

## PATH OF PROGRESS



Main Building, New Heather Pavilion, Willow Extension. Opened January 1906. (Left) Nurses Old Home, 1907 Eastern half of the building on the corner of 12th and Heather completed, 1908 Western half finished. Vacated in 1909 when new residences on Heather and 12th built. (Right of Main Building) Military Annex, Opened officially in 1917 by Lieutenant Governor Sir Frank Bannerman. Its use for returned soldiers ceased in 1919 and was used Overseas Club for a period of purposes. Demolished September 18, 1950. (Right Front) Power House, 1912 moved to southeast corner of 12th and Willow from where the central wing of the main building now stands. (Reverse Right) Laundry, built and put in use around September 1914. Closed, as Laundry in 1966. Retain and used as a locker room. (Lower Right) Infectious Disease Cottages, Erected on north side of 12th Avenue between Willow and Laurel 1915. Banned in 1927.

## Building for Health

A picture is worth a thousand words. Last winter, we asked hospitals to submit both “old” and “new” pictures of their buildings. From humble beginnings to world leadership; from tents to multi-storey buildings – healthcare has come a long way. These photographs document the evolution of healthcare all across Canada.

Take a look at the story of Canada through the lens of healthcare. Find out how far we have travelled on this path of progress and where we are headed?



### Vancouver General Hospital Vancouver, BC

Established in 1886 by the Canadian Pacific Railway, Vancouver General Hospital (VGH) began as a nine-bed tent hospital. In 1902, the current site of VGH was purchased for \$5,500. In 1906, VGH's Heather Pavilion was erected and 47 patients were admitted to what has now evolved into a tertiary-quaternary research academic centre with 580 inpatient beds and numerous outpatient services. VGH serves as a community and provincial referral centre.



### Red Deer Regional Hospital Centre Red Deer, AB

The Red Deer Regional Hospital Centre (RDRHC) turned 100 in April this year. What started as the 13-bed Red Deer Memorial Hospital in 1904 has grown over the years into a 373-bed regional hospital boasting a 44-bed emergency, a vast array of outpatient services, the latest diagnostic imaging equipment and a 100-bed long-term care centre.



**Sunnybrook & Women's College Health Sciences Centre, Sunnybrook Campus Toronto, ON**

The roots of Sunnybrook began to take shape in 1928, when Alice M. Kilgour donated the Sunnybrook Farm to the City of Toronto in memory of her husband, Joseph Kilgour, for use as a public park. In

1943, with the consent of the Kilgour heirs, the parkland was transferred to the Government of Canada to build a hospital for Veterans. In 1948, Sunnybrook Veterans Hospital opened as the largest Veterans hospital in Canada. The hospital stands as a symbol of the nation's gratitude to its war veterans.

Sunnybrook and Women's College Health Sciences Centre (Sunnybrook & Women's) is the amalgamation of three of health care organizations – the Orthopaedic and Arthritic Hospital, Sunnybrook Health Science Centre and Women's College Hospital. It was created by a Special Act of Legislation in June 1998 and is fully affiliated with the University of Toronto.



**Mount Sinai Hospital Toronto, ON**

In May 1922 a group of Jewish women known as the Ezras Noshem purchased a three-storey brick building at 100 Yorkville Street and formed the Toronto Jewish Maternity and Convalescent Hospital. On October 17, 1923, the 32-bed hospital took on a broader mandate, and was renamed Mount Sinai Hospital.

In 1951, construction began on what would become New Mount Sinai Hospital. Located at 550 University Avenue, the facility was state-of-the-art for its time and comprised 12 storeys, 350 beds, 86 bassinets and a price tag of more than \$7 million.

On June 26, 1973, Queen Elizabeth and Prince Phillip officially opened the 18-storey, 90,000-square-foot facility at 600 University Avenue, on the site formerly occupied by the old Alexandra Palace Hotel. Although the principal site of Mount Sinai Hospital remains at 600 University, the hospital continues to expand.



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### **Toronto Western Hospital Toronto, ON**

In 1894, 12 doctors signed a pledge on a prescription pad to create Toronto Western Hospital to serve residents of the city's west end. The hospital opened first as a public dispensary, and then grew into 30 beds

operating out of two rented houses on Manning Avenue. In 1899, the hospital moved to a farmhouse located at what is now the corner of Bathurst Street and Dundas Street, where patients were treated under large tents while the hospital was under construction. In 1905, the hospital opened year-round. Today, the hospital occupies a full city block and is home to the Krembil Neuroscience Centre, a world leader in the neural and sensory sciences.



