



NEWS RELEASE

\$80 Million to Help Develop New Vaughan Hospital Close to Reality

Vaughan – May 22, 2009 – The Vaughan Health Campus of Care applauds the City of Vaughan and its councilors for unanimously endorsing a Staff Report recommending the significant contribution of \$80 million towards the local share of developing the new hospital. The report will now be brought to the June 15th Council meeting for final approval.

“We are one step closer to realizing our goal,” said Michael DeGasperis, Chair of the Vaughan Health Campus of Care (VHCC) and the Vaughan Health Care Foundation (VHCF). “This is truly a momentous occasion. Vaughan Council, City Staff and community members should be commended for taking a leadership position to improve the health care resources for the residents of Vaughan.”

This approval was achieved based on the hard work of the VHCC, VHCF and the tremendous groundswell of community support for the Vaughan Hospital project.

The contribution represents 6.7% of the total estimated \$1.2 billion project cost. On April 27th the City’s Budget Committee also voted unanimously to receive the funding request and public deputations, and directed staff to bring forward a comprehensive report to last night’s meeting.

In June 2008, Vaughan City Council approved in principle a provision to make a substantial contribution for site acquisition and development of a new Vaughan hospital. This in itself followed numerous, and very well attended community consultations, held through the needs assessment process conducted in 2007 and 2008 by the Vaughan Health Campus of Care, the Central Local Health Integration Network and Deloitte Consulting.

“We have clearly and thoroughly presented detailed information at every juncture to Council and the community to help support the decision that was made last night,” added DeGasperis. “We are of course very pleased that Council agreed that supporting this funding request is a vitally important investment in the future health and wellbeing of our rapidly growing community.”

In October 2008, the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, the Honourable David Caplan, directed the Central Local Health Integration Network to proceed with the Master Program for the Vaughan Hospital Services. Working in conjunction with the Vaughan Health Campus of Care, the Master Program will identify the program and

service levels at the hospital. A site is required for the next phase, Master Planning, which identifies the potential layout for the facility, design, and full cost of development.

“We are committed to making the Vaughan Hospital a reality in the very near future,” said DeGasperis. “The City’s support allows us to maintain the momentum to achieve our objectives as soon as possible.”

The Government of Ontario provides hospital capital funding support for 90% of construction costs. As is the case in other cities, the local community is responsible for 100% of purchasing land and funding furniture, fixture and equipment costs.

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About the Vaughan Health Campus of Care:

The Vaughan Health Campus of Care is a not-for-profit organization established to ensure that new health services in the Vaughan community are coordinated, aimed at a common vision of integration, innovation and excellence in health services delivery and patient care. Responsible for the strategic establishment and coordination of health care services to serve the needs of the Vaughan community, the Vaughan Health Campus of Care is working with Government to secure approvals for additional health services, including a hospital to support its vision.

About the Vaughan Health Care Foundation:

In January 2003, a task force of community and civic leaders was struck to assess how best to bring additional health care resources to the community of Vaughan. This Task Force then formed The Vaughan Health Care Foundation, a volunteer-driven charity, in early 2004. Since its inception, the Foundation has been working tirelessly towards its mission – to engage the community and to raise funds to support the establishment of health care facilities and services, including a hospital, for the City of Vaughan.