

LAMBTON-KENT-MIDDLESEX



MONTE MCNAUGHTON, MPP



MEDIA RELEASE

Ontario Providing \$27 Million to Hospitals in Southwest
Eight Hospitals Receiving Additional Funding to Support Patient Care

NEWS

March 11, 2022

LONDON – The Ontario government is providing over \$27.2 million to eight hospitals in southwestern Ontario as part of its \$572.3 million investment to reimburse hospitals across the province for increased costs of caring for COVID-19 patients and lost revenue during the pandemic. The funding will provide financial stability and support continued access to high-quality patient care when it's needed and where it's needed. The London Health Sciences Centre, which is receiving nearly \$15 million, will be using the funds to mitigate additional costs from the past 24 months because of increased ICU capacity and the need to purchase ventilators and other critical equipment.

“Our hospitals are the foundation of the communities they serve, providing critical life-saving services to those who need it most,” said Monte McNaughton, MPP for Lambton-Kent-Middlesex. “Our government will continue to make historic investments in healthcare, so everyone has access to timely, quality care that is close to home.”

While hospitals face increased financial pressure because of rising costs associated with COVID-19, they are also dealing with the loss of revenue from retail operations, parking, and other services - all of which contribute to patient care and support clinical services. Today's funding is part of the government's investment of [over \\$1.2 billion](#) to help hospitals emerge from the pandemic stronger than ever.

“Ontario's hospitals have been on the frontlines of the COVID-19 pandemic and our government is using every tool at our disposal to ensure that they are supported,” said Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health. “This funding will help ease the financial pressure on hospitals so that they can continue to provide high-quality care and ensure our health care system is prepared to respond to any scenario.”

Since the start of the pandemic, Ontario has worked with its hospital partners to build unprecedented capacity and ensure that communities have access to quality care that is close to home. This includes a \$5.1 billion investment to add 3,100 beds across the province for a total of approximately 17,000 medical and surgical beds. As a result of these investments, Ontario also has over 2,400 adult and pediatric ICU beds.

“These last two years have been a time of challenge and sacrifice, for healthcare workers, and for our community. COVID-19 has put additional strain on our daily operations, including

redeploying our staff to high need areas, adopting virtual care, and expanding our business to help with vaccination and assessment,” said Dr. Jackie Schleifer Taylor, President and CEO of London Health Sciences Centre. “These measures required investments to allow our health-care teams to meet the needs of our community. We're appreciative of the government’s recognition of this fact, as represented by this investment. We look forward to working closely together with the government to ensure we continue to provide exceptional patient-centric care.”

FUNDING AMOUNTS

Chatham-Kent Health Alliance	\$ 2,303,679
Erie Shores Healthcare	\$ 630,302
Four Counties Health Services	\$ 112,948
Hotel-Dieu Grace Healthcare	\$ 1,091,056
London Health Sciences Centre	\$ 14,902,189
Strathroy Middlesex General	\$ 471,343
St. Joseph’s Health Care London	\$ 2,463,329
Windsor Regional Hospital	\$5,322,882.00

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- [Ontario Supporting Hospitals with Additional Funding During COVID-19](#)
- [Improving Health Care in Ontario](#)
- [Hallway Health Care: A System Under Strain](#)
- Visit Ontario’s [COVID-19 vaccine web page](#) to view the latest provincial data and information on COVID-19 vaccines.
- Visit Ontario’s COVID-19 information [website](#) to learn more about how the province continues to protect the people of Ontario from the virus.

MEDIA CONTACT

Harry Godfrey
Phone: 437 231 4063
E-Mail: Harry.Godfrey@ontario.ca

John Fraser
Phone: 519 245 8696
E-Mail: john.fraser@pc.ola.org