

Aug 12, 2005
2005/nr-077

BETTER ACCESS TO COMMUNITY CARE FOR TORONTO RESIDENTS

McGuinty Government Supporting Redevelopment At Sherbourne Health Centre

TORONTO – The McGuinty government is improving healthcare services for the people of Toronto by supporting redevelopment at Sherbourne Health Centre, Health and Long-Term Care Minister George Smitherman announced today.

“Our government is ensuring that people in all areas of the province have access to the health care they need, and that includes the highest quality community health centres,” Smitherman said. “I’m pleased to announce that Toronto will soon have even better community facilities to serve the needs of area residents.”

The government is investing \$20.1 million to allow Sherbourne Health Centre to send its redevelopment project to final tender. This project will allow the centre to provide a comprehensive range of primary health care services to the residents of southeast Toronto with a special emphasis on care for homeless people, new Canadians and the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transsexual and transgendered communities. When the project is complete, services will include:

- Extended hours primary care response centre
- Complementary and alternative therapies
- Mental health services
- An infirmary for recuperative care, and outreach and health promotion programs.

“We’re grateful to the government for its vision and excited about renovating our building so we can extend our primary health care services to more patients in our community,” said Suzanne Boggild, Chief Executive Officer, Sherbourne Health Centre.

These facilities have been approved under *ReNew Ontario*, the government’s five-year, \$30-billion infrastructure investment plan, which commits \$5 billion to health care infrastructure. *ReNew Ontario* is a comprehensive plan to modernize and replace many of the province’s hospitals, schools and post-secondary institutions. It will also support the provincial economy through investments in transportation, transit and research and by accommodating growth.

“These capital projects are part of our government’s plan to help ensure Ontarians have the highest quality services they need and deserve,” said David Caplan, Minister of Public Infrastructure Renewal. “For the first time, this province has a long-term plan for building and developing our health care facilities that will bring much needed stability and certainty to hospitals and better health care for Ontarians.”

“Our government has a vision of a health care system that will help keep Ontarians healthier, get them good care when they are sick, and that will be there for their children and grandchildren,” said Smitherman. “Upgrading and modernizing our health care facilities is critical to making that vision a reality.”

-30-

For further information:

Members of the media:

David Spencer
Minister’s Office
(416) 327-4320

Dan Strasbourg
Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care
(416) 314-6197

Members of the general public: (416) 327-4327, or (800) 268-1154

This news release, along with other media materials, such as matte stories and audio clips, on other subjects, are available on our website at: <http://www.health.gov.on.ca> under the News Media section.

For more information on achievements in health care, visit: www.resultsontario.gov.on.ca.

Version française disponible