

## Project Vision

Create a state-of-the-art treatment and healing environment for all of those who we care for; a supportive workplace with the latest technologies to allow all of our staff to provide the most efficient and highest quality care, in a new hospital that supports well-being and has the capacity to provide timely, patient and family-centred care for generations to come.

## Project Update: Functional Program to go to the WRH Board

Work on the Functional Program (FP) is nearing completion. This month, the WRH Board of Directors will receive a presentation on the functional program document describing future services, activity volumes, staffing levels, new technologies, space requirements and adjacencies at the new hospital and the Ouellette Campus.

Agnew Peckham Healthcare & Facility Planners have worked closely over the last eight months with 39 User Groups representing clinical and support services to develop a functional program document that will guide the design of the future hospital and developments on the Ouellette Site.

Some highlights of the FP include:

- More negative pressure airborne isolation rooms (AIR) with washrooms and anterooms to help with infection prevention and control
- 100% of inpatient rooms will have the capacity to be private and/or isolation rooms
- Increased OR capacity and a designated operating room for the Cancer Centre
- Increased number of inpatient beds
- Increased capacity in the Emergency Department
- Adaptable space to safely increase capacity levels if needed
- More spaces for medical and nursing students, and all health care learners
- More space for spiritual healing and Indigenous Services

The FP will inform the next planning stage, which will be focussed on the development of block schematic plans that will include preliminary layouts of all departments, adjacencies, organization of rooms and spaces. This stage will also include the development of the future master site plan.

The final FP will be submitted to the Ministry of Health early next year along with block schematic designs and updated cost estimates.

## PROJECT MANAGEMENT OFFICE TEAM MEMBERS

New Windsor/Essex Acute  
Care Hospital Project

**Paul Landry**  
Project Director

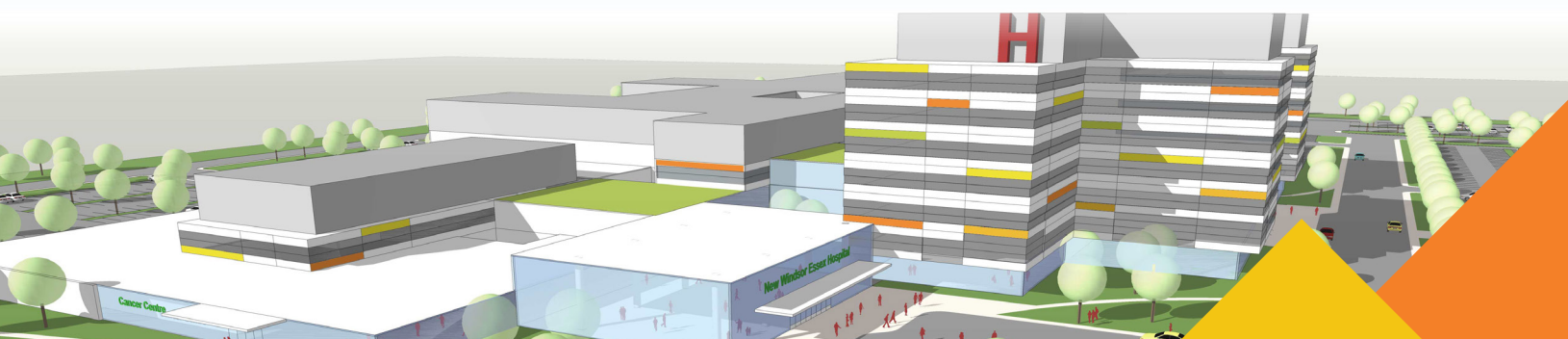
**Dr. Andrew Petrakos**  
Director of Clinical Services Planning

**Jeff Geml**  
Director of Support Services Planning

**Allison Johnson**  
Manager of Communications &  
Community Engagement

**Fatima Lopes-Barros**  
Administrative Assistant

Learn more about the project and  
subscribe to the project email list for  
updates at [www.WindsorHospitals.ca](http://www.WindsorHospitals.ca)



# Stantec Architecture selected as PDC Team

Windsor Regional Hospital (WRH) has selected Stantec Architecture as the Planning, Design and Conformance (PDC) consultant for the New Windsor/Essex Acute Care Hospital Project.

This team of architects and engineers will support the project through the development of indicative design documents and provide support throughout the tendering and construction stages.

Together with the 39 User Groups, the PDC will develop design plans and performance requirements for the new hospital and ensure they are adhered to through the construction phase.

Following Infrastructure Ontario's (IO's) process for a competitive procurement and evaluation, a request for proposals (RFP) for the PDC was issued in April 2022. WRH, working closely with IO, selected Stantec Architecture based on a combination of the team's expertise, experience with similar sized hospital projects, and its price submission.

Stantec, a global design firm, brings a wealth of experience working on large hospital development projects. Recent projects include the new Cortellucci Vaughn Hospital and the Oakville Trafalgar Memorial Hospital.

The PDC team will work with the WRH User Groups and the Project Management Team to ensure WRH is well positioned to begin a successful tendering process in 2025 to select a developer to complete the project.

