



**MEDIA RELEASE**  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **North Wellington Health Care and Groves Memorial Community Hospital – Focus on the Future**

The Boards for North Wellington Health Care (NWHC) and Groves Memorial Community Hospital (GMCH) recently met to discuss future planning for all three hospital sites.

NWHC Board were pleased to hear the Stage 4 plans for the Louise Marshall Hospital ER and Ambulatory Care expansion have now been submitted to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care for approval. "Stage 4, Working Drawings and Specifications, involves developing contracts, finalizing construction-ready plans, completing tender documentation, and updating project cost estimates." explains Steve Street, President and CEO of NWHC and GMCH. "We are pleased that our submission is within the budget established by the Ministry and look forward to receiving approval to tendering this project once the election is complete and the government returns to the house."

GMCH Board were happy to hear construction progress for the new Groves Hospital is on track. A series of new hospital mock-up rooms have been constructed inside a local warehouse to give staff a chance to see what the new hospital rooms will actually look like and share their input on the design. "Each mock-up is a full-size structural model made with the exact construction techniques and materials being used in the new Hospital." explains Street.

NWHC and GMCH capital equipment budgets were approved (totalling \$2.25 million) with key items being the replacement of digital X-ray machines and new infusion pumps to administer IV medications.

The Boards heard a presentation from a member of the new NWHC/GMCH Patient and Family Advisory Council (PFAC). "The Council includes Advisors who are current or former patients or family caregivers who have a lived experience with our organizations in the past two years." describes Street. "PFAC will partner with staff and physicians to provide direct input into areas which affect patient care and services, such as policies, programs or practices."

NWHC and GMCH Boards are embarking upon a joint strategic planning exercise this month and are reaching out to the community and partners to get feedback on how they can better serve our communities. Community members can help by completing a short survey available on either one of the hospital websites ([www.gmch.ca](http://www.gmch.ca) or [www.nwehealthcare.ca](http://www.nwehealthcare.ca))

Alison Armstrong  
Communications and Stakeholder Relations  
Wellington Health Care Alliance  
Groves Memorial Community Hospital | North Wellington Health Care  
519.843.2010 ext. 3352 | [aarmstrong@nwhealthcare.ca](mailto:aarmstrong@nwhealthcare.ca)

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