Photographer: Brenda Hill



### **Windsor Regional Hospital Windsor, ON**

Metropolitan General Hospital opened March 15, 1928 in Walkerville, Ontario. The Hospital began with 115 adult beds and 20 bassinets. Total cost of construction was \$638,641. A major expansion

occurred in 1974 with the construction of an eight-story tower.

Today the Metropolitan Campus of Windsor Regional Hospital is in the final stages of one of the largest construction projects in Ontario. The project will see over 75,000 new square feet added along with over 320,000 square feet of renovated space. The total cost of construction is estimated at \$101 million.



### **Port Colborne General Hospital Niagara Health System Port Colborne, ON**

Port Colborne General Hospital opened in 1952 on the shores of Lake Erie, offering acute services with 50 beds, and today features 60 beds plus New Port Centre, a 35-bed substance abuse program, which opened in 1988. In 2003, Northland Pointe, a Niagara Regional LTC facility, was built adjoining the hospital.



**Welland Hospital  
Niagara Health System  
Welland, ON**

Welland Hospital started as a 10-bed private home in 1905, and in 1909, a 30-bed hospital was built. Despite numerous expansions, by the 1950s the hospital was filled to capacity, and in 1960 a new hospital was constructed with 259 beds. Today, Welland Hospital has 239 active beds plus an adjoining 75-bed LTC facility.



**St. Peter's Hospital  
Hamilton, ON**

Founded in 1890 by Reverend Thomas Geoghegan, St. Peter's opened as a 14-bed home for people who required chronic care. St. Peter's has evolved into a 250-bed chronic care hospital providing inpatient, outpatient, community-based programs and services for older adults and the chronically ill. In addition to providing complex care at St. Peter's Hospital, St. Peter's is also responsible for managing complex care beds at Hamilton Health Sciences and St. Joseph's Healthcare.

**Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario (CHEO)**

**Ottawa, ON**

CHEO officially opened its doors on May 17, 1974 after more than a decade of community efforts and, advocating for a unique children's hospital in Eastern Ontario. Today it is a 156-bed hospital. As a teaching hospital, CHEO is affiliated with the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Ottawa and through its Research Institute conducts leading-edge research in child and youth illnesses. The hospital has gone through many transformations, including the addition of a new wing that opened in September 2003.



## PATH OF PROGRESS



### **St. Martha's Hospital Guysborough Antigonish Strait Health Authority Antigonish, NS**

A rented cottage on West Street in Antigonish, with six beds, and operating room and a kitchen, constituted St. Martha's Hospital in June 1906 when it first opened its doors. The hospital was staffed by two nurses with Sister M. Remegius as Superior. During the first year of its existence, the six-bed hospital admitted 117 patients.

In 1911, Harris House was purchased by a group of interested citizens on behalf of the Sisters and the hospital was expanded to hold 20 beds. St. Martha's Hospital School of Nursing was opened the same year.

In 1926 a brick building was built at a cost of \$325,000 and Harris House was converted into a residence for Sisters and nursing students. In 1989 a new building was built with a 175-bed capacity. St. Martha's Regional Hospital now operates 75 acute-care beds including a 13-bed Geriatric Assessment and Rehabilitation Unit and an 8-bed Mental Health In-patient Unit. In addition, there is a 5-bed Department of Veterans Affairs Unit.



## On the path ...



### **Bridgepoint Health Toronto, ON**

One of the most important mid-19th-century public buildings constructed in Toronto, the Don Jail, is a landmark in the Riverdale neighbourhood. Bridgepoint Health – its neighbour – hopes to expand its facilities into a renewed version of this familiar sight. It would provide “Father Time” a new lease on life.



Photos by Christina Hale.

Our next photofeature takes a look at creative and innovative technologies in healthcare. Whether it is biotechnology, mobile-technology, robotics, intelligent devices or biomedical engineering; share with us your latest innovations. For more details and information on our next photofeature, feel free to contact Rashi Sharma at [rsharma@longwoods.com](mailto:rsharma@longwoods.com)