

Innovative Thinking and Flexibility Transforms the Way Staff Work to Increase Capacity of Services for Patients

Thursday, January 16th 2014 – Hamilton, ON – St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton is using innovative thinking and flexibility across its campuses to leverage its capacity to provide services by working as a system as ongoing repairs continue around the clock after flooding occurred at Charlton Campus on Wednesday, January 8th 2014.

Surgeons, staff and anesthesiologists have properly outfitted two newly opened operating rooms at St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton's King Campus with state-of-the-art equipment in order to safely and effectively perform complex surgeries that would otherwise be completed at Charlton Campus.

St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton has determined that six operating rooms within Charlton Campus' Surgical Tower will be safe and ready to accept patients for complex surgical procedures effective Monday, January 20th 2014. Beginning Monday, five of the operating rooms in the Surgical Tower will be used for surgical procedures; one will be used as a staging area in place of our sterile core.

"Our dedicated staff is working together as a team and across our campuses to transform the way we work to get our surgical services back up to full capacity as soon as possible," says Dr. Higgins, President, St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton. "Compassionate care for our patients continues to be our top priority as we innovate new ways to serve our community during this challenging time."

-30-

Media Contact:

Megan Biekša | Senior Specialist, Media & Strategic Issues | Public Affairs Department
TEL: 905.522.1155 ext. 33037 | CELL: 905.975.2944
mbiekša@stjoes.ca | FAX: 905.540.6531
St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton | Charlton Portable | 225 James St. S., 1st Floor | L8N 3B2 |
www.stjoes.ca

More information:

St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton will continue to update on our community as the situation evolves on our [external website](#), [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) channels.

Below is the current status of our operational capacity at St. Joe's Charlton Campus:

Please note that as we rebuild our capacity we will be moving some procedures to different locations please read information carefully and consult with your physician's office if you have a concern.

New Information:

Operating Rooms

- Following thorough safety testing of facilities and equipment we have determined that six O.R.'s in the Surgical Tower will be safe and ready to accept patients for complex surgical procedures effective Monday, January 20th.
- *Patients will be contacted with respect to their surgery time and location for their procedure.*

King Campus

- Thanks to the innovative thinking, flexibility and planning of our surgeons, staff and anesthesiologists, we've opened two operating rooms at our King Campus location. We've leveraged our capacity to work as a system by outfitting these two operating rooms with state-of-the-art equipment to safely and effectively perform surgeries that would otherwise be completed at Charlton Campus, such as some orthopedics surgery, breast cancer surgery, and plastic surgery.
- *Patients will be contacted with respect to their surgical times and location for their procedure*

Emergency Department

The Emergency Department at our Charlton Campus is open 24/7 and accepting all ambulance patients as well as walk-in patients.

- Approximately 60% of the emergency department remains hoarded while remediation takes place.
- To increase our ability to care for patients, a Medical Surgical Assessment Unit (MSAU) has been opened on the 2nd Floor in the Day Surgery overflow space. If you are visiting a loved one who is admitted to this space, this is what the entry to that unit looks like:



We will continue to update our patients and community about our ongoing recovery efforts as we strive to bring full services back on line as quickly as possible. We encourage you to "Like" our [Facebook Page](#), and follow us on [Twitter](#). Current information can also be found on our website (www.stjoes.ca).