

**Report to the Community
From the Board of the Royal Ottawa Health Care Group**

September 19, 2005

**Highlights of the Re-development Project
For the Royal Ottawa Hospital and
The University of Ottawa Institute of Mental Health Research**

As of September 19, 2005, the re-development project with a capital cost of \$132 million is 14 days ahead of schedule, on budget, without any cost over runs or delays. Major milestones include the completion of site excavation in March 2005, and the completion of the roof, and total structure of the new facilities on September 19, 2005.

- ✓ Construction of new facilities at the Royal Ottawa Hospital campus began on December 17, 2004. The site was prepared for construction using an environmentally sound excavation process including the crushing of existing limestone bedrock that was re-cycled for back fill instead of having it removed and gravel brought into the site. This would have required 700 truckloads at a minimum to be transported along Carling Avenue in Ottawa.
- ✓ There are currently 400 construction workers on site though this number can fluctuate to 300. Up to 500 constructions workers are expected on campus this fall to complete the next major milestone of the project, the enclosure of the new facilities including the brick and the glasswork. This needs to be completed before winter sets in.
- ✓ The east wing of the facility, which holds the Geriatric Psychiatry and the Youth Psychiatry programs, will have the final concrete poured on October 7th. Once this is done, the tower crane will be removed from the site.
- ✓ Construction crews have persisted through extreme weather conditions including unseasonably cold temperatures this winter, and months of severe heat all summer.
- ✓ There have been no lost time injuries on the construction site, and no medical aids or first aid required since the beginning of construction.
- ✓ Innovative construction processes now available mean that new aluminum alloys have been used to form temporary structures that allowed for speedy installation of concrete and steel work.
- ✓ The new facility is now equipped for earthquakes with a forest of large diameter steel rods embedded 10 metres into the underlying bedrock which would stabilize the facility in the event of an earthquake. Ottawa is located in an earthquake zone.

- ✓ The latest design solutions have been implemented in the new facility with the latest smoke exhaust systems, fire-rated wall systems, sprinkler and alarm systems.
- ✓ As reported earlier in the summer, the Royal Ottawa Hospital will operate on a completely 'wireless' information system. Staff will have a wireless and portable keyboard tablet that will allow for the transmission of data inside and outside the facility including Internet, intranet, voice and document transfers. The tablet will travel with the person and will function as a phone as well as a computer.
- ✓ When all patients and staff begin to transfer to the new facility beginning a year from now, demolition of the old facilities will begin immediately after the final transfer date on December 17, 2006.
- ✓ Construction of the facilities is the responsibility of The Healthcare Infrastructure Company of Canada (THICC), the partner to the Royal Ottawa Health Care Group, in its public infrastructure renewal program. Ellis Don Ltd. is the provider of construction services for THICC. The project management and development firm overseeing the re-development is GBZW, under Mr. Graham Bird.
- ✓ The Royal Ottawa Hospital project is an innovative program that has the capital costs of the new facility, and the operating costs of the non-clinical services, blended into a monthly lease payment over a 23-year partnership with The Healthcare Infrastructure Company of Canada. The deal includes the design, build, operation and maintenance of the new hospital and the University of Ottawa Institute of Mental Health Research.

For more information, please contact:

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