

Settlement and Integration • Language and Skills • Welcoming Community

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Dr. Eric Hoskins Minister Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care 10th Floor, Hepburn Block 80 Grosvenor Street Toronto, Ontario M7A 2C4

Dear Minister Hoskins:

Re: Windsor-Essex Hospitals System

On behalf of the Board of Directors, the Multicultural Council of Windsor and Essex County (MCC) is pleased to support the proposed Windsor-Essex Hospital System investment towards local healthcare.

The MCC is a newcomer-serving agency, which provides many programs and services to our clients to assist with their integration process to a new country. From programs and services such as: Settlement and Integration, Language and Skills, Welcoming Community, Health and Wellness, Translation and Interpretation, Youth Programs, Diversity training, Special Events and many Volunteer Opportunities, the MCC strives to uphold its mandate to create a welcoming community for all through education, community engagement, and promotion of diversity and equality. The center provides these much needed services to the newcomer sector of Windsor and Essex County, which has fourth largest immigrant population in Canada.

From a MCC client perspective, the proposed investment enables the newcomer population to gain access to a highest standard of diverse medical services, which is pivotal, in their successful transition and integration to the new community and country at large. From the community perspective, the proposed Windsor-Essex Hospital System will substantially upgrade the core health services in this community including but not limited to: urgent care, outpatient mental health, and increased accessibility to primary care and other medical services for the public at large.

The community of Windsor and Essex County is working together to see this vision become reality. Therefore, we ask for your support to move to the next stage of the planning process and to ensure equal and equitable access to the best quality health care possible for our community.

Yours truly,

Kathleen Thomas Executive Director