



Article For Release

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Minister of Health Visits Milton District Hospital (MDH): April 19, 2012

Halton Healthcare Services (HHS) welcomed the Honourable Deb Matthews, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care to Milton District Hospital (MDH) on Thursday, April 19, 2012 for a brief visit. The Minister toured the hospital's Complex Continuing Care Unit to learn about the hospital's many patient and staff safety initiatives.

Highlights of the tour included HHS' Safer Elder Care, Falls Prevention, and Wound Care Programs along with demonstration of the hospital's Minimal Lift that is featured on the CCC Unit. She also learned about HHS' ConnectCare Program, which is an emergency response service to assist individuals with independent living and home safety. Numerous other initiatives were also discussed such as Patient Safety Expo, which is a one day expo that showcases over 50 HHS quality-safety initiatives.

Minister Matthews listened attentively to staff as they explained the many patient safety practices, asked lots of questions, engaged staff in discussions, and praised them for their outstanding efforts. She also took the time to stop and talk to the volunteers at the Hospital's National Volunteer Week display and thank them for all their invaluable work throughout the year. Before leaving MDH, the Minister of Health reiterated her steadfast support for the expansion of MDH.

Originally built to serve a population of 32,000, MDH currently serves a rapidly growing community of approximately 100,000 in its 125,000 square foot facility. On August 25, 2011, an expansion plan was approved for the hospital. On April 5, 2012 HHS received a \$22.5 million grant from the Province for the planning and design work required for the 320,000 square-foot expansion which will more than triple the size of the existing facility.

"This planning investment reconfirmed that this project is a definitely on track," remarked John Oliver, HHS President and CEO. "We look forward to working with the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and its community partners to ensure this project proceeds as scheduled."

Picture: Left to Right:

Bill Bailey, Vice President, Redevelopment; Honourable Deb Matthews, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care; Denise Hardenne, HHS Executive Vice President; Dr. Jane Wilkinson, HHS Associate Chief of Staff and Acting Co-Chief of Surgery; Indira Naidoo, Liberal Candidate; Duncan MacIntyre, MH LHIN Board of Director

