

The beat goes on at RVH

We hear in the news every day that hospitals across Ontario are posting deficits, cutting programs and reducing staff to balance their budgets, but the momentum of growth and redevelopment continues at RVH.

In the 2016–17 fiscal year, investments have been given priority to enhance patient care and services. Upgraded equipment and technology, and updated infrastructure will help to ensure quality health care in our community into the future.

Did you know?

- RVH posted its 26th consecutive balanced budget in the 2015–16 fiscal year?

“This is such an exciting time for our hospital. For our patients, you will continue to see numerous changes to our facility. Virtually every part of our hospital will be touched by these significant investments. From replacement of essential clinical equipment like our CT unit to our new heating system, we are committed to making sure our staff and physicians have the equipment they need to provide quality care. I hope the community shares in the excitement and satisfaction in knowing these investments are made to make sure we stay current and are only possible as a result of the financial support we enjoy.”

— Randy Penney, President & CEO, Renfrew Victoria Hospital

Here we grow again

RVH is leading the way to help secure the future of healthcare for Renfrew and the surrounding area for years to come.

With the current clinic full to capacity, construction began this fall on a state-of-the-art medical professional building to help attract doctors to our town. The new clinic will offer the latest equipment, technology, and work environment to benefit both the physicians and their patients. Two new physicians are already scheduled to move in after completion in 2017.

“Our new medical professional building is all about the future. Similar to previous investments in this area, the hospital is committing a significant portion of our reserves to this project to ensure we have office space to attract new physicians to the area. Our experience has demonstrated that new physicians want to be on our campus and have access to all the amenities we enjoy. The new space will accommodate up to 10 new physicians, a new expanded space for our community Lab partner, Gamma Dynacare, our retail operations for Sleep Products, and we look forward to welcoming chiropractic Drs Annie Gervais and Shawn Bulger.”

— Randy Penney, President & CEO, RVH

“I have no doubt this new clinic will help with recruiting new physicians to the community, along with all of the other wonderful things Renfrew and RVH has to offer.”

— Dr. Steve Radke, RVH Chief of Staff

“RVH has a very dedicated, proactive board and management team. They are the reason we see such incredible facilities and programs rising up on our campus, all focused on providing the best possible healthcare experience for our patients and their families.”

— Keanan Stone, Chair, RVH Board of Directors



Construction of a new 18,500 square-foot medical professional building and an adjacent 75-vehicle parking lot began this fall on the RVH campus. It will accommodate up to 10 physicians as well as other health care professionals.

Did you know?

- The Town of Renfrew is partnering with RVH to build a road to provide access to the new medical building from Highway 60. The road will link to the Renfrew Victoria Hospital campus, Bonnechere Manor, Groves Park Lodge, Quail Creek Retirement Residence, and Renfrew Hospice to improve traffic flow. Emergency preparedness in the community will also be improved by the alternate route for fire, ambulance, police and other emergency services.

Integrated information system

Technology and shared information systems have become integral to the effective administration of hospitals and allow health care providers to do their jobs more efficiently.

As part of a process with The Ottawa Hospital, The Ottawa Heart Institute, University of Ottawa Family Health Team, and Hawkesbury General Hospital, RVH is participating in the selection of a new, integrated Health Information System (HIS).

Main corridor modernization

We're often not at our best when we come to the hospital as a patient, visitor or volunteer. The goal of the main corridor renovation is to make the experience better starting at our front entrance. The renovations will include a new ceiling, lighting and bulkheads, handrails, paint, new doors, floors, and signage to help find your way.



“The refurbishment of the main corridor supports our mission ‘to provide the best possible health care experience for our patients and their families.’ The changes will positively impact wayfinding, accessibility, and safety.”

— Chris Ferguson, Vice President of Patient Care Services

Updating equipment in our Diagnostic Imaging Department

Access to the most current diagnostic imaging technology close to home reduces stress and uncertainty for patients. The RVH Medical Imaging Department is involved in several projects to ensure that our patients have access to state-of-the-art diagnostic equipment in our community.

