

### For Immediate Release

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### Midwifery services at Milton District Hospital give expectant moms more care options

**(Milton, ON)** – Halton Healthcare has recently expanded its midwifery program to include deliveries at Milton District Hospital (MDH). This expanded obstetrical service will provide expectant mothers and their families with a greater range of options in maternal newborn care at MDH.

“This is a very exciting time for expectant mothers and our community as we continue to see an increasing number of babies born in Milton,” said Dr. Jane Wilkinson, MDH Associate Chief of Staff. “With the expanded midwifery program, as well as the new clinical programs and services coming this fall post-expansion, expectant mothers can look forward to many more maternal newborn care options.”

In the past, Milton women who chose a midwife attended birth had to leave their community to deliver their babies in other hospitals. Halton Healthcare introduced midwifery services at Oakville Trafalgar Memorial Hospital in 1997 and at Georgetown Hospital in 2010. Midwifery services at MDH will be provided by midwives who are currently credentialed by Halton Healthcare from Community Midwives of Halton.

Milton resident Katherine Taylor, six months pregnant, is very pleased about the fact that she can now have her baby at MDH, under the care of a midwife, instead of having to travel to another local hospital.

“I just assumed that I would be travelling to Oakville Trafalgar Memorial Hospital to have my second child but I love the idea of having my baby right here in Milton,” said Mrs. Taylor. “Given how quickly my first son was delivered, this is a much better option for me.”

### Milton District Hospital’s expansion

The new Maternal Newborn Department will have expanded capacity and additional services to better meet the needs of the growing community.

“The new space has been very well thought out and designed to meet the needs of the community,” continued Dr. Wilkinson. “In addition to the expanded bed capacity we will be adding new services including a dedicated Operative Birthing Suite for planned and emergency caesarean births and the addition of a Level 2A Special Care Nursery with capacity for six bassinets to care for babies who need extra support and monitoring. The nursery will allow us to deliver babies up to six weeks early, including twins.”

Milton District Hospital's expansion will add 330,000 sq. ft. of new patient-centred space, more than tripling the size of the hospital and doubling its inpatient beds. Construction is expected to be complete in the spring of 2017, opening to patients in the fall.

"This is a very exciting time in the history of our hospital and our community," said Janet Skupsky, MDH Chief Operating Officer. "The added space, new design and advanced technologies that this expansion will bring will help us meet the needs of our growing community, and most-importantly, will enable us to do so in a way that is distinctively patient and family-centred."

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*Architectural rendering of a room in the new Maternal Newborn Department at MDH provided by Plenary Health Milton*