

Media Release

May 6, 2022

For Immediate Release

WINDSOR REGIONAL HOSPITAL AND UNIVERSITY OF WINDSOR LOOK TO EXPAND ONGOING PARTNERSHIP

WINDSOR, ON – Windsor Regional Hospital and the University of Windsor are exploring a potential partnership around a new health and innovation park on lands purchased for the new future Windsor/Essex Acute Care Hospital.

“Research and Education has always been one of the main drivers behind the need for a new acute care hospital in the region,” said David Musyj, WRH President and CEO. “Windsor Regional Hospital looks forward to this planning work with the University of Windsor to advance this concept further. The relationships developed by WE-SPARK Health Institute naturally transition into this exciting planning.”

Rob Gordon, President & Vice Chancellor of the University of Windsor, is looking forward to the expanded opportunities the Health Innovation Park will bring to the region.

“Through the years, we have continued to build on the vital connections between our institutions,” he said. “Students, especially those at the Faculty of Science, School of Nursing and the Schulich School of Medicine, have all benefited from our long-standing relationship through experiential learning - and we have also been exceptional partners in research, innovation and outreach including the WE-SPARK Health Institute.”

The project will position Windsor-Essex as a leading region for education, training and research for the health care sector for many years to come. The ambitious plans follow many years of discussion and exploration of opportunities to enhance regional health research capacity and strengthen the partnership between the university and hospital to benefit the community.

It is anticipated that the Health Innovation Park will include:

- Dedicated space for collaborative research and training.
- Expanded government and private sector health service providers and collaborations.
- Space for business to assist in research, from innovation through to commercialization, supporting new ventures and startup investors.

It is envisioned that the Health Innovation Park could also include hotel space for short-term accommodations, residential housing for staff and students, a long-term care facility, a wellness centre and professional medical office space for health care providers.

Preliminary planning also includes discussions about the creation of a “livable and vibrant” work area surrounding the new acute care hospital which will support healthy community living, and the development of open green space for trails that will be engaging for the community.

Discussions with local partners will continue as plans for the new Windsor/Essex Acute Care Hospital are developed. It is expected that the timing of the Health Innovation Park opening will coincide with the opening of the new hospital.

- 30 -

For further information contact:

Steve Erwin, Director, Public Affairs & Communications
Windsor Regional Hospital
519-564-4902 (cell) / steve.erwin@wrh.on.ca

Jhoan Baluyot, Acting Executive Director, Public Affairs & Communications,
University of Windsor
519-816-8499 (cell) / jbaluyot@uwindsor.ca