

PROVINCE ANNOUNCES PLAN FOR ACCELERATED BUILD OF TWO LONG-TERM CARE HOMES IN MISSISSAUGA

Trillium Health Partners' new health centre location selected as site for faster build and more beds

July 21, 2020 (Mississauga, ON) – Today, the Ontario government announced the launch of the Accelerated Build Pilot Project that will expedite construction of long-term care homes in large urban centres, including Mississauga. The project is designed to address the current lack of access to long-term care in this community and add capacity in hospitals where many patients are waiting for long-term care placement. The Minister of Long-Term Care, Dr. Merrilee Fullerton, announced that two new long-term care homes will be developed and operated at Trillium Health Partners' Speakman Drive site in Mississauga.

In December 2019, THP announced the location of a new health centre, in partnership with Heart House Hospice. Located at 2210 Speakman Drive in the Sheridan Park Corporate Centre, the initial concept for this development included one 220-bed long-term care home, a 10-bed residential hospice, and two health services buildings. With today's announcement, the development will now feature two 320-bed long-term care homes (more than doubling the total beds to 640), one hospice, and one health services building. On average, it takes 36 months to build a long-term care home once a site and financing have been secured. The Accelerated Build Pilot Project aims to build the new long-term care homes with a target of completion in 2021. This expedited construction process will allow for faster completion of the facility, and faster access to long-term care for the people of Mississauga. It will also relieve capacity pressures at THP's hospital sites, by offering patients and the community access to the health care services they need, in the most appropriate place, and within their own community.

About the process to accelerate building two new long-term care homes in Mississauga:

- The long-term care homes will be built with modern infection control standards, to ensure the health and safety of our most vulnerable residents.
- Through a range of accelerating measures such as modular and rapid procurement and the use of hospital lands, the government and its partners are targeting completion of the projects in 2021, years faster than the traditional timeline.

About the New Health Centre:

The LTC homes will feature seniors'-friendly resident design, virtual care and services such as dementia care and short-stay beds that will help transition patients out of hospital to receive care in the most appropriate place. The hospice centre will feature 10 residential suites, as well as expanded space for day programs, children's programs and counselling services. Future phases will be developed to deliver services that people need to stay well in the community, including seniors' day programs, family and specialist physician offices and independent living supports.

THP is committed to working closely with neighbouring residents, local businesses, government partners, patients, families and the people of Mississauga and to engage the local community on the revised development, even in these extraordinary times. Based on the current guidelines for the COVID-19 pandemic, there will be no in-person engagement. Details on upcoming opportunities for engagement will be shared in the coming days and weeks. More information on the new health centre can be found at: thp.ca.

Quick Facts:

- Trillium Health Partners serves more than 1.7 million patients each year – a number that continues to grow.
- The number of seniors is set to triple by 2031.
- Mississauga has 20% fewer LTC beds per capita than the provincial average.
- There are 4,560 people on the wait list for placement in LTC home in Mississauga (as of August 2019).
- The average wait time is 26% longer than the provincial average.
- Mississauga is the biggest community in the country without a residential hospice.
- Heart House Hospice supports more than 1200 people living with a life-limiting illness each year.
- Last year, the HUUG (Help Us Understand Grief) program supported 423 children living in a home where someone they love is dying or has died.

Quotes:

“Today’s announcement reinforces our commitment to build a truly modern, connected health care system that nurtures close partnerships between hospitals and home, community, and palliative care providers. The impact of COVID-19 has exposed serious, longstanding issues in our long-term care system. Innovative partnerships like this will help address them, by getting shovels in the ground faster to get more modern long-term care beds built. This will help bring much-needed relief to seniors and their families in Mississauga.”

Rudy Cuzzetto, MPP, Mississauga-Lakeshore

“Today’s announcement is another exciting step forward in the development of much-needed long-term and palliative care in Mississauga, bringing more beds, faster, to our community. Our seniors built this city, and they deserve nothing but the best and to age with dignity and grace. COVID-19 has further highlighted the need to bring this innovative new health centre to support our city’s aging population, and ensure they receive safe, high-level care, that is compassionate and maintains their quality of life.”

Bonnie Crombie, Mayor, City of Mississauga

“This announcement is exciting news for the residents of Mississauga, in particular our fast-growing seniors population. It means we can provide faster access to the care people need, right in their own community. The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the urgent need for modern long-term care homes that improve the care, safety and quality of life for our most vulnerable seniors.”

Michelle DiEmanuele, President & CEO, Trillium Health Partners

About Trillium Health Partners

Trillium Health Partners is one of the largest community-based hospital systems in Canada. Comprised of Credit Valley Hospital, the Mississauga Hospital and the Queensway Health Centre, Trillium Health Partners serves the growing and diverse populations of Mississauga, West Toronto and surrounding communities. Trillium Health Partners is a teaching hospital affiliated with the University of Toronto and is an associate member of the Toronto Academic Health Science Network.

About Heart House Hospice

Heart House Hospice plays a critical role in the region's health care system by providing compassionate, person-centered, community-based hospice care. Each year, more than 1200 individuals who are living with a life-limiting illness and over 2,500 loved ones benefit from our services. Our success is made possible by the generosity of our partners, donors, and the dedication of over 150 volunteers. Donations to Heart House Hospice provided more than 35% of the annual operating budget last year, bridging the gap between our exceptional level of service and the funding received by the Ontario Ministry of Health.

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