

10TH EDITION

Keeping you informed on progress and plans for the New Windsor/Essex Acute Care Hospital Project. Brought to you by the Project Management Office.

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.

Heading into 2023 with gratitude and enthusiasm

A New Year's message from the PMO team

Last year around this time, WRH assembled the first iteration of the Project Management Team (the PMO) to oversee planning for the new Windsor/Essex Acute Care Hospital. It is a responsibility each of us has undertaken with great pride, and it's been a privilege to have a front-row seat on the journey as this transformative and long-awaited project begins to take shape.

Over the past 12 months, the needle has moved significantly on this project – more than any other year since the new hospital was announced. Under the guidance of the consulting team at Agnew Peckham and the architects at Stantec, in consultation with hundreds of User Group members representing all clinical and non-clinical hospital programs and services, and with a wealth of input from the community and patients at the planning tables with us, we now have a Functional Program detailing the scope of the required services, location and adjacency requirements for clinical and non clinical departments in the new hospital and the Ouellette Campus. This roadmap document will now guide the design development for the new hospital.

As we head into this next year of planning, we want to recognize the extensive work that has taken place and the many, many individuals who have come to the table to add their ideas, expertise and experiences as the plan evolves.

Together We Build is the slogan that we have adopted for this critically important project. In this edition, we look back on just some of the milestones and achievements we've accomplished together this year.

We wish everyone a Happy New Year and look forward to another year of progress and partnerships!

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
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updates at www.WindsorHospitals.ca



Health Innovation Park explored

WRH and the University of Windsor [announced plans to explore the development of a Health Innovation Park](#) on the future site of the new hospital, with research and training space as well as opportunities for innovative health start-ups and collaborations between government and private sector health service providers. The emerging ambitious plan follows many years of discussions about how to enhance the research and health education capacity within the region.



Site visits launched to inform planning

As part of the planning process, the PMO team along with members of senior leadership, organized a series of site tours to newer hospitals in Canada and the U.S. These visits will be ongoing throughout the design phase and are critical for WRH staff and patients to be able to see best practices in state-of-the-art facilities and to be able to direct our architects and engineers in the evolving design work. The goal of these visits is to explore “lessons learned” during the design and construction phases of the selected sites and identify best practices and innovative design features that could be incorporated into the new hospital. A variety of User Group members (including WRH leadership, physicians, frontline staff, patient reps. etc.) were represented on each tour. Additional site visits will take place in future design stages of the project.



A WRH team toured Oakville-Trafalgar Memorial Hospital as part of its Site Visit strategy

The PDC begins work on campus site planning and block diagrams

After a competitive RFP process, [WRH selected Stantec](#) as the Planning Design and Conformance (PDC) consultant for the project. Following a kickoff meeting with all User Group members and hospital leadership in November, [Stantec began working with User Group representatives on Campus Planning and Block Diagrams](#). The preliminary campus site plan will include a location of buildings on the site, as well as the main entrance, ambulance drop-off areas and parking lots. Stantec will continue working with User Groups early next year to complete diagrams outlining where all departments and services will be located within the hospital and how they will be laid out on the site. The project is on target to meet the goal of submitting the requisite “Stage 2” planning document to the Ministry of Health by the Spring of 2023. This major submission package includes the final Functional Program along with the Block Diagrams and proposed Campus Site Plan, and an updated cost estimate to the Ministry of Health by the Spring of 2023.

Project timeline expedited

In November, Infrastructure Ontario (IO) issued a revised [Market Update](#), indicating construction for the new hospital starting nearly a year earlier than was previously announced. The November 2022 update shows the tendering process for the new hospital beginning in early 2025 with a contract award and construction starting in the summer of 2026. With shovels in the ground sooner, the anticipated move-in date is targeted for late 2030



Gaming workshops help teams visualize blocking and stacking

On December 20th, representatives from clinical services and support services participated with Stantec in a “gaming exercise” building department “blocks” to test possible high level block design options for the new hospital on a campus site plan.

“While we design hospitals for a living, it’s the people who use them who know best about how things work,” said George Batsakakis, Clinical Planning Lead for Stantec. “So, we want that input from them.”

Each building block represented a different program and service area in the new hospital. Sized to scale, they were placed over an aerial image of the hospital site using the same scale. Participants were encouraged to keep in mind how the placement of each block would affect the needs and requirements of their teams, patients and visitors, and to move the blocks accordingly.

While many parameters of department locations and adjacencies have already been established based on Ministry guidelines and the Functional Program, there are still important decisions to be made that will affect the experience for staff, patients and visitors in the hospital.

During the session, architects compared the hospital planning process to planning a small village, noting designers need to think about what “streets” (hallways) and intersections are required and where to locate them to keep traffic flowing efficiently for staff, patients and visitors.



“I was happy to see people coming to the table and moving things around because that way they take ownership of it,” Bataskakis said. “We want to make sure it works for the group.”

By the end of the day, the team built three variations of the future hospital with some common alignments between them.

The Stantec team will now develop draft building massing and stacking schemes that reflect the input received from the gaming sessions to inform the next round of design meetings.

“Once we have these 3D models, we can test them again to make sure it still works and determine where the parking and all the entries will go,” said Bataskakis. “We can tell the teams ‘This is what we heard’ and make any changes before we agree on a preferred option.”

The draft models will be shared with User Groups for discussion during the next round of meetings in January.



What’s in store for the next few months

User Groups are now working closely with the Stantec team of architects to develop the proposed Campus Plan and Block Diagrams, which are early drawings that allow planning teams to review and analyze preliminary department locations, key adjacencies, overall circulation, and space requirements described in the FP. That work, which began last year and included the hands-on “gaming exercise” (see below), will continue for the next four months, with Stantec scheduled to present to the Board of Directors in February and April.

DRAFT Schedule Functional Program & Block Schematics

