Richmond Hospital Redevelopment  
Project Update: October 2018

Consultation informs high level design for new Acute Care Tower

Replacing aging, out-dated infrastructure with a modern new Acute Care Tower (ACT) at Richmond Hospital is a multi-year, multi-phased project. Current planning is focused on the high level design requirements that will help determine a high-level cost estimate for this state-of-the-art facility.

This work requires ongoing consultation with staff and physicians as the project team determines the location, adjacencies, and size of departments and services within the building, as per the functional program that was finalized in September.

“We’re continuing the journey that is already well underway,” said Knut Boeck, Principal, dys Architecture. “This is not the final design. We have a few options to consider and cost-out for approval before we move on to the detailed design phase.”

All of this information will be included in the design report prepared as part of the Business Plan and submitted to the Ministry of Health for final approval next year. The ministry will then consider the options presented so that a decision can be made with respect to the final design parameters.

Phased Approach
There are many elements to be considered as planning moves forward. Changes will unfold in phases, with everything fitting together to ensure a smooth transition as we prepare for and progress with construction.

- **Phase 1** – relocate appropriate services to the Community Health Access Centre (CHAC) to free-up space within the acute care campus.
- **Phase 2** – onsite relocation as acute care services are moved within the campus to accommodate construction.
- **Phase 3** – construction of new tower to accommodate demolition of the North Tower.

Maintaining connections to nature
The ACT design will recognize the value of connecting to nature as a key element in health and wellness. The new facility will maximize opportunities to bring in natural light by using more glass and creating courtyards and corridors to provide visual and physical access to nature.

Improving flows
Design strategies will improve wayfinding so those visiting the ACT can easily orient themselves and get to where they need to go. Public access will be minimized to back-of-house areas, such as Biomed, PACU, the sterile core, and other areas. This will address priorities for infection control and improved flow of staff, supplies, and equipment.

Technology solutions enhance care and communication
A hospital for the future requires leading-edge technology and a design that supports ongoing innovation. Recent engagement sessions involving physicians, acute care managers, and directors, considered technology solutions that support care and safety, improve efficiency, and enhance the hospital experience for patients and staff. A wide range of technologies were discussed, including virtual health solutions, digital wayfinding, and real-time location systems that can track patients and equipment. Feedback from these engagement sessions will be summarized and presented to the Senior Leadership Team later this fall.