

Funding allows hospital to 'move forward'

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"Thank you to the Hospital Foundation for using your own funds for a big part of it," said Matthews. "You made a very compelling case," she said.

She also acknowledged Wellington-Halton Hills MPP Ted Arnott for making sure she understood the needs of the community and that he fully supported the hospital project.

John Oliver, President and CEO of Halton Healthcare Services said, "today's announcement means we can move forward to the next phase of planning for this project."

"The addition of a CT scanner and the expansion and revitalization of the Emergency and Diagnostic Imaging departments will greatly enhance the care provided at Georgetown Hospital, ensuring that residents of Halton Hills have access to high quality hospital services in their community... (we) look forward to the start of construction next spring."

"Minister Matthews you really know how to put a smile on a cloudy day," said Bonnette.

He acknowledged Arnott, Councillors Jon Hurst (a member of the Halton Healthcare Services Board and Moya Johnson (who is running in the upcoming provincial election for the Liberals) and the unanimous support from all members of council.

"This redevelopment is an important step towards modernizing the George-

town Hospital so that the community has access to the high quality health care it deserves. I know that the people of Halton Hills and the surrounding communities are excited to support this project so that this hospital can provide care to future generations for many years to come," said Bonnette.

Following the announcement Arnott said, "we've pushed the government to become a funding partner for this needed project."

"Hospital administration, staff and volunteers deserve our thanks and recognition, and so do the Hospital Board Foundation, the Volunteer Association and generous contributors," said Arnott. He also acknowledged Town council and the Government of Ontario for making the announcement.

"I repeatedly called attention to the Georgetown project, and I believe the minister felt she had no choice but to respond with a cheque," he said.

Johnson, who was on hand for the announcement, called it "fantastic news."

"As Ward 3 councillor, I voted to support this project at council, and have worked diligently alongside Mayor Rick Bonnette and my fellow councillors to make this project a reality. After over 30 years of nursing I understand the importance of providing world-class healthcare to all Ontarians, and this announcement means even higher quality health care in Georgetown."



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