

New Hospital Build Update – February 2022

Quinte Healthcare Corporation's (QHC) Board of Directors submitted the Stage 3.2 report in February to the Ministry of Health (MOH) for review and approval.

What this means is that a significant amount of work has been happening behind the scenes and, more importantly, we are on track with the hospital build timeline.



The report includes an extensive review of the design of the building and the features that will be in it. Over the past several months, QHC planning teams, HDR Architects, designers and cost consultants have been working diligently to ensure nothing is overlooked. Due diligence includes studies and evaluations on: geotechnical, environmental, conservation, designated substances, traffic, the helipad relocation, heritage, archeology, natural heritage and hydrogeological assessments. Needless to say, the teams and planning partners have been hard at work.

During this recent quiet phase, the vision for our new County hospital has been evolving and becoming a reality.

A lot has happened over these past two years which has had an impact on the plans for our new hospital.

As the result of the pandemic, and the anticipation of future pandemics, the MOH's standards have changed when planning for patient care and safety; infection control measures have increased for example. In addition, the demand on the healthcare system has increased requiring a new plan that includes more in-patient beds and a bigger footprint. Hospitals and care close to home have become even more critical, opening the door to explore the possibility of adding more services to our hospital.

All of these things are important and very positive for our community.

This stage has given all of the planning partners the opportunity to look at the entire project as a whole; from square footage, technology and environmental impact and sustainability.

We are now planning for a 96Ksqft hospital with 20 in-patient beds. Additional enhancements are also being explored and we look forward to sharing what those are in the near future. An example of an environmental sustainability enhancement is the use of mass timber. It is a material that some individuals and corporations are using as an alternative to steel. Our architects are working on a plan that will position PECMH to be the first hospital in all of North America to have a mass timber frame.

With that and the other environmental enhancements that are being explored will allow for our hospital to be carbon neutral.

Patient comfort is at the forefront of every decision that is being made.

December may have seemed quiet but, behind the scenes, work was being done. The company called Ground Truth conducted an archaeological dig on the site of the new hospital.

A backhoe was used to dig test holes in the filled sections surrounding the existing helicopter pad west of the current hospital as well as hand excavated test pits where the soils are shallow enough to allow this. The good news is that no issues or concerns were identified and the project continues to proceed.

The first indication of early work will be the relocation of the Helicopter Pad. As well, the PEC Municipality will be doing some work to improve the section of Picton Main Street, in front of our current hospital. QHC and the Municipality have determined the construction of the new entranceway to the new hospital should occur when the road crews will already be in place.

Our community of supporters have been giving generously to this campaign. Because of our donors, we are in the position where we are not only building a new hospital, we are building a GREAT hospital; potentially the first of its kind in North America!

We anticipate the MOH will respond sometime this spring to QHC's submission with the approval and direction to move into Stage 4. PECMHF will be working with all of the important planning partners to make a formal announcement when this happens. This announcement will include the vision for the new hospital, all of the service delivery details, any environmental enhancements being included and of course the announcement of how much has been raised to date and how much will be left to raise between now and 2027.

This announcement will set the stage and pave the way for our journey over these next five years.

We are full steam ahead and we look forward to sharing our progress over the next few months as we await the MOH's response to the submission!

We are looking at a bright future for the delivery of healthcare in our community. And because of our donors, volunteers and strong partnerships with: QHC, Infrastructure Ontario, the Municipality of PEC and the Ministry of Health, we are positioned to build a hospital we never imagined would be possible.

On behalf the Prince Edward County Memorial Hospital Foundation, thank you.