



## Deb Matthews MPP

London North Centre

### Ontario Improving Access to Care in London & Surrounding Area

*Province Increasing Investment in Hospitals to Support Patients and Families*

NEWS

December 16, 2016

Ontario is improving access to care and helping to reduce wait times for patients and families who rely on the delivery of high quality care in London and surrounding area.

Deb Matthews, MPP London North Centre was at the London Health Sciences Centre in London to celebrate the new investment. 18 hospitals in the South West region are receiving a total of \$10,761,200 additional funding this year to improve access to care and reduce the length of hospital stays for patients and families in London and the surrounding area.

This new investment from the province ensures that all public hospitals in Ontario have received, at a minimum, a two per cent increase to their base funding this year. Additional funding has been provided to hospitals to support population growth and changing health care needs in their communities.

Improving access to hospital services is part of the government's plan to build a better Ontario through its Patients First: Action Plan for Health Care, which provides patients with faster access to the right care; better home and community care; the information they need to live healthy; and a health care system that is sustainable for generations to come.

#### QUOTES

"I'm thrilled our government is putting patients first by increasing investments in our hospitals. We know how important health care is to Ontario families and this increase in funds will help patients continue to get the care they need when they need it."

– Deb Matthews, MPP London North Centre

"London Health Sciences Centre welcomes today's funding announcement. Providing both high-quality and timely access to health care is our top priority at LHSC, and this increased investment will help make a positive difference to our patients."

- Murray Glendining, President and CEO, London Health Sciences Centre

"We are pleased the Ontario Government and the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care have recognized the changing health care needs of our community. Ontario hospitals continue to balance the timely care of patients while ensuring fiscal accountability. This announcement assists with hospital and inflationary costs as we provide much needed care to those we serve." - Dr. Gillian Kernaghan, President and CEO, St. Joseph's Health Care London

"We are very proud of the care provided at our hospitals within the Erie St. Clair region. This increase in base funding will assist them in continuing to provide the timely, compassionate, and high-quality care that local residents need and expect."

-Ralph Ganter, Acting CEO, ESC LHIN

## QUICK FACTS

- Ontario is investing an additional \$140 million in public hospitals across the province to ensure that they continue to meet the growing needs of their local communities. This new funding builds on an increase of more than \$345 million for Ontario's hospitals as part of the 2016 Budget.
- There are 147 public hospitals in Ontario.
- Hospital funding in Ontario has increased more than 2 per cent, from \$17 billion in 2013-14 to \$17.4 billion in 2016-17.
- This year's \$51.8 billion health care budget is a 2.1 per cent increase over last year – greater than the rate of inflation.

## INCREASED FUNDING RECIPIENTS

- London Health Sciences Centre: \$2,770,400
- St. Joseph's Health Care, London: \$1,515,500
- St. Thomas - Elgin General Hospital: \$976,400
- Strathroy Middlesex General Hospital: \$430,100
- Wingham and District Hospital: \$121,200
- Sydenham District Hospital: \$107,300
- Hôtel-Dieu Grace Healthcare: \$48,400
- Leamington District Memorial Hospital: \$1,595,100
- Bluewater Health: \$524,100
- Windsor Regional Hospital: \$1,518,300
- Alexandra Marine & General Hospital: \$165,700
- Clinton Public Hospital: \$93,500
- Four Counties Health Services Corporation: \$ 84,400
- Seaforth Community Hospital: \$70,200
- South Bruce Grey Health Centre: \$305,500
- South Huron Hospital: \$71,300
- The Public General Hospital Society of Chatham: \$181,900
- St. Joseph's Health Services Association of Chatham Inc: \$181,900

## CONTACT

Sara Koyounian  
Special Assistant, Communications  
[dmatthews.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org](mailto:dmatthews.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org)  
519-432-7339