

## Etobicoke General reaches redevelopment milestone

William Osler Health System's (Osler) Etobicoke General Hospital has reached an exciting milestone in its redevelopment journey. Osler, with Infrastructure Ontario (IO), recently issued a request for qualifications (RFQ) to design, build, finance and maintain the hospital's new four-storey wing.

Etobicoke General, which originally opened in 1972, is undergoing significant revitalization to meet the growing demands of its community. The RFQ is the first step in a process to select a team with both the construction expertise and financial capacity to design, build, finance and maintain the new four-storey wing. Any team with the necessary design, construction and facilities management experience is able to respond to the public RFQ. Once all of the submissions are in, Osler will partner with IO to pre-qualify those firms that meet the criteria and invite them to respond to a Request for Proposals which is expected to be issued in spring 2015.

"This announcement is a vital step toward expanding and improving Etobicoke General," said Osler Board Chair John Davies. "For years, Osler has shared this community's vision and commitment for this hospital. We are pleased with the progress being made in this important expansion project and look forward to reaching other development milestones."

The new four-storey wing will add approximately 250,000 square feet of space to the hospital and house the services most urgently needed by the community it serves. Some features of the project include a larger, state-of-the-art emergency department; Critical Care and Intensive Care Units that are nearly four times larger than the current space; Maternal newborn unit with birthing suites and a specialized nursery; new ambulatory procedures unit; and cardiorespiratory and neurodiagnostic services.

"The revitalization of Etobicoke General will play a significant role in ensuring this community has access to the enhanced health care services it needs," said Osler President and CEO Matthew Anderson. "The new wing will support the delivery of world-class emergency care, help us establish centres of excellence in high-priority areas, and provide space for education and training for the health-care professionals of tomorrow."

To prepare the 42-year old building and systems for the new addition, Osler will soon be starting its early works projects. This will involve utility upgrades as well as the replacement of existing chillers.

"Thanks to the generosity and dedication of the Etobicoke community, we are on a path to build upon what was created more than 40 years ago and begin the transformation of this hospital," said Osler Foundation President and CEO Ken Mayhew. "It's exciting to see the activity on-site, and to see how community champions continue to bring us closer to realizing the vision of a revitalized Etobicoke General."