

8TH 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.

Project update: Stantec launches design of Block Diagrams

In October, Windsor Regional Hospital announced Stantec as the Planning Design and Conformance (PDC) team of architects and engineers for the new hospital project.

After spending the past month familiarizing themselves with the project and preparing a schedule for the next stage of planning, the team members at Stantec are set to begin work this month on Block Diagrams.

The development of these early drawings will include input from User Groups and the community. A kickoff meeting to outline next steps for User Groups and hospital leadership is scheduled for Nov. 9.

A test fit of the Functional Program

Block Diagrams provide a visual representation of the Functional Program (FP). This will allow planning teams to review and analyze preliminary department layouts and adjacencies - both horizontally and vertically – culminating into the building massing and master plan.

In this stage, the new hospital and campus plan will start to take shape as the Stantec Team works with 40 User Groups to create block diagrams of each department, confirming the square-footage of each area and its location within the facility.

“While the Functional Program uses words to describe plans for the layout and design of the future hospital, Block Diagrams are basically a test fit of those plans into a master plan for the hospital,” explained Paul Landry, Project Director for the New Windsor/Essex Acute Care Hospital.

This stage of planning begins to define overall circulation in the building, major building systems, room shapes and sizes, and preliminary department layouts. It is not detailed design of rooms, fixtures and finishes. Work on those design details will be part of the “Indicative Design” process in the next phase of planning, which is scheduled to begin in the fall of 2023.

The Indicative Design process will develop detailed plans that will represent approximately 25 per cent of overall design plans and form the basis of design direction that will be included in the Request for Proposal process scheduled for the spring of 2025, Landry said.

The selected developer will then complete the remaining 75 per cent of detailed design to create working drawings in order to proceed with construction.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT OFFICE TEAM MEMBERS

**New Windsor/Essex Acute
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Learn more about the project and
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Together We Build - Community Engagement

The PMO Team was invited to present a new hospital planning update to the Canadian Association of Retired Persons (CARP) at last month's Annual General Meeting. The local CARP chapter has been a strong supporter of the project from the beginning. At the meeting, Advocacy Representative Larry Duffield (right) reinforced the group's desire to see "shovels in the ground."



Building on our strengths in education and research

When it comes to education and learning space, the current Windsor Regional Hospital (WRH) campuses could be considered a little "old school." Although WRH is Ontario's seventh largest teaching hospital, its two old buildings were originally designed as community hospitals — and infrastructure for learners is limited.

Building a new acute-care hospital is an opportunity to enhance the experience for students and staff by providing improved workspaces and modern technologies.

The new hospital will accommodate a significant increase in learners from all health disciplines, including medical students, residents and fellows from the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, as well as nursing students and other medical service trainees from the University of Windsor and St. Clair College.



"The new building will help us attract the best health professionals out there, and will allow us to give patients the best possible clinical care in a modern facility," said Dr. Wassim Saad, Chief of Staff.

Integrated education, learning and research, is one of the design principles identified early on in the project and an enhanced focus on this area will

foster a learning environment that draws academically inclined supervising physicians and top students, said Saad.

The future facility will meet or exceed modern infection-control standards and be equipped with cutting-edge technological capabilities and has already generated interest from health professionals across the country.

In addition, in partnership with the University of Windsor, WRH is exploring the development of a new Health Innovation Park with space for research and training, opportunities for innovative health start-ups and potential collaborations with private sector firms focussed on health technology, medical devices and therapeutics.

User Groups planning Education & Learning Services include medical students, nurses and clinical leads.

Plans for the new hospital are aligned with community priorities and include:

- A learning centre with a 250-person auditorium and classrooms/meeting rooms to accommodate groups of varying sizes
- A "Simulation Training Centre" for both high and low-fidelity SIM activities
- A Health Resource Library in a public area to support education and resource needs of learners, physicians and staff, and for use by patients and families
- A computer training lab
- Facilities to support learners, such as meeting rooms, debrief rooms and on-call rooms and lockers throughout the new hospital, including inpatient units, to support the integration of education in the delivery of clinical care



"One thing about the planning to date has been the amount of attention that has gone into education," said Dr. Larry Jacobs, Associate Dean for the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry - Windsor Campus.

"And students, teachers and clinical leads have been invited to every discussion about what needs to be integrated into the building for the best education and training experience."

The Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry - Windsor Campus has a strong reputation for clinical learning, and students come away "knowing how to practice medicine," Jacobs said. "Moving into a cutting-edge facility will allow them to get even more hands-on experience using the newest, greatest technology.

