

For Immediate Release
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CONSTRUCTION PROGRESSES ON ROUGE VALLEY HEALTH SYSTEM'S AJAX AND PICKERING HOSPITAL

AJAX – Wayne Arthurs, MPP Pickering-Scarborough East, Joe Dickson, MPP Ajax-Pickering and hospital officials today toured the construction site and renovated facilities at the Rouge Valley Ajax and Pickering Hospital. This redevelopment project will increase the size of the hospital, allowing for new and expanded services.

“It’s exciting to see progress in another healthcare expansion project,” said MPP Arthurs. “This important project will benefit the residents of Ajax and Pickering and I am delighted to see it moving along at such an impressive rate.”

“The completion of these renovated areas demonstrates the positive steps underway to meet the province's objectives for improved healthcare delivery,” said MPP Dickson. “The redevelopment and expansion of the Ajax-Pickering Hospital is a testament to this province-wide initiative.”

Rouge Valley’s Ajax and Pickering Hospital outpatient mental health unit is complete and has been treating patients since June 2008. A new south parking lot, registration and admitting areas have also been completed.

Over the next approximately 18 months, Aecon Buildings will complete renovations to the hospital and construction of a new wing which accommodate emergency services and complex continuing care.

The redevelopment of Rouge Valley’s Ajax and Pickering Hospital began in November 2007 and is expected to be completed in fall 2010.

Highlights of the Rouge Valley Ajax and Pickering Hospital project include:

- A new emergency department;
- A new ambulatory care unit for outpatient clinic visits, a fracture clinic, outpatient procedures, medical day care and pre-admit visits;
- A new laboratory;
- A complex-continuing care unit with capacity for 30 beds; and
- Redesigned space for the diagnostic imaging and cardiac diagnostic areas.

The Rouge Valley Ajax and Pickering Hospital is part of Renew Ontario’s \$30-billion plus infrastructure investment plan.

“This major redevelopment of emergency and related services for our patients is a great example of the investments in the Ajax and Pickering hospital campus by Rouge Valley – thanks to the provincial government, local leaders and the community,” said Rik Ganderton, President and Chief Executive Officer, Rouge Valley Health System. “We are grateful to Infrastructure Ontario, the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, the Region of Durham, our team of staff, physicians, auxiliary, foundation and community leaders and volunteers at Rouge Valley for their continued support.”

Infrastructure Ontario and the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care are working with the Rouge Valley Health System to redevelop the Ajax and Pickering Hospital, which will remain publicly owned, publicly controlled and publicly accountable. Infrastructure Ontario is a Crown corporation dedicated to managing some of the province's larger and more complex infrastructure renewal projects -- ensuring they are built on time and on budget.

Visit www.infrastructureontario.ca for more information.

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