

BUILDING HEALTHCARE FOR TODAY AND TOMORROW —

It's Our Time PROJECT



Project management update

Last week you heard about The Amazing Project Race event, a fun evening created to thank the user group members who have been tirelessly devoting their time to the project, as well as to provide a status update on the project to the community.

This week we would like to brief you on some exciting developments in the Project Management Office and some future events to look forward to. In order to get you prepared for the next steps of the Building Healthcare for Today and Tomorrow project, this issue of the newsletter is dedicated to giving you a status update from the Project Management Office.

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Pictured Above: Glenn O'Connor, a landscape consultant on the project team, points out key elements of the site design at a recent community information open house. A new round of open houses will be held over the summer months to inform Niagara residents on the status of the project and redevelopment occurring at each of our hospital sites.



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Community Information Open Houses to showcase Capital Projects Road Show

Over the course of the past year, NHS has held Community Information Open Houses across our hospital sites to provide a forum for dialogue with community members and the members of our hospital family. These events have acted as opportunities to share important information about the development and progress of the new health-care complex.

The open houses are being held in coordination with approaching significant project milestones. The project is moving full steam ahead right now, and we are very close to achieving a very critical milestone - the release of the request for proposals (RFP). The RFP occurs when tender documents are handed over to the three short-listed building teams to bid on the project; moving the project to the next very important stage whereby the building teams have just under a year to come back with their proposals on how they would design, build, finance and maintain the building. Following this term, a rigorous review process will be set into place to select the winning bidder showing the greatest innovation and cost control. The RFP is expected to be released late this summer.

In conjunction with this achievement, a round of open houses will be held over the summer months. The Capital Projects Road Show will be a traveling display that will be showcased at NHS sites, demonstrating redevelopment plans for each of the sites, along with the plans for the Building Healthcare for Today and

Tomorrow project. This will give open house attendees a better picture of the new regional services, including a cancer centre, cardiac catheterization centre and longer-term mental health services that will be available to residents of Niagara.

“While the new health-care complex will provide greatly needed new health-care services to all people of Niagara, along with providing community hospital services for residents of St. Catharines, Thorold, Niagara-on-the-Lake and immediate area, this is not the entire redevelopment picture for NHS. Our plan is to address the capital needs across all of our hospital sites,” explains NHS President and CEO Debbie Sevenpifer.

Dates for the open house road show are currently being booked to occur throughout the summer in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Niagara Falls, Fort Erie and Welland. Similar open houses were held recently in Port Colborne and St. Catharines. Stay tuned for updates so you can mark your calendars with the date it stops in your city or town!



CAPITAL PROJECTS ROAD SHOW



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Update on local share

Great momentum has been achieved on the local share funds needed for the new health-care complex project, receiving unanimous support all way round --from the City of St. Catharines, the City of Thorold, the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake and the Regional Municipality of Niagara.

All in all this means better healthcare for all of us in Niagara. As described in an earlier newsletter, there are two components to the local share proposal – one for the regional services and another for the new replacement local community hospital.

Here is the breakdown of associated municipal share of costs for the local hospital replacement:

- \$31.2 million to \$37.2 – City of St. Catharines
- \$4.3 million to \$5.2 million – City of Thorold
- \$3.5 million to 4.2 million – Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake

Additionally, there is a regional levy contribution from the Regional Municipality of Niagara of \$21 million to \$25 million to fund regional services for the treatment of cancer, heart disease, tertiary mental health and kidney disease that benefit all of Niagarans.

Before a capital hospital project will be approved by the Province to go to tender, commitment is required from the local communities that they will support the project for their portion of the local share. In the case of the Niagara Health System, this commitment is required by early June in order for the Province to release the RFP to short-listed project teams this summer.

Kudos are given to the elected members and municipal and regional staffs of the Region of Niagara, City of St. Catharines, City of Thorold and Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake for their leadership, advocacy and support of our request to fund both the regional and local hospital elements of the Building Healthcare for Today and Tomorrow project. Way to go!!!

New addition to the Project Management Team

The Project Management Team is thrilled to announce the appointment of Maria Vuono to the position of Coordinator of Redevelopment and Clinical Planning, Capital Planning and Development. In her new role, Maria is responsible for providing support to the planning of the new health-care complex and other redevelopment opportunities throughout the organization.

“We are very excited to have Maria come on board. Her clinical experience at the NHS coupled with her strong analytical skills will be an excellent complement to the Project Management Office of the NHS,” says Gloria Kain, Chief Planning and Development Officer.

In past years, Maria has been an asset to the Emergency Program during her years of service. Since the formation of the NHS, Maria has served as both the first Emergency Services Network Coordinator and as the Health Program Director for Emergency and for the Port Colborne Site.

Her leadership of the Emergency program was grounded in her knowledge and expertise of this clinical service and her unwavering focus of looking at the data. Among Maria’s many accomplishments, she is to be commended for her contribution to the successful completion of the Program Transfer in the fall of 2005, for her leadership of the Accreditation team and for her vision to initiate and implement an education program for all ED nurses in the new Canadian Triage and Acuity Scale (CTAS) standards.

Please join us in welcoming Maria to the team.



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Members of the Project Management Team

During the development phase of the new health-care complex, this team oversees the project planning activities, program and design management between the user groups and design consultants, cost management and scope control, scheduling, communications, reporting and liaising with all external parties supporting the project.

With the addition of Maria, the Project Management Team now consists of:

Gloria Kain, *Chief Planning and Development Officer*

Marilyn Bellows, *Clinical Project Manager*

Don Gordon, *Senior Project Manager*

Liisa Morley, *Project Communications Coordinator*

Jennifer Plumb, *Executive Assistant*

Maria Vuono, *Coordinator, Redevelopment and Clinical Planning*

Karen Winter, *Administrative Assistant*

Infrastructure Ontario launches newsletter



Infrastructure Ontario (IO) has recently launched an inaugural monthly newsletter to update the public on its activities. The newsletter, called Making Projects Happen, provides you with an opportunity to read about new developments in IO's Alternative Financing and Procurement (AFP) projects, the OSIFA loan program and project advisory services.

Infrastructure Ontario is a Crown corporation dedicated to managing some of the province's larger and more complex infrastructure renewal projects — ensuring they are built on time and on budget. Other types of infrastructure renewal projects spearheaded by IO include courthouses, roads, bridges, water systems and other public assets. Using an AFP model that ensures appropriate public control and ownership, IO uses private financing to strategically rebuild vital infrastructure, on time and on budget. The Crown Corporation also provides Ontario municipalities, universities and other public bodies

with access to affordable loans to build and renew local public infrastructure.

IO will work with the NHS to build the new health-care complex in west St. Catharines, which will remain publicly owned, publicly controlled and publicly accountable. The project is guided by principles outlined in the Province's Building a Better Tomorrow policy framework, which ensures public ownership of core assets such as hospitals, schools, and water and wastewater facilities. The NHS project is one of many infrastructure projects being upgraded and modernized under ReNew Ontario, the government's five-year, \$30-billion plus public infrastructure investment plan.

The inaugural issue of the Making Projects Happen newsletter can be found at www.infrastructureontario.ca/en/about/newsletter/. Stay tuned for a future issue of the Project Newsletter dedicated to explaining the role of IO, as well as the Building a Better Tomorrow policy framework.

Next week...

Stay tuned for the next issue of *Building Healthcare for Today and Tomorrow* to learn more about the Capital Projects Road Show.

We are interested in your feedback!

What would you like to know about the project? If you have any ideas for an issue of this publication, or have a question regarding the project, please contact Liisa Morley at: Liisa.Morley@niagarahealth.on.ca.