
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

County to invest \$45 million in area hospitals

Midhurst/ March 27, 2018 – The County of Simcoe is investing \$45 million in area hospitals to support capital and redevelopment projects occurring between 2017 and 2031. Warden Gerry Marshall and members from County Council welcomed representatives from the Simcoe County Hospital Alliance (SCHA) on Tuesday, March 27, 2018 to make the 15-year pledge official.

The County's strong commitment to area hospitals is not a mandated investment. County Council has continued to show leadership in supporting area healthcare to help improve access to critical services and to transform the quality of care for residents. With this renewed pledge, the County has committed \$107 million over a 37-year period (1994-2031) to support area hospitals.

The SCHA was established in 2002. The SCHA Funding Policy was established to create a single and consistent point of contact and procedure for local hospitals to request capital funding from County of Simcoe municipalities and is intended to prevent duplicate or multiple requests. The SCHA is comprised of the hospitals serving Simcoe County residents (Collingwood General and Marine Hospital, Georgian Bay General Hospital, Orillia Soldiers' Memorial Hospital, Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre, Southlake Regional Health Centre, Stevenson Memorial Hospital and Waypoint Centre for Mental Health Care). The County of Simcoe General Manager of Health and Emergency Services sits as a member of the SCHA along with hospital CEOs.

A percentage of the \$45 million investment will be distributed annually with considerations given to County of Simcoe Paramedic Services offload times at each hospital.

QUOTES

"We have a long tradition of supporting our regional healthcare system and County Council has stepped up once again to help provide our hospitals with resources and supports to meet the needs of our growing and aging communities. Our hospitals have a direct impact on the social and economic well-being of our communities. We understand the challenges related to access, wait times and increasingly complex care needs of patients, and these funds are a direct investment in the quality of care our residents will receive for decades to come."

~ County of Simcoe Warden Gerry Marshall

"On behalf of the Hospital Alliance, I want to thank the County for their visionary leadership. We greatly appreciate the generous support you provide and your commitment to supporting access and excellence in healthcare services for the residents of Simcoe County."

~ Pat Campbell, Chair, Simcoe County Hospital Alliance and President & CEO, Orillia Soldiers' Memorial Hospital.

County of Simcoe is composed of sixteen member municipalities and provides crucial public services to County residents in addition to providing paramedic and social services to the separated cities of Barrie and Orillia. Visit our website at simcoe.ca.

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County Councillors welcomed representatives from the Simcoe County Hospital Alliance to announce the County of Simcoe's new 15 year \$45 million funding investment in area hospitals.