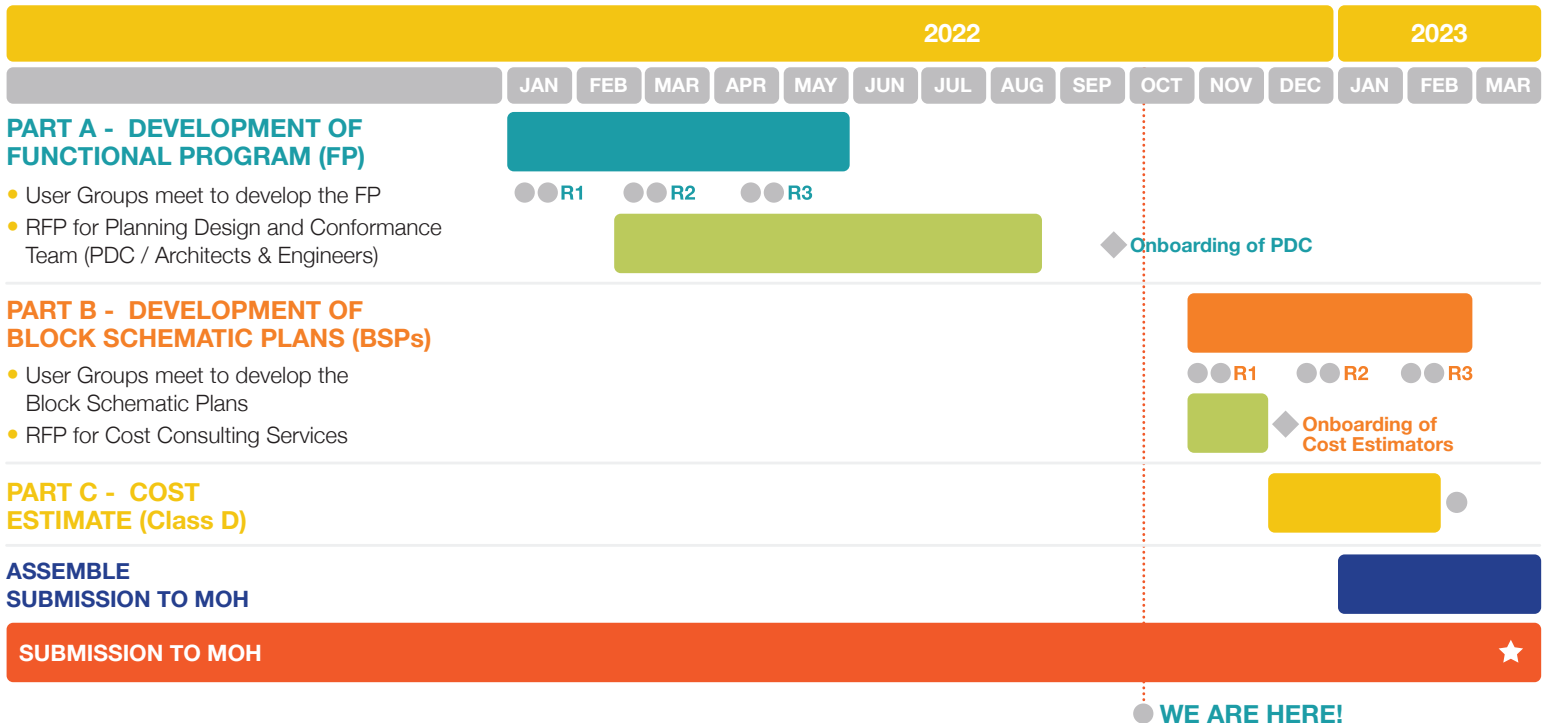
Construction start is currently estimated to begin in 2027.

## The PDC team will now begin work on the project, including:

- Developing block schematic plans (early design plans);
- Developing project documents and procurement documents needed to proceed with a request for qualifications (RFQ) for companies with sufficient experience and capacity to deliver a large scale hospital project;
- Assisting in the pre-qualification evaluation process;
- Preparing indicative plans and output specifications to include in the main RFP for the project;
- Monitoring the construction progress and providing coordination and oversight during commissioning, completion, and transition into the new hospital; and
- Consulting with WRH staff and the community throughout the process.

Additional information about the role of the PDC and next steps is available on the project website.

## DRAFT Schedule Functional Program & Block Schematics



# Infection Prevention measures integrated throughout new hospital

An integral guiding theme of the Functional Program (FP) for the new hospital is **Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC)**, a topic that has been highlighted during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The IPAC section of the FP outlines requirements to ensure every area and department of the new hospital meets or exceeds best practices and Canadian health care standards when it comes to IPAC. Examples of IPAC principles that have been incorporated in the FP include:

- 100% of inpatient rooms will have the capacity to be private and support care of patients requiring contact precautions.
- All inpatients will have their own designated washrooms.
- Negative pressure airborne isolation rooms (AIR), with washroom and anterooms, will be located in all clinical areas.
- Hallways and elevators used for transporting equipment and supplies, will be separate from those used by patients and visitors.
- Central and local monitoring of heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) will be provided in all rooms.

