

Oliver 'hopeful' funds will come

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and expand the aging Georgetown Hospital and to add a CT Scanner. The Town of Halton Hills has agreed to provide \$2.6 million through a levy on taxpayers.

"In an effort to maintain a fair and transparent capital funding process, consideration for hospital capital funding by the Government of Ontario is based on many factors, including availability of funding and provincial-level assessment of need (assessment and prioritization of health capital needs across the province.)," said Matthews in the letter.

"In light of the above, hospitals may wish to consider other options to manage current needs, such as pursuing a capital project as an own funds request, or implement interim operational changes."

John Oliver, president and CEO of Halton Healthcare, said the minister's response

means the ministry is still looking at the project.

He said they don't yet have approval, but he's "fairly confident it will come."

"I'm hopeful we'll see some funding from the ministry for this project," said Oliver.

When asked if the project would go ahead without funding from the ministry, Oliver said, "until we know the outcome of that I don't think anything can be gained by speculating."

Oliver said the hospital is hoping to go to tender for construction this spring with completion targeted for about a year later.

"They're (the ministry) looking at it, but time is running out for the Sept. 7 deadline," said Bonnette referring to the fact once the writ is dropped (that day marking the official start of the provincial election campaign, the government's term is over so it won't be handing out any more money.



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For more info contact Shellie: 416-948-FINS
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