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For Immediate Release

## Media Release

### **Information about sites considered for new hospital location evidences the dedication of the individuals involved and the thoroughness of the process**

Members of the media are invited to an information session to learn more about the documents, the process used to select a site, and meet the team responsible for choosing the location. The presentation will take place on **Thursday, January 7, 2016 at 11:30 am, in the Met Campus Auditorium.**

Bob Renaud, Chair of the Site Selection Subcommittee, says he is looking forward to sharing the documents that show a thorough examination of each of the sites submitted for consideration as part of the Request for Proposals issued last year.

As a part of a Freedom of Information request, the information used to select the site for a new Single-Site Acute Care Hospital in Windsor-Essex, is now allowed to be released. [Click here](#) to view documents and accompanying explanatory note.

“The site selection process, based on fairness, integrity, expert guidance and community involvement, led to an outstanding site for the new regional hospital,” says Renaud. “We are proud of the decision made, and confident the location at County Rd. 42 and the 9<sup>th</sup> Concession will serve the region for generations to come.”

The site was announced as part of a new hospital system last year. The \$2 billion investment includes an urgent care/satellite facility at the former Grace Hospital site; outpatient mental health, chronic pain management and a community hub run by Hôtel-Dieu Grace Healthcare at the Ouellette Campus; and dialysis services, expanded diagnostics and a Centre of Mental Health Excellence at the Tayfour Campus.

The decision made by the site selection committee last year is final. A purchase agreement is in place with the preferred vendor at County Rd. 42 and the 9<sup>th</sup> Concession, pending Ministry approval.

“We have always stated we will not be able to make everyone happy with the location of the new acute care hospital. However, overall there has been an overwhelmingly positive reaction to the result especially in light of the other investments in local healthcare being proposed at the former Grace site, Ouellette campus and Tayfour campus,” says Renaud.

“Those who are currently not happy with the selected location may see the release of this information as an opportunity to reconsider and choose something that better suits their agenda. That is not the case. The thoroughness, openness and transparency of this process has been publicly acknowledged and as a result we need to move ahead with the process for the benefit of our community,” Renaud adds.

Bob Renaud will be joined by fellow members of the site selection subcommittee at the information session. The 10 volunteer subcommittee members, whose biographies are listed below, are residents of Windsor and Essex County. Their diverse backgrounds and rich career experiences proved invaluable in the selection process.

In addition, the following individuals who helped support the site selection process will also be presenting related information and taking questions.

- **Drazen Bulat**, partner with Miller Thomson LLP. Bulat and his partner William Pigott have a combined total of 50 years’ experience in procurement and construction law. They helped design the process for the Steering Committee to make sure members understood the process and had the opportunity to conduct a mock site selection exercise before setting them free to evaluate the 22 properties on their own.
- **Krista Walkey**, Planning Consultant with Stantec Consulting Ltd. She has over 20 years of planning experience as a Registered Professional Planner (RPP) and a Member of the Canadian Institute of Planners (MCIP). She assisted the Site Selection Subcommittee with technical details including information about zoning, accessibility, etc. Walkey has a team of 15,000+ experts at her firm whose knowledge she would draw from for this and other projects.
- **Glenn Ackerley**, Fairness Advisor for the project and procurement and construction lawyer from WeirFoulds LLP. Ackerley, who has 25 years experience in construction law, sat through hours of Committee discussion and through it all, made sure the process was followed and that fairness to all submitted sites remained a priority.

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To learn more about the new hospital project and to receive regular updates, please visit [www.windsorhospitals.ca](http://www.windsorhospitals.ca).

## **SITE SELECTION SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

**Robert Renaud, Chair of the Site Selection Committee**, is also Chair of the Site Selection Subcommittee and Windsor Regional Hospital's Board of Directors. He retired as a Vice President and a member of the Board of Directors of Chrysler Canada. Following his retirement, Robert served as Executive in Residence at the University of Windsor's Odette School of Business as well as a director on many prominent and respected not-for-profit Boards and Committees within Ontario.

**Dr. Wilf Innerd** is the former Dean of the Faculty of Education at the University of Windsor. He is the Past Chair of the Windsor Regional Hospital Board of Directors and a retired university professor with a distinguished career in education.

**Victoria LaLonde** used her background in architecture to launch a successful career in the field of healthcare. Right now, she is a Project Designer for the Henry Ford Health System, where she works on a variety of renovation projects. Victoria's career path, and interest in the future of regional healthcare, stem from personal experience. She spent a great deal of her childhood in all 3 Windsor hospitals visiting her father, who was a diabetic and double amputee.

**Mason Leschyna** feels that since the new hospital site is intended to serve the community for decades to come, it is important that youth – who will be using the facility the longest - be included in this discussion. Mason has a degree in Engineering Science and is currently in his second year of study in the Doctor of Medicine program at Western University's Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry's Windsor Program. His volunteer experience includes work as the chair of the Town of Lakeshore's Youth Council, and board chair of the Association of Campus Emergency Response Teams of Canada."

**Yvan Poulin** is a member of the Windsor Regional Hospital Board of Directors and a Planner with Erie St.Clair/South West French language health planning entity. Yvan also worked in the banking industry where he was involved in personal relocations and branches relocation. He wanted to ensure the voice of the Francophone community was heard during the site-selection discussion.

**Mike Ray** is a retired lawyer, educator and former Chair of the Windsor Regional Hospital Board of Directors. Mike served as member of Windsor City Council and as a Member of Provincial Parliament. He has also served as a director of many local, provincial and federal non-profit boards. He currently serves as a member of the Windsor Police Services Board.

**Suzanne Semeniuk** spent her career working as a teacher and social worker, and continues to serve the region as an active and dedicated volunteer. Suzanne has been a member of the Board of Directors at the local chapters of the United Way, Big Sisters and is the past family representative on the Board of Directors of the CMHA. She says she has had many positive experiences at Windsor Regional Hospital and has enjoyed helping the new hospital "find its place in our community."

**Bert Serre** is no stranger to the process of site selection. He participated in several site selection committees during his decades of work in the automotive industry. Bert held many high profile positions with Ford Motor Company in Canada, the United States and Australia. He also served as VP of Corporate Relations for the Lear Corporation. Having spent time in all three of the city's hospitals over the past four years, Bert is also very familiar with the city's medical system.

**Pam Skillings** retired as the Principal of the John McGivney Children's Centre School Authority in December 2006. From January 2007 to 2014 she taught part time at St. Clair College in the Educational Assistant Program. In addition, she sits on several not-for-profit boards of directors including Windsor Regional Hospital, where she has served since 2012, the House of Sophrosyne and Family Respite Services. Pam feels this is a "big deal" for our community and wanted to bring a community consumer point of view to the process.

**Lynne Watts** is a retired community college administrator who worked for many years at St. Clair College. As Vice President, Administration, at Centennial College in Toronto, she played a key role in the building of a new campus. Lynne has been on the Windsor Regional Hospital Board of Directors for 7 years and is currently the Vice Chair. Lynne is active in the community on several boards and committees, and she believes the region "needs and deserves" this new facility.

**Brian Bildfell** did become ill and had to leave the committee before a final decision was made. As a retired management professional with 25 years experience in various roles with the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and former **Chief** of EMS for Windsor and Essex County, his experience and expertise were extremely valuable. Mr. Bildfell passed away in 2015.