New Acute Care Tower Planning Underway!
The Ministry of Health has given the green light for Richmond Hospital to develop a Business Plan for the new Acute Care Tower. This state-of-the-art, eight floor facility will replace the North Tower and be located where the Rotunda and Park Centre currently sit. It adds 108 new beds to our current bed base, for a total of 216 single-occupancy rooms and will include a number of clinical services and supports (see sidebar for details).

“This is an exciting time for our community as we plan for the future” said Jennifer MacKenzie, Chief Operating Officer, Richmond Community of Care. “This new facility, paired with additional, innovative service improvements, will help meet the diverse needs of our growing and aging population to ensure quality, safety and culturally sensitive care.”

The North Tower, built in 1964, does not meet current standards or have capacity to meet the future needs of the community. It is slated for demolition after the new Acute Care Tower is complete in 2026. Programs and services currently in the Rotunda and Park Centre will be relocated by 2020 to allow for the Tower development. Details of these relocations will be determined concurrently with the Business Plan work.

Clinical Engagement Sessions Planned
The Acute Care Tower Concept Plan, approved in March 2018, reflects the current and long term needs of the community and is aligned with provincial priorities for improved access to primary, community and residential care services. The Business Plan will provide more detail on clinical and functional needs, requiring critical input from staff and physicians.

Approximately 20 clinical engagement sessions will take place in July and August. These sessions will seek input from clinical, diagnostic and logistical support teams to guide the development of the Integrated Clinical Service Plan and Functional Program for the new Tower. Representatives from the teams will also participate in an August workshop to consider workflow across the campus.

This collaborative approach and comprehensive planning process will follow best practice design principles and aim to address priorities for quality care, infection control, and efficiency. The Richmond Hospital Foundation is a significant partner in this project through its commitment of $40 million towards the new Acute Care Tower, which will benefit our entire community.

Anticipated Project Scope
- 8 floors
- 216 beds
- Single occupancy rooms, with private bathrooms

Medical-Surgical Services
- Acute Medicine Inpatient Unit (IPU)
- Acute Surgical IPU
- Perioperative Services
- Ambulatory Surgical Services

Diagnostic/Clinical Support
- Medical Device Reprocessing Department
- Biomedical Engineering
- Morgue

Logistical Support
- Laundry/Housekeeping
- In-hospital Replenishment/Logistics & Receiving/Warehouse

Project Timeline
The following activities will take place over the next 18 – 24 months:
- Business Plan development
- Stakeholder engagement
- Confirm design

2021
- Decanting & Construction

2026
- Construction Complete

2028
- North Tower Demolition