

For Immediate Release:  
Thursday July 21, 2011

## Media Release

# York Central Hospital Receives Approval to Build New Hospital in Vaughan

**Vaughan, ON.** – Today it was announced that York Central Hospital has been approved to build a new hospital in Vaughan. The Honourable Deb Matthews, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care made the announcement alongside Greg Sorbara, MPP for Vaughan.

Today's announcement confirms the approval of a new hospital for Vaughan in the provincial infrastructure plan. Under the leadership of York Central Hospital, the new hospital in Vaughan will be publicly owned, publicly controlled and publicly accountable. The new hospital in Vaughan will be part of York Central Hospital's two-hospital model for health care services and will ensure people living in the rapidly growing communities of Southwest York Region, including Vaughan and Richmond Hill, have access to high quality, state-of-the-art health care, closer to home.

This announcement follows York Central Hospital's project milestone in April, when its Stage 1 Proposal was delivered to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care as part of the government's capital planning process. The proposal outlined York Central's plans to create a Major Regional Health System for Southwest York Region, with a new hospital in Vaughan at Jane and Major Mackenzie as well as further development at the existing York Central Hospital on Trench Street in Richmond Hill. The hospitals would also operate alongside community-based locations and will be linked to a regional network of providers.

Planning is underway for a new hospital in Vaughan that will offer:

- A state-of the art Emergency Department
- New Modern Surgical Services and Operating Rooms;
- Access to Acute Inpatient and Intensive Care Beds;
- Technologically Advanced Diagnostic Imaging;
- Specialized Ambulatory Clinics;
- 80 per cent single acute care patient rooms for superior infection prevention and control; and,
- A flexible design to permit adaptation over time as new thinking and best practices emerge.

The new hospital will be enabled by an efficient organizational structure with a single governance, administration and medical staff as part of the two-hospital model. York Central Hospital is currently undergoing a rebranding exercise to represent our expanded mandate as a new major regional health system.

### Quotes

"We are working with our community to develop a new brand for York Central Hospital that will better communicate our expanded mandate to create a Major Regional Health System including the building of

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a new hospital in Vaughan and further development of the existing Richmond Hill hospital site,” said Dina Palozzi, Chair, York Central Hospital Board of Directors.

“I am delighted to have the government’s support for our vision of creating a Major Regional Health System by approving our organization to build a new hospital in Vaughan. The new hospital will benefit the citizens of Vaughan and all of Southwest York Region,” said Altaf Stationwala, President and CEO of York Central Hospital.

“Achieving our hospital approval is an extremely important milestone for our community. This much-needed investment will improve local access to quality health care for our residents. I’d like to thank the people of our community, the City of Vaughan, and the many devoted volunteers who have contributed so much of their time and energy to our hospital project. While we still have important work to do, today’s announcement gives us reason to celebrate what we have worked so hard to achieve.”

- Greg Sorbara, MPP, Vaughan

“I know how important this new hospital is to the people of Vaughan and I’m proud to see it move forward. For Vaughan and area-residents, new hospital services not only mean faster and easier access to high quality health care services much closer to home, but also greater peace of mind.”

- Deb Matthews, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care

“I want to thank the province for taking this important step and thank the community for its unwavering support of our goal to build a hospital in the City of Vaughan. Today’s announcement is an example of how different levels of government can work together with the community to improve health care services in our city. I want to personally thank everyone involved in this process for their hard work, commitment and dedication. In the coming months and years, discipline, cooperation and focus will be required to bring this project to fruition. The City of Vaughan and its citizens are up to the task. Today’s announcement is great news for Vaughan!”

-Maurizio Bevilacqua, Mayor, City of Vaughan

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**Media Contact:**

Elizabeth Barnett  
Consultant, Communications and Public Affairs  
York Central Hospital  
Tel. (905) 883-1212 ext. 7490  
E-mail: [ebarnett@yorkcentral.on.ca](mailto:ebarnett@yorkcentral.on.ca)

Melina Cormier  
Chief, Communications and Public Affairs  
York Central Hospital  
Tel. (905) 883-1212 ext. 7492  
E-mail: [mcormier@yorkcentral.on.ca](mailto:mcormier@yorkcentral.on.ca)

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## Media Backgrounder

Today's announcement confirms the government of Ontario's support for York Central Hospital's plans to build and operate a new hospital in Vaughan as a key component of a Major Regional Health System.

Key facts about the new hospital in Vaughan are as follows:

### Service Profile:

- Core hospital services at this site will include Emergency, Intensive Care, Ambulatory Care, Surgery, Inpatient Care and Clinical Support Services
- As part of the Major Regional Health System, patients at the new hospital in Vaughan will also have access to Stroke Care, Birthing, Pediatrics (Children's Care), Mental Health, Complex Continuing Care, and Rehabilitation Services as well as a Seniors/Chronic Care Centre of Excellence

### Projected Timelines:

- Current target for start of tender/procurement process in 2014/2015  
\*\* Note this timeline is subject to change in keeping with requisite approvals as part of government mandated planning process

### Local Funding Support for new Hospital in Vaughan:

- \$80 million from the City of Vaughan for the purchase of hospital lands and local share contribution
- \$117 million from the Region of York as part of its regional funding commitment to York Region Hospitals
- \$200 million from the Vaughan Healthcare Foundation

### About York Central Hospital:

- 506-bed hospital located in one of Canada's fastest growing communities
- over 80,000 visits annually to its Emergency Department
- serves more than 500,000 people in Southwest York Region and beyond
- recently completed expansion of Trench Street site including new and expanded Emergency Department, Intensive Care Unit, Family Birthing Centre, Diagnostic Imaging Department, and Minimally Invasive Surgery Suites