



Report of the Acting President & CEO to the Board of Directors

Date: December 2024

Strategic Direction - Strengthen the processes that drive a culture of patient safety and quality care

Our surgical safari tours also resumed this month – a fun interactive preoperative tour for children aged 3 to 12 having surgery at WRH. A child life specialist provides age appropriate explanations of what the child will see and do on the day of surgery. Children greatly benefit from information presented this way and when they come back from their procedure they are much more relaxed and comfortable said Jennifer Burton Liang one of our Child Life Specialists. The 45 minute tours are held on a weekend day before the child’s day of surgery and more information or to schedule a tour call 519-254-5577 ext. 53408. Tours for children with special needs are also available.

Installation of our new LINAC bunker started the last week of October and we are happy to report that the machine itself should be up and running December 9th. Plans to replace the existing LINACs are in progress.

Our new MRI is also up and running at the Ouellette Campus and we are in the planning phases to upgrade the other MRI at the Ouellette site.

The Cath Lab expansion project is well under way and we are looking forward to having 2 cath lab tables available to serve our community and catchment area.

As we enter respiratory virus season from a provincial lens we are seeing:

- Percent positivity: COVID 11.4% (lower than previous week)
- Other virus % positivity: Influenza 0.8%, RSV 4.1%, Entero/Rhinovirus 10%
- Current trend: COVID lower than last week, Influenza is lower, and RSV is higher than last week
- Trend compared to last year at this time: % positivity, # hospitalized, # outbreaks lower than this time last year

At WRH over the last 2 months we are averaging between 10 and 18 cases of hospitalized COVID cases, which is lower than this time last year, and 20-35 cases of other Acute Respiratory Viruses. Numbers of Influenza and RSV remain low in hospital with one of each case hospitalized in the past week.

<https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/Data-and-Analysis/Infectious-Disease/Respiratory-Virus-Tool>

Prevention is key as always for respiratory virus transmission.

If you have not yet received your vaccinations for Covid, Influenza or RSV you can go to the following link for more information. Vaccines are free in Ontario for those meeting eligibility criteria. <https://news.ontario.ca/en/release/1005239/free-flu-shot-and-new-covid-19-vaccines-now-available-across-ontario>

Other ways that you can reduce risk include:

- Handwashing
- Staying home if you have symptoms
- Coughing and sneezing into a tissue or into your elbow if a tissue is not available
- Keep your distance from people that are sick
- Keep surfaces clean if someone is sick in your home
- Wear a mask if you are at increased risk from infection to protect yourself or have to go out when you are sick to protect others

Masking requirements at WRH were updated in October, to help prevent spread of respiratory illness to our patients, staff and visitors. Please check the signage in the clinical area that you are visiting for requirements. Masks are available on entry to the hospital and in all clinical areas.

Strategic Direction – Uphold the principles of accountability & transparency

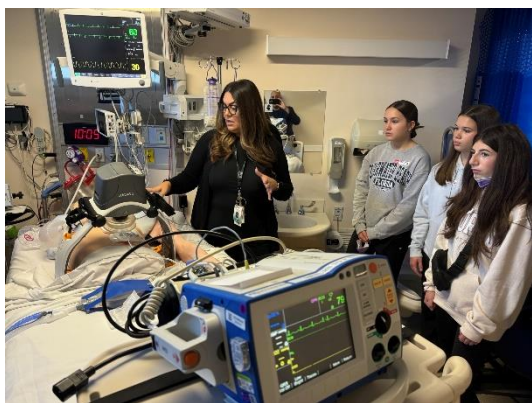
Our new operating plans for the coming year supporting our new Strategic Plan are currently under development and will be presented to the Board in January 2025. Our teams will be working with finance, human resources, quality improvement specialists and decision support analysts as well as our clinical leaders and frontline staff to ensure continuous progress toward our vision of Outstanding Care No Exceptions.

Strategic Direction - Maintain a responsive and sustainable corporate financial strategy

We continue to focus on maximizing operational efficiencies and revenue generating opportunities to ensure we have a positive and sustainable long-term financial position. As we enter our budget process for 2025/26 our focus is on maximizing operational

efficiencies, generating revenue and ensuring we have the resources to provide the best care possible to our community.

Strategic Direction - Create a dynamic workplace culture that establishes WRH as an employer of choice



We had a great turnout for Take Your Kid To Work Day, the curiosity, energy and smiles truly brought joy to our hallways. Our dedicated staff enthusiastically shared their work and passion, showing our next generation what it means to care for others.

We also launched our Quality of Worklife Survey this month– This survey aligns with our operational planning to ensure that our strategies support our goals of ensuring a sustainable workforce into the future and of being an employer of choice.

Strategic Direction - Redefine our collaboration with external partners to build a better healthcare ecosystem

At the beginning of November WRH partnered with Windsor Police marking Crime Prevention Week, at the Devonshire Mall, highlighting the work of our Nurse Police Team aiming to help individuals in need in our community.

In Mid November WRH also partnered with Windsor Police Service, HDGH, Family Services Windsor Essex, the Canadian Mental Health Association and the Windsor Essex Community housing corporation to host a 2 day event to provide essential health and human services to Glengarry residents. This neighborhood has faced consistent quality of life challenges due to crime and disorder and this event provided support in a safe and accessible environment. During the event 59 individuals were helped, with assessments, wound care, naloxone kit distribution and referrals to withdrawal management services.

Strategic Direction - Continue the pursuit of NEW state-of-the-art acute care facilities

Ever since Windsor Regional Hospital submitted the Stage 1.3 plans for a New Windsor/Essex Acute Care Hospital and the Ouellette Campus Redevelopment in 2023, the redevelopment team has been working in close communication with the Ministry of Health and Infrastructure Ontario, to refine and evolve the plan based on their input and requirements.

As we approach the New Year, Windsor Regional Hospital is preparing to move forward with a scope and strategy that aligns with the project vision and design principles established by the Windsor-Essex community, and ensures that we adhere to our shared commitment to excellence.

This month's PMO Report highlights some of the major developments that have taken place this year and will lay the groundwork for a busy year ahead in 2025, including the development of strategies for Information, Communication & Automation Technology (ICAT), Operational Readiness, and Furniture Fixtures & Equipment (FF&E) in the new hospital.

In November, consultants from Insight Health Planning (IHP) toured both Windsor Regional Hospital (WRH) campuses as they work to develop a comprehensive FF&E strategy. Starting in the new year, the team will begin barcoding and cataloging items, conducting a complete physical inventory of the estimated 20,000 to 30,000 pieces of equipment and furniture at both campuses.

With a solid groundwork in place, WRH is well positioned to move swiftly into Stage 2 planning at an accelerated pace in the New Year, ensuring alignment with Infrastructure Ontario's timelines and targets for tendering and contract execution. User input will play an important role in this next stage and the Redevelopment team is looking forward to increased User Group engagement as we approach this peak planning period.

Wishing everyone a Joyous Holiday Season and a Happy and Health New Year!