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News

# Lawyer says selection of mega-hospital site conducted fairly

*The site selection process of the mega-hospital was “fair and commendable” according to a report by Glen Ackerley, the fairness advisor appointed to oversee the project.*

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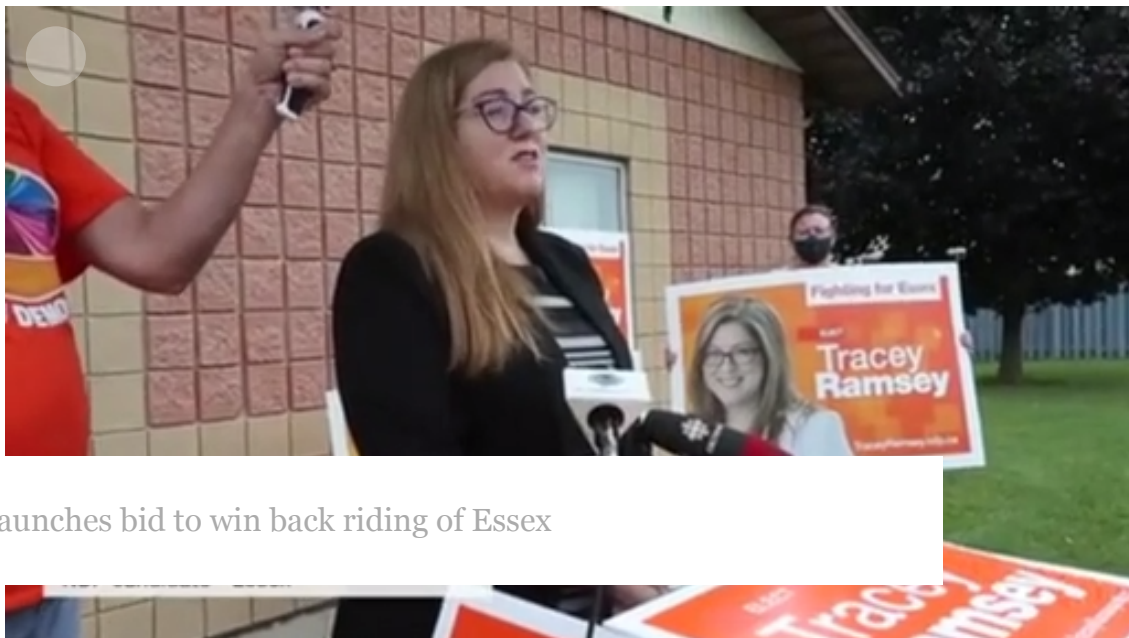


The new mega-hospital plan calls for redevelopment at Windsor Regional Hospital's campuses on Ouellette Avenue and Tecumseh Road, shown, along with the erection of a four-storey, stand-alone emergency department on the former Grace Hospital site. (DAX MELMER/The Windsor Star)

The site selection process for the mega-hospital was “fair and commendable,” according to a report by Glenn Ackerley, the fairness adviser appointed to oversee the project.

STORY CONTINUES BELOW

Ackerley, a procurement lawyer and partner at WeirFoulds LLP in Toronto, identified two issues raised during the process to determine the location of the single-site acute care hospital at County Road 42 and Concession 9.



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The first occurred during the early phases of the selection process. Two of the 22 proposed properties did not meet the full requirements of the request for proposals. An arbitrator determined that the flaws were “not material,” and neither of the two were selected as the preferred site.

Then, during the evaluation process, conflicts of interest were raised. Two members of the site selection subcommittee revealed they had connections to vendors. In both cases the connections were deemed inconsequential in nature. Neither matter related to the site selected for the new hospital.

STORY CONTINUES BELOW

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program and services steering committee overseeing the planning felt he would add another layer of accountability.

“This was such an important decision and we had to get it right,” said Windsor Regional Hospital president and CEO David Musyj. “Glenn Ackerley was really an extra set of eyes and ears making sure the process that was undertaken was fair and transparent and that all parties involved were treated equally and fairly as part of the process.”

Earlier this month, the recommended site for the new hospital was revealed. Windsor Regional Hospital’s board of directors accepted the subcommittee’s recommendation that it be built on a 60-acre property near Windsor International Airport.

The site selection subcommittee properly evaluated all of the proposed locations “by applying the pre-determined evaluation criteria in a diligent, comprehensive, and thoughtful manner,” Ackerley said in his report.

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