional Program for the new Oakville Hospital to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC).

The Functional Program is a comprehensive document that must be submitted for approval to the MOHLTC.

This document:

- presents detailed descriptions of the services that will be provided within the new Oakville Hospital and the resources required to support them
- provides instruction for the architectural and engineering team for the preparation of preliminary building designs
- helps the architects and engineers to consider departmental proximity and

space requirements when planning the hospital's layout.

The development of the Functional Program involved numerous HHS employees organized into teams based on the area or department in which they work. These teams typically consisted of managers, several key staff members, representatives of the medical staff and, in some instances, the senior team member responsible for that area.

In addition, HHS held a number of community design assessment focus groups where patients, staff and community members were asked to articulate their top priorities for the new hospital. The outcomes of these focus groups were also included when developing the overall plan.

"The submission of the Functional Program is a major

milestone for us," explains Bill Bailey, HHS Vice President of Redevelopment. "This document represents countless hours of hard work by so many people."

Now that the Functional Program has been submitted it will be reviewed by the MOHLTC which will return the document to HHS with its feedback.

HHS will take this feedback and incorporate it into changes to the Functional Program.

Once an agreement is made concerning the contents of the Functional Program, HHS will receive a written approval from the Ministry of Health. Final approval of the Functional Program marks the completion of the operational planning process for the new hospital.

## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

### Block Schematics

Diagrams of floor areas developed during preliminary design development to explore departmental relationships.

### Master Plan

A physical planning document containing a site plan and site utilization diagrams that indicate the location of major elements of the building(s), access to and egress from the site and building(s) on the site, and locations of public utilities and parking.

### Master Program

A narrative document describing the role and requirements for a particular facility once its role has been defined within the broad scope of all health care facilities in a region.

## IT JUST MAKES SENSE TO BE GREEN

Plans for the New Oakville Hospital include the incorporation of 'green' design elements.

But what does it mean to be 'green'?

Sustainable design or building 'green' is a term used to describe construction techniques that use resources efficiently while creating healthier buildings.

"Buildings consume a great deal of resources, both in their initial construction and over their life span," explains Doug McCann, HHS Director of Planning and Design. "Sustainable or 'green' building design aims to significantly reduce this consumption and the negative impact of buildings on the environment and its occupants."

Green buildings are built to meet certain

objectives such as protecting occupant health, using energy, water and other resources more efficiently and reducing the overall impact on the environment.

For the new hospital project, HHS will be utilizing the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED®) Canada for New Construction and Major Renovations rating system which is an adaptation of the American LEED® Green Building Rating System™. These are benchmarking tools for the design, construction and maintenance of green buildings. The Canadian version has been tailored specifically for Canadian climates, construction practices and regulations.

HHS will be using the LEED® approach to building, seeking LEED® certification of the new hospital facility. In order to achieve this

certification the project must meet certain prerequisites and performance benchmarks within a set of categories. These five key areas are:

- sustainable sites
- water efficiency
- energy and atmosphere
- materials and resources
- indoor environmental quality.

"The new Oakville Hospital is a Greenfield project which means there are no pre-existing or outdated buildings to deal with," concludes McCann. "This provides us with a unique opportunity to create a patient and family centred facility that is also environmentally responsible and a healthy place to visit and work."



## FUNDRAISING FOR TODAY AND TOMORROW

The Oakville Hospital Foundation recently engaged members of the community in a fundraising planning study to assess the receptiveness of the Oakville community to a significant capital campaign for the new Oakville Hospital.

In a number of one-on-one interviews as well as some focus groups, people were asked for their opinion about the hospital and the Foundation.

The report's findings were extremely positive and strong support for the project was identified. Almost all participants felt a new hospital is an urgent priority for the community. Additionally, many individuals sought more detailed information on the role of the provincial government and its intentions to contribute to

construction and operating costs for the new Oakville Hospital.

The study found that Oakville-Trafalgar Memorial Hospital (OTMH) was highly regarded by participants and several indicated great pride in having such a great hospital in their community. Many participants also felt a very strong personal attachment to the hospital. OTMH is clearly seen as a vital part of what makes Oakville such a special and unique community.

While many staff and volunteers are very excited about the planning for the new Oakville Hospital Capital Campaign ahead, the Foundation has an annual commitment to OTMH to

ensure essential equipment and minor renovation needs are met today while planning for the future. Last year the Foundation granted \$2.7 million to OTMH and next year the Foundation is planning to grant more than \$3 million, apart from any funds allocated for the new hospital.

OTMH is one of the most innovative community hospitals in Ontario and we need to ensure over the next 6 to 7 years that it remains that way. We need your continued support now for equipment purchases during this transition.

The new Oakville Hospital capital campaign will be the largest fundraising project in Oakville's history and one of the most important - the support of each and every Oakville resident will be needed.

For more information regarding the capital campaign, please contact Sheilaah Guthrie, Director, Campaigns and Personal Giving, Oakville Hospital Foundation, at 905-845-2571, ext. 6382.



## WHAT'S NEXT?

### Master Plan

HHS is currently in the process of developing the Master Plan for the new Oakville Hospital.

The Master Plan is broken down into three main design processes. These are: site analysis, program analysis and sustainability.

The *site analysis* assesses such things as natural features and patterns of the property as well as built features and patterns.

The *program analysis* takes into consideration departmental gross areas, building gross area, building circulation and identification of high growth areas.

For this project, *sustainability* goal setting will involve the LEED® Canada for New Construction and Major Renovations, which is a rating system for 'green' building projects.

The Master Plan will be submitted by HHS in September of this year for review by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care.

Once the Master Plan has been approved, HHS can move onto the next phase of planning - *schematic design*.

## CONTACT US

*New Oakville Hospital News* is designed and produced by the HHS Public Relations Department in association with the Oakville Hospital Foundation. If you would like to receive regular electronic updates about this exciting project, please send us an e-mail at [news@oakvillehospital.com](mailto:news@oakvillehospital.com).

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