



INDIRA NAIDOO-HARRIS, MPP

Halton

Stronger Hospitals, Better Care for Halton

Major Funding Boost Will Reduce Wait Times, Address Capacity Issues and Provide Better Care Closer to Home

NEWS

March 23, 2018

Ontario is investing an additional \$27.58 million in Halton Healthcare hospitals in Oakville, Milton and Georgetown - for a total increase of 9.30 per cent for 2018-19. This is part of the province's commitment to invest an additional \$822 million investment in Ontario hospitals in 2018-19 — an increase of 4.6 per cent.

Halton MPP Indira Naidoo-Harris joined Halton Healthcare President and CEO, Denise Hardenne at Oakville Trafalgar Memorial Hospital to explain how this major increase in hospital funding will provide better access to care, reduce wait times, address capacity issues and better meet the needs of Halton's changing and growing population.

This overall increase of 4.6 per cent across the province is on top of the 3.2 per cent provided last year — allowing hospitals to invest with more precision in the care and supports that address the specific needs of their patients and community.

Patients and families across Ontario will also directly benefit from this increased funding with the expansion of essential services to reduce wait times and priority procedures such as cardiac care, critical care, chemotherapy, treatment for strokes, hip and knee replacements, and medical imaging.

Increasing funding to hospitals and access to high-quality health care across the province is part of the government's plan to support care, create opportunity and make life more affordable during this period of rapid economic change. The plan includes a higher minimum wage and better working conditions, free tuition for hundreds of thousands of students, easier access to affordable child care, and free prescription drugs for everyone under 25, and 65 or over, through the biggest expansion of medicare in a generation.

QUOTES

"This major increase in our hospitals is great news for Halton families. Our government is working tirelessly to provide Halton residents, with the best possible care. Halton has undergone a significant health care modernization with brand new facilities and major expansion projects. This additional investment ensures that our growing community will have access to quality health services for their families for years to come."

— Indira Naidoo-Harris, MPP, Halton

"We are committed to making sure hospitals have the resources and supports they need to meet the needs of growing and aging communities. With this historic investment, publicly funded hospitals can increase capacity, decrease wait times and improve access to care for families

across Ontario.”

— Dr. Helena Jaczek, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care

“This funding increase is excellent news for residents of Oakville and Halton Healthcare, and particularly for staff, patients and their families at our state-of-the-art Oakville Trafalgar Memorial Hospital. The government is committed to reducing wait times for all surgeries as well as time spent in hospital emergency rooms and this funding boost will help address these issues. In addition, it means that patients will have faster access to home-care services to help them recover and heal at home, where they and their families want them to be.”

— Kevin Flynn, MPP, Oakville

“Today’s announcement strengthens healthcare in Ontario and demonstrates the government’s commitment to Halton Healthcare. This substantial funding announcement will support us in meeting the demand for healthcare services in our growing communities. We thank the provincial government for this investment and for helping us to fulfill our vision of providing exemplary patient experiences, always.

—Denise Hardenne, President & CEO, Halton Healthcare

“The Mississauga Halton LHIN is home to one of the fastest growing seniors’ populations in the province, with an increasing number of people using hospital emergency departments and acute care services. It is crucial that health system partners come together to ensure that patients in hospital have access to timely care and essential services and procedures. This funding will help relieve capacity issues and help Halton Healthcare deliver high quality care to people in our region.”

— Bill MacLeod, CEO, Mississauga Halton LHIN

QUICK FACTS

- Halton Healthcare will receive \$27.58 million in additional funding in 2018–19 to expand essential services and priority procedures and reduce wait times.
- In February 2018, Ontario renewed its support to address increased need for hospital beds with a \$187 million investment in 2018–19 that further supports access to care and reduced wait times.
- Hospital operating funding in Ontario has increased by more than 65 per cent, from \$11.3 billion in 2003–04 to almost \$19 billion in 2018-19.
- The province invested an additional \$100 million in 2017–18 in home care supports and services.
- Ontario is creating 5,000 long-term care beds over the next four years and more than 30,000 over the next decade.
- Ontario is launching a historic expansion of mental health and addiction services, with the biggest provincial investment in Canadian history — an increase of \$2.1 billion over four years.

- Starting in August 2019, Ontario plans to make prescription drugs free for seniors through OHIP+ for seniors 65 and over, building on the province's biggest expansion of medicare in a generation that has already made prescription medications free for everyone under the age of 25.

LEARN MORE

[Speech from the Throne](#)

[Patients First: Action Plan for Health Care](#)

[OHIP+: Children and Youth Pharmacare](#)