

For Immediate Release:  
October 16, 2009

## Media Release

### Funding Announced for New and Expanded Hospital Services in Southwest York Region!

**VAUGHAN, ON.** – York Central Hospital (YCH) and the Vaughan Health Campus of Care (VHCC) congratulate the province on their announcement of \$7,000,000 from the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care to assist the restructured board of York Central Hospital in developing a full proposal stage submission for a two-site model for hospital services.

Announced today by Vaughan MPP Greg Sorbara, this is an important step toward the future development of significantly expanded hospital services in Southwest York Region. This much anticipated announcement comes on the heels of a recently announced collaboration between YCH and the VHCC to work together to seek additional hospital services for this rapidly growing portion of York Region.

"This planning grant, along with the new partnership between York Central Hospital and Vaughan Health Campus of Care is a giant step forward in the completion of a hospital in the City of Vaughan" says Greg Sorbara, MPP Vaughan. "It's also a tribute to the dedication and hard work of all of those people who have helped in this initiative over the past several years."

"This is a great milestone toward expanding much needed hospital services for the whole of southwest York Region," says Warren Collier, York Central Hospital's Board Chair. "It acknowledges the constraints of the current York Central Hospital site in Richmond Hill, as well and the need for a hospital in Vaughan. This is an exciting step forward in creating a major regional healthcare centre that will offer expanded health care services at two hospital sites – one in Richmond Hill and a future site in Vaughan."

"This commitment will continue the momentum to develop a new hospital in Vaughan as quickly as possible," said Michael DeGasperis, Chair of the VHCC. "Together with York Central Hospital, we will transform the face of health care services available to patients and their families in Southwest York Region."

Late last week, York Central Hospital and the Vaughan Health Campus of Care announced a collaboration that will see a restructuring of the York Central Hospital Board of Trustees to provide a broader and more geographically representative sharing of responsibility which will include members from the VHCC and the Vaughan community. The new board will guide the planning and development of new hospital services, including a new hospital in Vaughan and the further revitalization of the York Central Hospital location.

"Today's announcement is great news! This investment is an important step forward towards the expansion of hospital services for the residents of Richmond Hill and all of southwest York

Region,” said Reza Moridi, MPP Richmond Hill. “This new partnership will ensure that local residents enjoy high-quality health care for decades to come.”

“Central LHIN is pleased that the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care continues to support planning for the health services needed in our fast-growing communities,” says Kim Baker, CEO, Central LHIN. “This is a tremendous opportunity to build on planning that has been undertaken to date; to integrate services across the continuum of care; and to enhance access to much needed health care services in the southwest planning area of the Central LHIN.”

Earlier this year, the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care approved a capital grant to YCH of up to \$3,700,000 to assist with the costs of developing the Proposal and Functional Program for the proposed Phase Two redevelopment at the hospital’s Main Trench Street Site in Richmond Hill. The Ministry also approved \$190,000 to assist the Central Local Health Integration Network with the planning of new hospital services in Vaughan. The additional funds announced today, with enable the hospital to expand its planning scope to include the work of both planning efforts to-date in designing a two-site hospital model.

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**York Central Hospital** is a large, full-service community hospital with over 80,000 visits annually to its Emergency Department, serving a population of more than 400,000 in Southwest York Region and beyond. Located in one of Canada’s fastest growing communities, the hospital is on a Capacity Building Journey that focuses on using the best available practices, the newest technologies and innovative models of service to provide superior patient care. With a compliment of 469 beds, the hospital is home to specialized services including the York Region District Stroke Centre, York Regional Chronic Kidney Disease Program, York Region and Simcoe County Behaviour Management Services, Central East Autism Services for York Region as well as the York Region Domestic Abuse and Sexual Assault Care Centre.

**The Vaughan Health Campus of Care** is a not-for-profit organization established to ensure that new health services in the Vaughan community are coordinated, aimed at a common vision of integration, innovation and excellence in health services delivery and patient care. Responsible for the strategic establishment and coordination of health care services to serve the needs of the Vaughan community, the Vaughan Health Campus of Care is working with Government to secure approvals for additional health services, including a hospital to support its vision.

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