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MCGUINTY GOVERNMENT INVESTS IN BETTER HOSPITAL FACILITIES IN TRENTON
Provides \$689,000 More Toward Hospital Redevelopment

TRENTON - The McGuinty government is providing Quinte Health Care with \$689,000 toward the increased costs of the hospital's redevelopment project at the Trenton site, Health and Long-Term Care Minister George Smitherman announced today.

"We are on the side of Ontario families who want the best health care, including quality hospital care," said Smitherman. "The increased funding we're announcing today means there will be even better hospital facilities to serve the needs of Trenton area residents."

The additional funding for the hospital's redevelopment project are attributed to costs for eligible furnishings and equipment and design changes related to additional infection control measures. The government is now providing up to \$15 million toward the overall cost of the hospital redevelopment on the Trenton site.

"The new hospital in Trenton is a state-of-the-art facility," said Bruce Laughton, CEO of Quinte Health Care. "This funding ensures the new facility features the latest in infection control technology, leading to better care for our patients."

Quinte Health Care's Trenton site capital project includes the redevelopment of complex continuing care, diagnostic imaging, pharmacy, and support services. The site was officially opened this spring.

This is just the latest example of the McGuinty government commitment to quality hospital care. Other initiatives include:

- Increasing operating grant funding to hospitals to \$12.9 billion in 2006/07, \$13.4 billion in 2007/08, and \$14 billion in 2008/09
- Reducing wait times for five key health care services (hip and knee joint replacement, cataract surgeries, MRI exams, cancer surgeries and cardiac procedures) with a recent investment of \$222.5 million
- Issuing Requests for Proposals for 11 new hospital projects in 2006/07 worth \$2 billion.

"Our government has a vision of a health care system that will help keep Ontarians healthier, get them good care when they are sick, and that will be there for their children and grandchildren," said Northumberland MPP Lou Rinaldi. "Upgrading and modernizing our hospitals is critical to making that vision a reality."

Today's initiative is part of the McGuinty government's plan for innovation in public health care,

building a system that delivers on three priorities - keeping Ontarians healthy, reducing wait times and providing better access to doctors and nurses.

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