## News Release Communiqué



Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care

Ministère de la Santé et des Soins de longue durée

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## UPGRADING ONTARIO PUBLIC HOSPITALS

Improving Facilities To Strengthen Patient Care

TORONTO – New nursing call systems, roof replacements, upgrades to fire-alarm systems and improving heating and ventilation systems are among the upgrades to hospitals across the province that will help them offer higher quality care to Ontarians.

"Good patient care requires hospital facilities that are in proper working condition," said Deputy Premier and Minister of Health and Long-Term Care George Smitherman. "The investment announced today will help make hospitals safer and more efficient, and ultimately help to reduce wait times for patients and increase access to family health care."

More than \$36 million in infrastructure upgrades will benefit all Ontario hospitals, including:

- Structural upgrades for roof replacement and windows;
- Upgrading heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems;
- Improvements to comply with health and safety standards, such as upgrading back-up generators;
- Upgrading fire-alarm systems and other work needed to address requirements under the Ontario Building Code and Ontario Fire Code.

"This investment is an important step forward in helping to modernize hospital services across the province," said Tom Closson, President and CEO of the Ontario Hospital Association. "The funding will help hospitals make much-needed improvements and enhancements to their infrastructure, which is good news for the people of Ontario."

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