

For Immediate Release:  
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## Media Release

# YORK CENTRAL HOSPITAL RECEIVES FUNDING TO INCREASE ACCESS TO CARE

**RICHMOND HILL, ON** – In recognition of the growing demand for health care services in Southwest York Region, today MPP Reza Moridi announced \$4.1 million in Post Construction Operating Plan (PCOP) funding for York Central Hospital. These funds will enable the hospital to increase the community's access to Intensive Care, Chemotherapy and Medical Day Care, Mental Health and Continuing Care Services by delivering increased patient care in the new capacity created through its major redevelopment project in 2009.

Today's announcement comes on the heels of an approval from the Ontario government for York Central Hospital to plan, build and operate a new hospital in Vaughan. Last week's announcement by Health and Long-Term Care Minister Deb Matthews places the new hospital in Vaughan on Ontario's Infrastructure Plan and provides a budget of \$39 million for planning. This will enable York Central Hospital to complete the extensive work and preparations to issue tender documents for the new hospital in 2014. Construction typically starts a year after completion of the tendering process.

The PCOP funding will enable York Central Hospital to care for a greater number of patients as it increases levels of service in key clinical areas. It also aligns with York Central's three "Wildly Important Goals" for this year to increase patient satisfaction, decrease patient waiting and to achieve its budget target.

### QUOTES

"The redevelopment projects at York Central Hospital have greatly benefited our growing Richmond Hill community by enhancing the quality and range of health care services available. This hospital is an integral part of our town, and today's announcement will ensure that our residents have the best care, close to home," says MPP Richmond Hill, Reza Moridi.

"We are grateful for these much needed PCOP funds that will enable us to further improve access to ICU, Chemotherapy and Medical Day Care Services, Mental Health and Continuing Care. This investment is essential to our hospital's ability to respond to the tremendous growth in our community and the resulting demands for increased access to health care services," says Mark Liddy of the York Central Hospital Board of Directors.

"Our thanks to MPP Reza Moridi and to the Ministry of Health and Long Term-Care for this funding that will enable us to better respond to the tremendous growth of our community. This funding will allow us to further improve access to care as we plan for a new hospital in Vaughan as part of our expanded mandate to create a Major Regional Health System to serve the people of Southwest York Region," said Hospital President and CEO, Altaf Stationwala.

“Providing our patients with greater access to life saving Intensive Care and Chemotherapy/Medical Day Care Services will enable our physicians and staff to help our patients receive more timely care. It will also enable our patients achieve better health outcomes as a result of that care,” added Dr. Victoria Chan, Chief and Medical Director of Medicine, and Physician Lead for Flow and Utilization.

“We are pleased that York Central Hospital has been identified to receive Post Construction Operating Plan funding for 2011/12. The investment will support the hospital in improving access to critical care, mental health, complex continuing care and ambulatory care services for their patients.” Kim Baker, Chief Executive Officer, Central LHIN.

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## Backgrounder

**About York Central Hospital:**

- 506-bed hospital located in one of Canada’s fastest growing communities
- over 80,000 visits annually to its Emergency Department
- serves more than 500,000 people in Southwest York Region and beyond
- recently completed expansion of Trench Street site in Richmond Hill, including new and expanded Emergency Department, Intensive Care Unit, Family Birthing Centre, Diagnostic Imaging Department, and Minimally Invasive Surgery Suites
- York Central Hospital’s is working to create a Major Regional Health System for Southwest York Region that will include the recently approved project to build a new hospital in Vaughan as part of Ontario’s infrastructure plan and further development of the existing York Central Hospital.

**Vision:** To be the finest community hospital in Canada

**Mission:** We reach out – with expert and compassionate care

Accountability • Collaboration • Leadership • Respect • Safety