

Construction underway at Runnymede Healthcare Centre

At first glance, the Runnymede Healthcare Centre in Toronto looks nothing like a conventional hospital. This is because the facility originally opened in 1908, not as a hospital, but as a public school. A brand new facility is being built to replace this converted building. When it opens, the design will reflect the renewed commitment to healthcare in this community.

“Our current building was never designed to be a hospital; therefore, the need for a new facility was overwhelming. Our new hospital will allow us to reach a higher plateau in healthcare and quality of life for those who call Runnymede home,” says Connie Dejak, President and CEO, Runnymede Healthcare Centre.



Runnymede Healthcare Centre was once destined for closure, but in August 2006, the period of uncertainty ended with an announcement by Minister David Caplan and Minister George Smitherman of a new investment in the facility.

In October 2007, Bondfield Construction Company Ltd. was selected to build and finance the Runnymede Healthcare Centre project. The Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan will provide financing, which was arranged by National Bank Financial.

The estimated total cost of the project is \$89 million. This includes the fixed construction contract with Bondfield to build and finance the project. As well, it includes estimated costs related to the project such as furniture, equipment, permits, architectural and engineering fees, transactional and project management fees.

The new 200-bed, four-storey, 178,000-square-foot-facility will replace the existing 95-bed facility and reduce wait times. The hospital will include large therapy rooms, a multi-denominational chapel, a town square, two open-air courtyards and a wheelchair accessible therapy garden.

The new state-of-the art hospital will continue to provide complex continuing care to adults of all ages, facilitating the specialized level of care that Runnymede's patients require.

Clinical and medical services already offered will be expanded and enhanced. These include physiotherapy; occupational therapy; communication, swallowing and audiology therapy; customized dietary programs; respiratory therapy; activation and recreation activities; social services; pharmacy; and around the clock nursing and medical care.

On November 7, 2007, a groundbreaking ceremony took place to celebrate the start of construction. Bondfield is well into excavation work, and construction is expected to be completed in summer 2010.

“We are excited to see this project underway,” says Ms. Dejak. “This major investment into our community has ensured that the specialty programs we provide for those with neurological degenerative diseases will be available for generations to come.”

AFP Project Opportunities

- A request for qualifications was issued for Bridgepoint Health in Toronto (DBFM) on November 26, 2007

OSIFA Loan Program and Peterborough County

Peterborough County recently turned to Infrastructure Ontario's affordable OSIFA Loan Program to finance the acquisition of a new \$5.8 million Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Land Ambulance Base facility. The 33,000 square foot building was renovated by the previous owner to meet the needs of Peterborough County EMS.

The new EMS facility provides the much-needed space to house Peterborough County's EMS vehicle fleet, as well as bring together the administration and the operational functions, which were previously housed in separate locations.

Storing the EMS vehicles inside during the winter months is an important feature of the new facility and was a change required by the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care. It permits staff to keep the vehicles, supplies and equipment

readily available allowing them to respond quickly to emergencies.

The facility also includes an emergency control centre and an isolation bay for paramedics to deal with potential communicable disease threats. The new state-of-the-art EMS Land Ambulance Base will provide greatly improved service for both Peterborough County and the City of Peterborough.

"The Infrastructure Ontario group was very helpful," says Linda Hutchinson, Director of Finance for the County of Peterborough. "Their loan program is very affordable, with savings being realized not only in the debenture process, but with the loan rate when compared to other large lending organizations."

Infrastructure Ontario executives update industry

Senior executives from Infrastructure Ontario hit the speakers' circuit in November, speaking to a wide range of audiences about progress and upcoming opportunities with AFP projects:

- On November 6, Jim Dougan, Executive Vice-President, Project Delivery, spoke at the Ontario Hospital Association's annual HealthAchieve conference in Toronto. Jim addressed hospital administrators on managing the maintenance phase in an AFP project.
- On November 16, David Livingston, President and CEO, spoke to more than 50 UK-based industry participants at Canada House in London, England. David gave his audience a view of the significant opportunities for the private sector in Ontario's AFP market. This event was co-sponsored by the Ontario International Marketing Centre in London.
- On November 26-27, several of Infrastructure Ontario's executives addressed the 15th Annual CCPPP National Conference. Speakers included David Livingston, Jim Dougan, John McKendrick (Senior Vice-President, Project Delivery) and Peter Wilson (Vice-

President, Project Delivery). Dermot Muir (Vice-President, Corporate Legal Services and Corporate Secretary) spoke at CCPPP's P3 Fundamentals program on November 27.

AFP Project Milestones

- Runnymede Healthcare Centre: Construction started November 7, 2007
- Rouge Valley Health System: Groundbreaking ceremony held on November 8, 2007
- Hamilton Health Sciences (General): Financial close achieved October 31, 2007; construction started November 9, 2007
- Ontario Highway Service Centres: Short-listed bidders announced November 23, 2007
- MGS Data Centre: Request for proposals closed November 23, 2007
- Credit Valley Hospital - Request for proposals closed November 27, 2007