

June 20, 2025

Mayor Wayne Redekop and Fort Erie Councillors
Town of Fort Erie
1 Municipal Centre Drive
Fort Erie, ON L2A 2S6

Re: Fort Erie Local Share

Dear Mayor Redekop and Councillors,

We recognize your deep commitment to ensuring access to hospital services in the region. In light of recent comments in the media and commentary from councillors, we are writing this letter to underscore the importance of municipal local share contributions for the new South Niagara Hospital.

Fort Erie demonstrated tremendous leadership to support the development of the South Niagara Hospital on July 15, 2013, by being one of the early municipalities to commit to their local share, which helped ensure the project was approved (see attached). At that time, a \$3 million upfront contribution was approved by Council. The total request of Fort Erie for local share is \$10.5 million based on a per capita ask of \$340.63 (using 2016 census data). As with other municipalities, our intention is to make a formal request.

As a reminder, the Ministry of Health's capital cost-sharing policy for hospital projects does not cover 100 percent of all costs incurred. Hospitals are responsible for 10 percent of eligible construction costs and associated ancillary costs of new hospital builds. That is on top of the 100 percent of costs hospitals pay for everything inside the buildings, from furniture and equipment to fixtures. This model ensures community investment and commitment to health care and ensures equitable sharing of responsibilities. Any shortfall in the local share would become the responsibility of the hospital and increase pressure on Niagara Health to reallocate funds that could better be spent on patient care.

While we appreciate there are differing views on the future of health care and the role of Niagara Health in the region, we believe using local share funding as a bargaining chip and putting the South Niagara Hospital project at risk is irresponsible and unfair to residents. This narrative and lack of support may also jeopardize future provincial investments and projects in Niagara.

As hospital leadership, we are continuously navigating difficult decisions amidst physician and staff shortages, patient safety priorities and ensuring access to acute and emergency services. We are respectfully asking for Council to consider the integrity of the entire system and to avoid decisions with outsized negative consequences for Niagara.



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Respectfully,



Lynn Guerriero
President and CEO
Niagara Health



Harpreet Bassi
Executive Vice-President, Strategy and
Communications; Executive Lead, Research and
Niagara Health Knowledge Institute; Interim
Executive-Vice President, Capital Planning and
Redevelopment
Niagara Health



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Transforming How we Work

(c) New South Niagara Hospital

Resolution No. 13
Hill-Collard

WHEREAS Dr. Smith has submitted his report to the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care as it relates to the Niagara Health System, and

WHEREAS the Town of Fort Erie fully supports the recommendations contained in Dr. Smith's report, and

WHEREAS Dr. Smith has determined that a new South Niagara Hospital needs to be constructed at the preferred location situated at the corner of Lyons Creek Road and Montrose Road, just off the QEW ("Lyons Creek Site"), and

WHEREAS the Lyons Creek Site was one of two unanimously proposed by the 6 Area Mayors and the Regional Chair, and

WHEREAS the new Niagara South Hospital located at the Lyons Creek Site would provide the residents of Fort Erie with state of the art health care for the foreseeable future, and

WHEREAS the Town of Fort Erie understands and recognizes that it is incumbent upon all participating municipalities to financially support the construction of the new Niagara South Hospital to assist the Province in achieving the goal of constructing a new hospital to serve South Niagara, and

WHEREAS, in this regard, the Town of Fort Erie deems it expedient to now demonstrate its commitment and continued support for the new Niagara South Hospital;

NOW THEREFORE be it resolved by the Municipal Council of the Town of Fort Erie that it hereby commits THREE MILLION DOLLARS (\$3,000,000) to the construction of the New Niagara South Hospital with the funding and payment arrangements to be determined during the 2014 budget deliberations.

A recorded vote was requested by Mayor Martin, the results of which are as follows:

AYES

Councillor Collard
Councillor Hill
Councillor Lubberts
Councillor Passero
Councillor Shular
Mayor Martin

NAYES

(CARRIED)

(d) Hospital Services Advisory Committee

Re: June 4, 2013 Minutes

Resolution No. 14
Collard-Hill

THAT:The Municipal Council of the Town of Fort Erie hereby approves the recommended changes to By-law No. 7-11 as amended, relative to the name and purpose of the Hospital Services Advisory Committee as contained in the Hospital Services Advisory Committee Minutes of June 4, 2013 subject to consideration of the amending by-law at the next Council meeting, and further

THAT:Resolution No. 9 dated June 18, 2012 be and it is hereby repealed.

(LOST)