



UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA
HEART INSTITUTE
INSTITUT DE CARDIOLOGIE
DE L'UNIVERSITÉ D'OTTAWA

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CONSTRUCTION OF HEART INSTITUTE EXPANSION BEGINS

OTTAWA, January 15, 2015 – At the official groundbreaking ceremony held today at the Ottawa Heart Institute, Dr. