



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The new state-of-the-art Acute Care hospital for Windsor-Essex is moving forward.
- Infrastructure Ontario has been appointed to lead the procurement process for construction of the new hospital. A Request for Qualifications (RFQ) is scheduled to be issued in 2021, subject to change.
- As we move forward, the Steering Committee has agreed with MOHLTC to examine the use existing infrastructure on an interim basis. This means we will examine the ongoing use of the Ouellette campus, on an interim basis, for Urgent Care (satellite Emergency Department) and some Ambulatory (Day Surgery) procedures. The plan to move Urgent Care to the former Grace campus is part of the Program and Services Steering Committee's long term plan, as is the relocation of outpatient mental health and chronic disease management services to Ouellette campus.
- There remains a commitment to have an Urgent Care Centre (satellite Emergency Department) in the core of the City of Windsor operating at the same time the new acute care hospital is operational.
- The move of acute mental health beds to the Tayfour campus to create a regional centre of excellence for mental health continues to be a part of the discussion.

THIS REPRESENTS A ONCE-IN-A LIFETIME, MAJOR SYSTEM REFORM THAT WILL TRANSFORM HOSPITAL SERVICES IN WINDSOR ESSEX.

- The new state-of-the-art acute care hospital will transform healthcare to better serve our patients and families in this region.
- The project is no longer a vision, it will eventually be a reality.
- It is no longer "if" we have a project it is "when." However, "when" is coming.
- The new acute care hospital has been assigned to Infrastructure Ontario, whose job it is to get projects completed.

THE PLAN HAS EVOLVED SINCE THE INITIAL PROPOSAL.

- This is the result of a collaboration between the Steering Committee, the LHIN and the Ministry, to make sure it is the right plan for Windsor Essex.

- It is a complex plan with four components that need to be sequenced in implementation. Construction of the acute care hospital is the component that the government has confirmed.
- It is also a large transformation and requires a phased approach.
- The Steering Committee is continuing to examine the ongoing use of Ouellette on an interim basis for Urgent Care. It means we will continue to examine the possibility while we plan for the new acute care hospital.

WHAT HAS BEEN APPROVED FOR IMPLEMENTATION?

- As part of the 2017 Ontario Budget, the government approved construction of a new acute care hospital.
- Infrastructure Ontario has been appointed to lead the procurement process for construction of the new hospital.

DOES THIS MEAN THE GOVERNMENT DID NOT LIKE THE ORIGINAL PLAN? NOT AT ALL!

- The complete plan is impossible to undertake all at once.
- This allows the overall plan to be sequenced.

THE GOALS AND COMPONENTS OF THE WINDSOR ESSEX HOSPITAL SYSTEM DO NOT CHANGE.

- The plan will still:
 - ✓ Replace our undersized and outdated acute care hospitals with a state-of-the-art facility;
 - ✓ Make hospital care safer for patients with 80% single patient beds and modern air systems to improve infection control;
 - ✓ Allow us to deliver more efficient hospital services, with all acute care services under one roof and some services and procedures moved into the community – closer to users; and
 - ✓ Allow us to work with our partners in education and strengthen the focus on research and education. This will also put us in a better position to recruit and retain top healthcare professionals.

THE WINDSOR-ESSEX HOSPITALS SYSTEM IT IS NOT JUST BRICKS AND MORTAR - IT IS HOW WE WORK TOGETHER FOR OUR PATIENTS.

- From the beginning one of the best things about this has been having everyone at the table.
- This includes all three hospitals in the region, the city and county, medical community, LHIN, CCAC and Hospice.
- This process has opened up discussions that could never have happened before.
- It has created opportunities to look at how the best way to deliver mental healthcare is as a complete package; how we can improve wait times in the Emergency Department by looking at new models of emergency care delivery. It has even opened up the discussion about regional transportation.
- None of that changes with this plan.

THE RUBBER HITS THE ROAD. THE WORK MOVING FORWARD WILL BE 10 TIMES THE AMOUNT OF WORK TO DATE. WE WANT EVERYONE ON BOARD FOR THE JOURNEY.

- From the beginning the Steering Committee has tried to make this process as open, transparent and fair as possible and involve the community at every step.
- In the coming weeks we will share publically a community engagement strategy that will take it a step further and allow individuals to select areas of interest that they are passionate about and work on that.
- We look forward to sharing that and hope everyone will get involved.

DOES THIS MEAN GRACE IS OFF THE TABLE?

- Grace site remains the Steering Committee's vision for Urgent Care (satellite Emergency Department).
- There remains a commitment to have an urgent care centre (satellite Emergency Department) in the core of City of Windsor operating at the same time the new acute care hospital is operational.
- The complete plan is impossible to undertake all at once, therefore the Steering Committee is continuing to examine the ongoing use of Ouellette on an interim basis for urgent care.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THE MET SITE?

- We will continue to examine if any portion of the Met site can continue providing any acute care without causing a major disruption for patients and staff having to travel to another site for acute care.

IS LOCATION FOR THE NEW ACUTE CARE HOSPITAL BEING RE-EXAMINED?

- No. The location of the new acute care hospital is settled as a result of the detailed process undertaken to select, the extensive community engagement that has been undertaken and the approval of the location by Windsor Regional Hospital with the support of the Erie St Clair LHIN. Now is the time to focus on the various components of the Windsor-Essex hospitals plan.

HAS THE MINISTRY APPROVED THE SITE FOR THE NEW HOSPITAL?

- Site selection for the new hospital, including the public consultation process, is the responsibility of WRH and the Windsor Program and Services Planning Project Steering Committee.
- WRH and the Program and Services Steering Committee have selected and finalized a site for the construction of the new hospital after a thorough and detailed process.
- Questions and feedback about the site may be shared with WRH and the Steering Committee.

WHAT IS THE EXPECTED TIMELINE?

- The Request for Qualifications is set to go out in 2021, subject to changes. This will be followed by a Request for Proposal (RFP). The date of any RFP will be determined as we proceed further in the planning process.
- Between now and 2021 we have a lot of work to do planning for the new acute care hospital.