

Shovels in the ground on expansion at Etobicoke General

William Osler Health System and Infrastructure Ontario (IO) have announced that Etobicoke Healthcare Partnership (EHP) has signed a fixed price contract to design, build, finance and maintain a new four-storey wing at Etobicoke General Hospital. The announcement means that all contractual steps between EHP and Osler/IO have been completed. The contract is valued at \$330 million, which reflects the substantial completion payment and the monthly service payments before inflation adjustments. Construction on the new wing was to start immediately, and is expected to be completed in late 2018. EHP was one of three short-listed teams bidding on the project and was chosen as the 'preferred proponent' after an extensive evaluation process led by IO.

'This is an exciting time' not only for William Osler Health System, but also for North Etobicoke and surrounding areas, commented John Davies, chair of the Osler Board of Directors. 'Etobicoke General is in the throes of a transformational renovation and expansion to meet the needs of the growing community. With the completion of this state-of-the-art four-storey wing, we will ensure Etobicoke General Hospital keeps pace with new technologies, new diagnostic techniques and improvements in care' in addition to expanding access to the programs and services that are needed most by patients and families.'

Etobicoke General, which opened in 1972, is undergoing significant revitalization to meet the growing demands of its community. 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, cardiac care and intensive care units, a maternal newborn unit with birthing suites and a specialized nursery, a new ambulatory procedures unit, and cardiorespiratory and neurodiagnostic services

'This is an unprecedented time for health care in this community and something we should all celebrate and feel great pride in,' said Osler President and CEO Matthew Anderson. 'With this important milestone, we will begin to see and hear construction activity on the site very soon and with that, our vision for the transformation of Etobicoke General Hospital will come to life before our very eyes. This is excellent news for our community, and for the staff, physicians and volunteers who are so committed to this hospital.' To prepare the 43-year old building and systems for the new addition, Osler is undertaking an Early Works project. This includes replacing existing chillers, upgrading the heating plant, upgrading the normal and emergency power distribution systems, providing structural modifications to support the mechanical system upgrades, and providing integrated building systems connections for the new addition. Osler has also upgraded the hydro lands parking areas to create more parking spaces, improve traffic flow and enhance safety.

Osler is also planning for the construction of another building on the Etobicoke General Hospital site. This facility will house a number of outpatient programs/services, including a fracture clinic, diagnostic imaging, and a satellite dialysis program. Construction of the new building is anticipated to begin this month.

'When Etobicoke General opened in 1972, it was because people in Etobicoke wanted' and worked for 'exemplary health care close to where they lived and worked,' said Osler Foundation President and CEO Ken Mayhew. 'Now, with this transformational expansion, it's once again time for the community to reinvest and build on this legacy of compassion, through donations, to ensure our families, friends and neighbours have the space and care they can rely on at Etobicoke General, for generations to come.'

For more information about Osler's redevelopment projects, visit www.williamoslerhs.ca