The process has been initiated to replace the current 14-year-old fluoroscopy suite with a new digital/fluoroscopy/C-Arm suite. This new technology will allow fluoroscopy/digital radiography to be carried out at virtually any angle with minimal patient movement, which will allow us to continue with our conventional fluoroscopic studies, but also opens the door to increase the amount of interventional procedures we will be able to perform for patients closer to home.

Did you know?

- In 2015–16 RVH provided **more than 37,000** diagnostic examinations (ECG, X-Ray, BMD, OBSP, Mammo, Ultrasound, Echo and CT)

Aging portable x-ray is also being replaced with a new digital portable radiography system. Portable x-rays are performed at a patient's bed or stretcher where it is safer or much more convenient than transporting the patient to the Medical Imaging Department. This new portable will eliminate the use of bulky cassettes, instead using wireless detectors.

“The system will interface directly with our Picture Archiving Communications system (PACs) so that portable images will be sent directly from the portable unit to PACs, thereby eliminating several steps and making the imaging process much more efficient and less cumbersome for the patient,” says Phil Crozier, RVH Diagnostic Imaging Lead.

RVH is also upgrading from the GE 64 slice CT scanner to a GE 128 slice Revolution - EVO scanner. The current 64 slice scanner, when purchased in 2009, did not offer the option of low-dose CT Imaging. This became available at a later date at significant cost.

The new 128-slice scanner comes with ASIR-V low-dose software that can reduce the dose of certain CT scans by up to 82%. The new scanner also provides better resolution, artifact reduction, less image noise and streak artefact and dose watch explorer.

With the new CT scanner, RVH has been invited by The Ottawa Hospital (TOH) and Cancer Care



Ontario to participate in a pilot three-year lung cancer screening project for populations at high risk of developing lung cancer as the designated Ottawa Valley site.

“This project participation is another advantage of having the low-dose software, as well as our collaboration with TOH for reporting of our medical imaging. All these projects enhance our abilities to provide top-notch patient care at the lowest dose achievable,” notes Crozier.

Bigger, brighter patient rooms

Recognizing that a safe and comfortable environment is of paramount importance in the healing process, we are renovating patient rooms on the second and third floor inpatient areas. This includes conversion of the former pharmacy area into modern patient rooms.

“The benefits are larger washrooms for mobility, handwashing dedicated sinks for staff to ensure best practices for infection control, patient lifts in every room, brighter colors, bigger rooms to ensure there is space for wheelchairs, etc. All contributions to patient, staff and physician safety.”

—Patricia Murphy, Nurse Manager,
Complex Continuing Care/Corporate Educator



Did you know?

- Second and third floor nursing areas were originally designed in 1920?

New face on the RVH campus



RVH and the Renfrew & Area Health Services Village is happy to welcome Patricia Dillabough as our new physician recruiter.

Fall paving project



The parking lot adjacent to the front and side of the 500 Raglan Street clinic building, including the sidewalks and extending down to the loading dock, was repaved this fall.

The boiler project

Our 1992 vintage high pressure steam boilers have been assessed by engineers from the Ministry and deemed to be nearing the end of their service lifetime. Replacement has been recommended and work is scheduled to begin in spring 2017.

The existing boiler plant consists of three 125HP high pressure steam boilers, one of which serves as a 100% back up. The plant supplies steam to the original hospital and the 2001 Ambulatory Services addition. The steam is used directly in the laundry and kitchen, for sterilization of equipment and steam-to-water heat exchangers for space and water heating.

The condensate tanks will also be replaced during this project as they are the same vintage and at the same time, there some related equipment will be relocated to improve accessibility.

“The upgrades happening to the basement boiler room will help to improve overall energy efficiency of the heating and cooling system that services the main hospital building. This complex project is expected to be completed by the end of September.”

—Jamie Cobus, RVH Director of Plant Operations



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