"That is very exciting for our students, residents and staff."

Education Services to answer community priorities

Plans for Education & Learning Services are aligned with design principles as well as community priorities for the new hospital.

- In a 2021 community survey, **integrated education, learning and research** emerged as a top priority and is one of the design principles guiding the new hospital.
- During the 2022 “Together We Build” public engagement initiative, the following priorities for Education & Learning Services spaces were identified:
 1. Larger meeting rooms for students
 2. Student access to computers and dedicated workspace in care areas
 3. Lounge areas and locker rooms for students
 4. Computer labs for students, visitors and patients
 5. Library for staff, students and public



Plans for the New Windsor/Essex Acute Care Hospital includes a simulation centre. In the above photo, a simulation scenario is used to train nursing and medical school students at the Centre for Interprofessional Clinical Simulation Learning in Victoria, B.C. (Photo source: www.uvic.ca)

Learning form leading hospitals

As part of the Project Management Team’s Site Visit Strategy, members of the new hospital planning teams toured eight new hospitals this year, including Oakville Trafalgar Memorial and Cortellucci Vaughan in Ontario and Parkland Hospital in Dallas, Texas.

Parkland Hospital is a 900-bed, 2.1 million-square-foot facility. It is one of the largest hospitals in the U.S. and a good example of evidence-based design.

Patient representative Janet Fleming, sits on the Imaging Services User Group for the new hospital. She attended the tour of Parkland Hospital and shares her comments in the write-up below.

Patient perspective: Review of Parkland Hospital site tour



*By Janet Fleming, Patient Representative
Imaging Services User Group*

As the saying goes “Everything is bigger in Texas.”

Well, the New Windsor/Essex Acute Care Hospital may not be as big as Parkland Hospital in Dallas, Texas, but the planning team who visited Parkland last month

learned a lot that we can apply to our future facility.

Parkland opened in 2015, 12 years after a decision was made to build it.

The hospital’s Urgent Care Centre is across the street from their Emergency Department (ER). The hospital has worked with the community to build an understanding about the difference between the two services and the result is a better flow of patients through the system.



*View from outside shows ample windows at Parkland
(Photo source: www.parklandhealth.org)*

In the ER, patients are triaged from a small waiting room to a private room in one of five pods. Private rooms mean no curtained beds in view of all who walk by.

Parkland’s intensive care unit (ICU) was designed to accommodate family and caregivers. Each patient room has a small alcove with a TV, a couch that turns into a pull-out bed and a cupboard for family belongings. As a mother who spent a month in a sleeping bag on a hallway bench waiting for my son to come out of a coma, this area is a dream come true. Being in the same room educates the family, who after all, are the ones who will eventually care for the patient. I’m happy we’re looking at a similar space for families in our new hospital.



Inpatient room at Parkland (Photo source: www.parklandhealth.org)

The ICU rooms are bright and have plenty of space for doctors to move around the patient, unlike in the small, cramped rooms of our current ICU. The wall at the end of the patient’s bed in Parkland is a white board, with a TV that also has icons to activate phone calls, video chats and health-care education.

As a patient and a caregiver for several family members who’ve been to WRH, the most striking feature I noticed at Parkland was the windows. The main entrance has a beautiful three-story atrium with plenty of natural light. Every patient room has floor-to-ceiling windows with easy-to-use blinds to limit the sunlight when it was no longer wanted. Every floor has open glassed-in sitting areas, where people can visit and look out and the cafeteria also has floor-to-ceiling windows overlooking a park-like setting.

The elevators are destination-direct, creating a faster flow, so there were no crowds waiting for an elevator, as you sometimes see at WRH. Patients are transported on separate elevators at Parkland, something also being planned for the new Windsor/Essex Acute

Care Hospital. That means no lying embarrassed, in a johnny shirt on a gurney, with people packed in around you.

There were also some “lessons learned” from the tour including the importance of having enough storage. One staff member wished they had put alcoves in the hallway walls so they could push equipment aside and make transporting patients easier.

However, the positives of this facility can’t be overstated, nor can a clear floor plan and easy-to-read signage that made it stress-free to find our way around.

Windsor Regional’s new acute care hospital does not have to be as big as Parkland, but we know it can be as modern, bright and accommodating for patients and families.

We deserve that much!

DRAFT Schedule Functional Program & Block Schematics

