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Repairs and Upgrades Coming to Four Hospitals in York Region this Year Province Investing in Renewed Facilities to Deliver High-Quality Health Care

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEWS

July 11, 2017

Vaughan-York Region MPPs Steven Del Duca, Chris Ballard, Michael Chan, Dr. Helena Jaczek, and Reza Moridi are pleased to announce that Ontario is continuing to strengthen and support hospitals in York Region with repairs and upgrades to four hospitals this year, to provide patients with high-quality care in a safe and healthy environment.

The following hospitals will receive funding to revitalize their facilities:

Mackenzie Health	\$ 757,128
Markham Stouffville Hospital	\$ 64,086
Southlake Regional Health Centre	\$ 75,068
Stevenson Memorial Hospital	\$ 134,560

Funding from the province allows hospitals to make critical improvements to their facilities, including upgrades or replacements to roofs, windows, heating and air conditioning systems, fire alarms and back-up generators.

The 2017 balanced Budget includes a new \$7-billion booster shot to health care, building on the commitment made in the 2016 Budget. This investment will improve access to care, expand mental health and addiction services, and enhance the experience and recovery of patients.

Ontario is increasing access to care, reducing wait times and improving the patient experience through its [Patients First Action Plan for Health Care](#) and OHIP+: Children and Youth Pharmacare – protecting health care today and into the future.

QUOTES

“These repairs and upgrades are crucial to ensuring all patients get the help they need now and in the future. By upgrading our hospitals’ infrastructure, we are helping Ontarians get the best health care close to home.”

— Dr. Eric Hoskins, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care

“On behalf of Ontario hospitals, I'd like to thank the Ontario government for recognizing the need for this vital investment. Given the continued capacity pressure facing hospitals as a result of a growing and aging population, ongoing investment in equipment upgrades and building repairs is needed to extend the life of all hospital facilities to maintain access to frontline services.”

— Anthony Dale, President and CEO, Ontario Hospital Association

“Our government is committed to a strong, stable and publicly-funded hospital system that delivers high-quality patient care. The Hospital Infrastructure Renewal Fund will provide a number of important benefits to patients and families in York Region who use Mackenzie Health Hospital in Richmond Hill; with this funding, the hospital will renew critical infrastructure, helping to ensure patients continue to receive high-quality care in a safe and healthy environment.

— Reza Moridi, M.P.P., Richmond Hill

"I am so pleased that the Ontario government is investing \$175 million in repairs and upgrades to hospitals this year through the Health Infrastructure Renewal Fund (HIRF). This funding strengthens our local hospitals and in Newmarket -Aurora, this will assist Southlake Regional Health Centre make improvements to their facilities and will enhance patient's experience."

—Chris Ballard, M.P.P., Newmarket -Aurora

“The Hospital Infrastructure Renewal Fund ensures that our hospitals remain a safe and healthy environment for patients and their families. The investment of over \$1M to York Region hospitals builds on our government’s commitment to delivering high quality health care for those who need it, close to home.”

—Steven Del Duca, M.P.P., Vaughan

“I’m pleased that our government continues to make investments in the Markham-Stouffville Hospital. This funding will assist hospitals in York Region and across the province in making improvements for patients accessing care, in need of mental health and addiction services, and enhancing the experience and recovery of patients in our community.”

—Dr. Helena Jaczek, M.P.P, Oak Ridges – Markham

“Having timely access to high-quality, specialized acute hospital care is a priority for the residents of York Region - one of the fastest growing areas within the Central LHIN. Today’s funding announcement will provide essential funds so hospitals in York Region can continue to improve the quality of their physical facilities, and enhance health care experience for patients and families.”

—Kim Baker, CEO, Central LHIN

QUICK FACTS

- The province is investing \$175 million in repairs and upgrades to hospitals this year through the Health Infrastructure Renewal Fund (HIRF).
- HIRF was established in 1999 to assist hospitals in renewing their facilities.
- As part of the 2017 Budget, Ontario is also spending an additional \$9 billion to support the construction of new hospital projects across the province. This brings Ontario's total planned investment in hospital infrastructure to more than \$20 billion over the next 10 years.
- The government’s investment of more than \$190 billion over the 13-year period starting in 2014–15 is the largest infrastructure investment in the province’s history. It is helping to build new child care spaces, schools, hospitals, public transit, highways and roads.

LEARN MORE

- [Patients First: Action Plan for Health Care](#)
- [Building Together](#), Ontario’s long-term infrastructure plan

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