

PERTH-WELLINGTON



# RANDY PETTAPIECE, MPP

## NEWS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **Pettapiece Announces Government Investment in Louise Marshall Expansion**

(Mount Forest, ON) – Today, Randy Pettapiece, Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP) for Perth-Wellington announced that the Government of Ontario is investing \$18.5 million in local health care infrastructure. The funding will go towards the North Wellington Health Care Emergency Room and Ambulatory Care project at the Louise Marshall Hospital and Palmerston District Hospital.

“I know that hospital officials worked extremely hard on getting to this moment,” said MPP Pettapiece. “This expansion project is great news for residents of the Township of Wellington North and surrounding communities. It will improve staff and patient flow, patient privacy, infection control, security, and accessibility.”

During his remarks, Mr. Pettapiece acknowledged the many people whose efforts have helped bring the project to this point.

“My colleagues in elected public service, Mayor Andy Lennox, Members of Township and County Council, Speaker Ted Arnott, and their predecessors going back many years, have all been enthusiastic in their support of the hospital expansion, and deserve our acknowledgement and heartfelt thanks,” said Pettapiece.

“We thank Township and County staff, as well as my current and former staff at my Queen’s Park and Riding offices, for the many hours of work they have contributed. We also thank the Waterloo Wellington Local Health Integration Network for their endorsement and support,” he continued.

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“Most importantly, we thank the local volunteers, hospital board, donors, and campaign chairs who helped raise \$5 million for this important project,” said Pettapiece. “In a rural community, this is an outstanding demonstration of support.”

Pettapiece is a long-time supporter of the project. His actions have included organizing a ministry briefing with hospital officials in Toronto; offering support to the current and former hospital CEOs; advocating for the project with the Waterloo Wellington Local Health Integration Network (LHIN); and, last year, pushing the former government to support the project via an Order Paper question.

The scope of the project includes the redevelopment of the Emergency Room and Ambulatory Care service areas at Louise Marshall in Mount Forest. In addition, the project will create new shelled (unfinished) space for medical education facilities at both Louise Marshall and the Palmerston District.

“We are grateful to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care for their investment and support as we move forward with the Louise Marshall Hospital (LMH) Emergency Department and Ambulatory Care redevelopment.” states Stephen Street, President and CEO, North Wellington Health Care, LMH.

He continued by saying, “when the expansion is complete, the overall size of the hospital will increase from 45,000 square feet to 57,000 square feet and much of the existing space will be renovated. The space will enhance our capacity to offer services, improve infection prevention and control, increase patient privacy, improve overall accessibility and will provide care close to home for our Wellington North residents for years to come.”

Over the next ten years, the Ontario government has committed to investing \$27 billion in hospital infrastructure projects. The investment is part of the government’s commitment to ending hallway health care, creating new long-term care capacity, and transforming Ontario’s health care system for the people of Ontario.

“I look forward to continuing to work with North Wellington Health Care as they begin construction,” said Pettapiece. “We are all focused on improving patient care and supporting our frontline caregivers.”

## **Media Contact**

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