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MCGUINTY GOVERNMENT SUPPORTING EXPANSION AT THE HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN

Investment Means Better Access To Better Care For Ontario Children

TORONTO – The McGuinty government is investing \$3.57 million to expand and relocate the hematology and cancer outpatient clinic at The Hospital for Sick Children, Health and Long-Term Care Minister George Smitherman announced today.

“This investment will result in better access to quality hospital services for kids at the Hospital for Sick Children,” Smitherman said. “We’re pleased to be giving the go-ahead for this needed expansion and modernization of outpatient facilities at the hospital and we know that it will provide an enormous benefit to children with cancer and blood disorders.”

The hospital is renovating former research space on its eighth floor to create an expanded hematology/cancer outpatient care clinic that will provide family-centered care in an enhanced centralized area.

“Sick Kids is committed to providing the best cancer treatment available, and this important commitment from the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care is needed so we can provide our cancer patients with an environment that enhances their quality of life and treatment outcomes,” said Mary Jo Haddad, President and CEO of The Hospital for Sick Children. “Outpatient or ambulatory care is important to families because it is less disruptive than staying in hospital, allows children to attend school and sleep at home, while receiving treatment during the day at Sick Kids, and it’s less expensive,” Haddad said.

This initiative is part of the McGuinty government’s plan to build a health care system that delivers on three priorities - keeping Ontarians healthy, reducing wait times and providing better access to doctors and nurses.

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