## More than enough space

“The most important change we will see as a result of meeting these standards will be the increase in private rooms and increase in physical space – enough to ensure there is room for spatial separation,” said Erika Vitale, Director, Infection Prevention & Control, & Pandemic Planning

Many of the modern standards have been required for new hospital construction since the SARS epidemic of 2003, but could not be implemented in the existing WRH facilities due to size restrictions and the age of the buildings. The need to improve IPAC was glaring during the pandemic, particularly this past summer when WRH experienced several outbreaks.

“The reason we’ve had so many COVID outbreaks is because we don’t have the space to keep people separate enough to decrease the risk,” said Vitale.

“We have rooms where patients can hold hands from their beds.”

One hundred percent of inpatient rooms in the new hospital will have the capacity to be private. All will be much larger than current rooms, with space for medical equipment and devices. That will lead to more space in hallways, which in the current hospital are often cluttered with beds, wheelchairs, medical equipment and computer workstations on wheels.

## Pandemic learnings

During the pandemic, Agnew Peckham Healthcare & Facility Planners worked with leaders of hospitals that had been recently redeveloped to identify additional spaces required to effectively manage COVID-19. Based on those findings, Agnew Peckham developed several recommendations that have been supported by IPAC Canada to ensure hospitals can effectively manage infectious diseases. Those recommendations have been incorporated in the plans for the New Windsor/Essex Acute Care Hospital.

Plans for the new hospital system include more airborne isolation rooms, which will “make things easier and safer, for sure,” said Vitale.



*Improved control over ventilation systems and more isolation rooms eliminates the need for so-called “tented rooms,” which WRH installed to improve ventilation during the pandemic.*

“It’s important to meet current standards and if you have an old building, it makes it very challenging to meet those standards,” said Vitale. “The new space will allow us to prevent cross contamination and keep our community safe.”

## Learning from Canada's first 'smart' hospital

The project team continued its site-visit strategy last month, with a tour of Cortellucci Vaughan Hospital, which is Canada's first "smart" hospital. The tour was the second in a series of WRH team visits to new hospitals and newly constructed clinical and non-clinical service areas of hospitals.

Part of Mackenzie Health in York Region, Cortellucci Vaughan opened as a full-service community hospital in June 2021. Being a "smart" hospital, it has medical devices that can communicate directly with each other for efficient exchange of information.

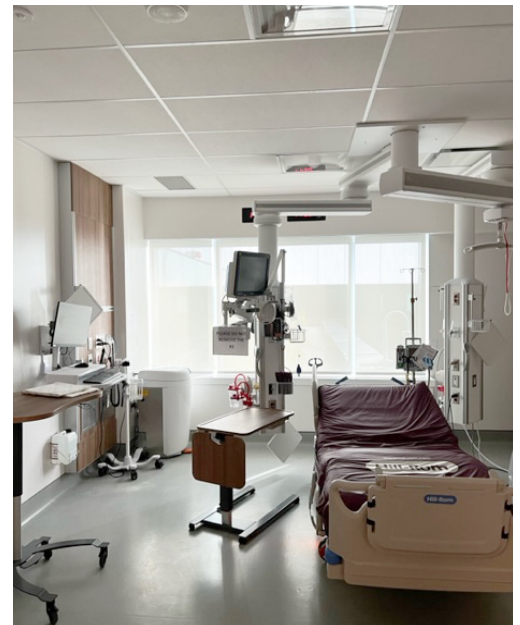
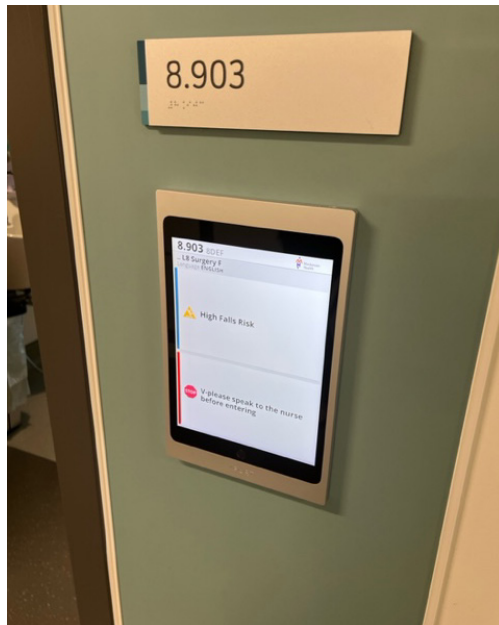
"It was exciting to see how the newest Ontario hospital has integrated technology to help deliver an outstanding care

experience," said Dr. Andrew Petrakos, Director of Clinical Services Planning.

User Group members, including patient and community representatives, are set to visit several more hospitals designed with a patient-centred approach in coming months.

Site visits provide an opportunity to see innovative design features and to explore lessons learned during the design and construction phases of other new hospital projects.

The goal of the site visit-strategy is to inform planning for the new hospital.



*Cortellucci Vaughan Hospital features fully integrated technology systems. Top photos taken by WRH staff during the tour: single inpatient room, with 'smart' bed (left), digital patient-info centre outside a patient room (centre), digital intensive care unit (right). Bottom photo source: Mackenzie Health website*