



Teresa Piruzza, MPP
Windsor West

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

NEW CANCER CARE SERVICES FUNDED IN WINDSOR-ESSEX

Ontario will fund a new Regional Comprehensive Men's Health Program

March 7, 2014

(WINDSOR) – Ontario is stepping up the fight against prostate cancer in Windsor-Essex through funding for a first-class men's health program that will allow more men to receive surgical care in their home community.

The Regional Comprehensive Men's Health Program (RCMHP) will result in earlier detection of prostate cancer, decrease wait times if prostate cancer is diagnosed, reduce wait times to effective treatment options, help attract and retain the best clinical leaders in the world, and begin to repatriate cases back to the Erie St. Clair LHIN from elsewhere in Ontario, allowing residents to get cancer care closer to home.

This new program will provide a one-stop-shop for men suffering urological disorders, bringing together: urologists, radiologists, oncologists, pathologists, and surgeons under one program. It will be housed at Windsor Regional Hospital's Met campus, modeled after the successful Women's Breast Health Centre and Lung Diagnostic & Assessment Program.

The funding comes at a critical time when the Windsor & Essex County Cancer Centre Foundation nears their fundraising target. The Foundation is raising millions of dollars for high-performance laboratory technology and the renowned Da Vinci Surgical Assisting Robot, which will allow prostate cancer patients to receive less invasive and less painful surgery that results in a quicker recovery and improved urinary continence and erectile function following surgery.

Ontario's Action Plan for Health Care is part of the government's economic plan to invest in people, build modern infrastructure and support a dynamic and innovative business climate.

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QUOTES

“I know how important cancer care services are to our region, which is why I remain committed to protecting and expanding them locally. With this funding Ontario will be expanding cancer care services through a new Regional Comprehensive Men’s Health program at Windsor Regional Hospital.”

— Hon. Teresa Piruzza, MPP for Windsor West

“This is a game changer for our region. Back in 2009, as a team, we created the vision to create a Comprehensive Men’s Health Program. The government made a promise in 2011 to operationally fund the program on the condition the community supported the programs capital needs. The Windsor-Essex Cancer Centre Foundation and our community stepped up to the plate to support that campaign. I have to thank Minister Piruzza for fulfilling a promise that will result in the early detection of cancer and also the timely treatment if diagnosed with better outcomes.”

— David Musyj, CEO, Windsor Regional Hospital

“Ensuring that people, in this case men, across Erie St. Clair have timely access to specialized cancer care services is important. As a prostate cancer survivor, I’m pleased that the Erie St. Clair LHIN was able to advocate for improving cancer services for our residents.”

— Gary Switzer, CEO, Erie St. Clair LHIN

"When we travel the world to talk to my colleagues about the most recent advances in urological care we are continually asked about developments with our Men’s Health Program. We have many individuals wanting to be a part of what we are creating in Windsor. To have this vision become reality places Windsor Regional Hospital firmly on the map as a centre for Men’s Health for the benefit our LHIN.

— Drs. Tom Deklaj and Ron Sorenson, Head of Urology, Windsor Regional Hospital, Ouellette and Met Campus

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QUICK FACTS

- Ottawa is the only other Ontario community with a comprehensive Men's Health Program.
- On June 8th, 2012, Windsor and Essex County Cancer Care Foundation announced its \$4 million capital campaign for the CMHP called "It's in Your Jeans"
- The incidence rate in the Erie St. Clair Region for Prostate, Urinary and/or Bladder cancers has increased from 679 in 2008 to 835 in 2013 (per 100,000 people).
- Prostate cancer is ranked first in Canada in terms of the number of new cases among all male cancers (25,500 of 89,300 cases or 28.6%).
- 1 in 7 men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer in Canada.
- Currently more than 50% of prostate and nearly 40% of genitourinary surgery cases is completed outside of the Erie St. Clair region.
- WRH will be the 25th hospital in Canada to use the Da Vinci Surgical Assisting Robot. This sophisticated technology enables urologists to perform prostate surgery through tiny incisions no bigger than a dime, using nimble instruments the diameter of a pencil.
- Teresa Piruzza successfully intervened to protect Windsor Regional Hospital's Thoracic Cancer Program in November 2013.

LEARN MORE

- Windsor & Essex County Cancer Centre Foundation's ["In Your Jeans" campaign](#)
- Ontario's Action Plan for Health Care [Year Two Progress Report](#)
- [Ontario's Action Plan for Health Care](#)

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