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MCGUINTY GOVERNMENT MOVING FORWARD ON NEW HOSPITAL IN OAKVILLE *\$15 Million Grant To Include Funds For Milton Site*

OAKVILLE - The McGuinty government is bringing Halton-area residents one step closer to a new hospital by providing Halton Healthcare Corporation with \$12.5 million to plan for a new structure in Oakville, as well as \$2.5 million to plan for renovations and provide services at the Milton site, Health and Long-Term Care Minister George Smitherman announced today.

“Today’s announcement demonstrates our commitment to meeting the health care needs of these communities,” said Smitherman. “The Halton area is thriving, so our government is investing in health care services so they can grow alongside the local population.”

Today’s announcement of \$15 million includes:

- funding of \$12.5 million to support plans for the replacement of the Oakville-Trafalgar Memorial Hospital (OTMH);
- funding of \$1.5 million to support plans for upgrades and expansion of the Milton District Hospital;
- operating funding of \$1 million for the Halton Health Care Services Corporation to meet current demand for services in Milton.

“This is great news for the residents of Oakville and Milton,” said Kevin Flynn, MPP for Oakville. “This funding will allow our hospital to move ahead with planning for new facilities that will bring high quality health services to our community.”

“This is tremendous news for our communities,” said John Oliver, President & CEO, Halton Healthcare Services. “The capital funding will allow us to continue our planning efforts for the new Oakville Hospital and initiates the planning for the much needed expansion of the Milton District Hospital. We thank the government for their investment in the health of our communities and look forward to working collaboratively with them on these very exciting redevelopment projects.”

This is just one more example of how, working together, Ontarians have achieved results in improving access to health care services in the Halton area, other initiatives include:

- \$6,867,653 for 12,132 procedures and scans at Halton Healthcare Services since the start of the McGuinty Government Wait Time Strategy;
- 52,000 more people with access to a family physician in the Mississauga Halton Local Health Integration Network since 2003;
- A 24-station satellite dialysis unit located at the Joseph Brant Memorial Hospital Wellness House Facility.

Today's initiative is part of the McGuinty government's plan for innovation in public health care, building a system that delivers on three priorities – keeping Ontarians healthy, reducing wait times and providing better access to doctors and nurses.

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