

Community of origin for patients at Georgetown Hospital

- 71% lived in Halton Hills
- 23% lived in Brampton/ Mississauga
- 1% lived in Milton
- 5% other communities

Emergency Dept. Activity (Patients seen at Georgetown Hospital)

- 53% from Halton Hills
- 35% from Brampton
- 2.5% from Erin
- 2% from Mississauga
- 1.5% from Caledon
- 1% from Toronto
- 5% other

Where Halton Hills residents receive hospital care

- 62% at Georgetown Hospital
- 11.6% Milton/Oakville
- 6.6% Toronto
- 5.8% Peel
- 14% other communities

What they said...

Twenty-four people stepped up the podium to speak at Monday's public meeting on the municipal contribution to the Georgetown Hospital renovation/expansion project. Below are excerpts of what they had to say.

"In my opinion the requirement for the Georgetown Hospital expansion and the CT scanner has automatically become the highest priority for this council."

—Ward 1 Councillor Jon Hurst

"For those concerned about other people coming in and using Georgetown Hospital, I think the net benefit to Halton Hills is far and away in your interest on this."

—John Oliver, HHS CEO

"Over 10 years, each household would be contributing approximately \$240 towards the hospital project."

—Ward 4 Councillor Ann Lawlor

"Get this thing (CT scanner) into this town!"

—resident Mike Sanderson, who recounted the tragic story of the day his mother died last year, and the delay in getting a CT scan

"We look after 32,000 patients per year; our seams are bulging."

—Jean Andrews, Emergency RN

"If I take a heart attack tonight, I'm sure I'm not going to end up in a library."

—Resident Rein Pater referring to the Town's spending priorities

"The issues with the delay of care (resulting from the lack of CT scanner) isn't a monthly occurrence, it isn't a weekly occurrence, it's an almost daily occurrence."

—Dr. Amar Cheema, ER physician

"The people in this town want nothing. We don't want transit, we don't want trucks, we don't want quarries, we don't want garbage and we don't want people. But by God we want new arenas, we want new hospitals, we want new rec centres, we want better roads. So how does that go together?"

—Local developer David McNally

"This will be the single largest fundraising campaign that this community has ever seen."

—Hospital Foundation chair Laurent Thibault

"I'm against raising property taxes to pay for this hospital project. It takes more than a hospital to make a healthy community. ...We need the arenas to keep people out of the hospitals... We cannot steal from the arenas to pay for the hospital."

—Resident Ken Key

Community 'willing' to fund project

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• A \$5 million capital fundraising campaign run by Georgetown Hospital Foundation.

"The community is willing. We are confident in our ability to come up with this \$5 million. It will require an awful lot of work but we think we can do it," said Foundation chair Laurent Thibault. "Our fundraising appeal... will include areas of Brampton and Mississauga where we have significant numbers of people who use Georgetown Hospital. We expect considerable support from the people of these communities." Thibault said over the last three years, 12 per cent of the Foundation's donors were Peel residents.

• A \$250,000 contribution from the Georgetown Hospital Volunteer Association

• \$2.4 million from HHS

Municipal funding of the hospital is unusual, but not unprecedented. The original Georgetown Hospital began with a \$1 million contribution from the Georgetown council of the day, according to longtime resident Fred Helson, and charter hospital board member.

And lately 10 other municipalities have contributed money to kick-start hospital construction in their communities including Oakville (\$170 million), Burlington (\$60 million) and Milton (1% tax levy).

Answering a question from a resident on who would pay for budget overruns, Oliver assured him that the hospital board was experienced in

Fast Facts:

- 80% of Halton Hills residents who require surgery must leave Halton Hills because services are not offered locally
- Total estimated cost of project: \$12.196 million
- Additional services not available at Georgetown Hospital: MRI and CT; cancer care; cardiac care; inpatient paediatrics; dialysis and inpatient mental health

project management.

The project includes:

• Construction of a 14,000 sq. ft. addition to the building for a new emergency department and to house the new CT scanner

• A 4,000 sq. ft. renovation to the existing building to ensure the diagnostic services are in all one place, rather than scattered throughout the hospital as they are now

• The CT scanner— already Ministry approved but nowhere to put it in the 50-year-old hospital. Annually, about 1,500 hospital patients (including 500 emergency patients) must be transferred to other hospi-

tals for a CT scan.

- Emergency generator
- Furniture, furnishings and equipment

Oliver said a CT scanner is fundamental for a good emergency exam. Hospital staff who lined up Monday night to speak in favour of the contribution agreed, saying that the transportation of patients to Milton and other hospitals is costly not only in dollars and manpower, but possibly in human life.

Oliver adjusted his presentation from the one done two weeks ago to include statistics about hospital usage by out-of-town users, which seemed to be the number one concern of local residents in emails to the Town. According to his most recent stats the majority of users are from Halton Hills. He also noted in the current system of regional healthcare that Halton Hills residents also use a lot of other hospitals— and thus are benefiting from that community's fundraising.

Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce sent surveys to its membership and 61 per cent of the 72 respondents said they wanted this project supported by the municipality. Many of the comments suggested user fees.

Oliver said fact sheets about the project are available on their website, www.haltonhealthcare.com

Halton Hills council members are also urging residents to continue to make their views known on the Town website, www.haltonhills.ca.

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