

Sign of the Future Unveiled at Mountain Campus

On November 29th, a sign was erected at the corner of West 5th Street and Fennell Avenue highlighting the new campus planned for the mountain site. Sophia Aggelonitis, MPP for Hamilton Mountain, Dr. Kevin Smith, President and CEO of St. Joseph’s Healthcare Hamilton and Dr. Bob Zipursky, Vice President Mental Health and Addiction Services and Chief of Psychiatry were on hand to unveil a mock-up of the new sign.

“By improving health care infrastructure, we are putting the foundation in place for modern service delivery in our hospitals - demonstrating the McGuinty government’s commitment to families and individuals,” said Sophia Aggelonitis, MPP for Hamilton Mountain. “This is an important project that will provide residents of Hamilton and the surrounding area with a wider range of health care services in a larger facility. The new hospital will enhance the quality of care and the quality of life for patients and their families who rely on this specialized care.”

“The redevelopment of our mountain campus will result in a health care centre that reflects and supports the state-of-the-art, modern mental health

care our team delivers to the community,” said Dr. Kevin Smith, President and CEO, St. Joseph’s Healthcare Hamilton. “By moving forward with this project, the Ontario government is providing our team with the opportunity to expand our exemplary clinical care while we continue to break down the stigma associated with mental illness.”



From L to R: Dr. Bob Zipursky, Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant LHIN Chair Juanita Gledhill, MPP Sophia Aggelonitis, Dr. Kevin Smith.

“Problems with the brain are no different than problems with the heart or joints.”

Dr. Bob Zipursky



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Message from Dr. Zipursky

This is a momentous project for St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton (SJHH), for our community, and for people across Ontario and Canada. We are embarking on a remarkable journey to transform our hospital - and to transform how mental illness and addiction are viewed.

Mental illness and addiction are no different than any other medical illness, like arthritis and diabetes. Coming to get help for illness associated with the brain should be no different than coming to get help for illness associated with the heart or lungs. Our new hospital will be a place where people will come to get an MRI, to treat depression, to get help with their diabetes or manage their alcoholism or schizophrenia.

People who struggle with mental illness have historically been hidden from the community. The original hospital on this site, built in 1876, was located in the middle of farmland, accessible only by a long road that led away from the community. Our new centre will be front and centre on the corner of West 5th Street and Fennell Avenue. This campus will embody the fundamental values of SJHH, to provide care that is compassionate, where everyone is treated with dignity and respect. We will work in partnership with members of our community who are seeking care and their families to meet their needs and to help them achieve the fullest recovery and best quality of life possible.

We will provide an environment that is beautiful, clean and safe, just like the environments we expect when we get care for other kinds of medical problems.

Our new hospital will be home to the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioural Neurosciences at McMaster University. We will carry out groundbreaking research into the causes and treatment of mental illness and addiction. We will have laboratories and brain imaging facilities to help us learn how to better treat these problems. It will be a busy place filled with the energy that students bring - nursing students, social work students, occupational therapy students, medical students, graduate students.

We are entering a new era in our understanding of mental illness and addiction. We are proud and excited about the contribution our new campus will make in



our continuing quest to better understand and treat the millions of people who struggle to live healthy, fulfilling lives while struggling with illnesses of the brain.

Dr. Bob Zipursky, VP Mental Health & Addiction Services and Chief of Psychiatry at SJHH and HHS, Chair of the Dept. of Psychiatry and Behavioural Neurosciences at McMaster University.

Facts and Figures

- Depression is the #1 cause of disability in the world
- 8% of Canadians take medication to treat depression and other mental health conditions
- 500,000 workers are off sick every day in Canada with mental health problems
- 20% of Canadians will experience a mental illness in their lifetime
- 49% of people who have suffered anxiety or depression have not seen a doctor about the problem



Questions, Comments and Coming Attractions



In each issue of W5th Redevelopment News, we will address questions and comments you have brought to our attention. The redevelopment team has established a new email address (newmtn@stjoes.ca) so that you can send questions anytime. We will endeavour to answer your questions within 48 hours. A question box will also be installed at all three campuses shortly so that anonymous questions may be submitted. We will answer as many of those as possible in future “Questions, Comments and Coming Attractions” sections in this newsletter, which will be published seasonally.

Questions and Comments

Can SJHH take some of the money needed to build the new hospital and spend it on services, or to balance the budget?

The money that SJHH receives from the government for our redevelopment projects is Capital Funding which can only be used for the purpose to which it was designated. The savings we need to find are captured in our Operational Funding. Capital and Operational funding cannot be transferred or interchanged.

With the economic downturn, will our new hospital still be built?

The Government of Ontario remains fully committed to this project. Infrastructure investment is one of the primary ways both federal and provincial governments plan to stimulate the economy and create/keep jobs. Mental health and addiction care will also see an increase in demand as the economy continues to struggle. It is more important than ever that SJHH continues to offer excellent specialized care and research into what contributes to mental illness and addiction and how to improve treatment.

Couldn't we have spent the money to build the mockup room on services instead?

The mock-up room was built with Capital funds. It is important that our patient rooms are designed to best practices and to do that we need hands on feedback from clinicians, patients and families. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity – we need to get this right for the people who use and deliver our programs and services.

When will we see signs of construction for the new campus?

We expect construction to begin in fall 2010. Prior to shovels going into the ground, a number of milestones must be completed, including issuing the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) and a Request for Proposals (RFP). SJHH will work with Infrastructure Ontario to select the project company that will design, build and maintain our new campus.

Coming Attractions

In January, February and March, user groups will reconvene to review and refine the draft Project Specific Output Specifications (see story on page 4 for more about what these are and the important role they play in the project).

Our RFQ is expected to be issued in March. The RFQ signals the beginning of our procurement stage, and provides potential project companies with the opportunity to signal their interest in bidding on our project.

Our project website is up and running. The site will provide general information about the project, and will evolve as the project evolves to eventually include important project and construction updates.

Financing the New Healthcare Centre

Many people wonder how a hospital like the one planned for the SJHH West 5th campus is paid for. The Government of Ontario assumes 100% of the eligible costs associated with mental health hospital redevelopment. SJHH is responsible for raising a percentage of the cost of the new hospital. This is referred to as the Local Share portion of financing and will be used for things such as new and replacement equipment. The new West 5th Campus will be built using the Alternative Financing and Procurement (AFP) model and is a design, build, finance, maintain (DBFM) project.

What is AFP?

Alternative Financing and Procurement is an innovative way for the government to deliver on its commitment to maintaining and expanding public infrastructure. Ontario's AFP model uses private financing to strategically rebuild vital infrastructure, on time and on budget, while ensuring appropriate public control and ownership.

What is DBFM?

Governments have always relied on the private sector's expertise to design and build public infrastructure. Depending on the specific project, private sector organizations may be asked to provide proposals to design, build, finance or even maintain the building. The new West 5th Campus is being built under the DBFM model.

What is PSOS?

PSOS stands for Project Specific Output Specifications. These are guidelines which are written with the help of user groups. They include the majority of important elements necessary for the new building and form the framework for ensuring the results of tender meet the required specifications. PSOS categories include departmental requirements, technology considerations, design criteria, departmental flow diagrams, room templates and more.



Conceptual rendering of new West 5th Street Campus

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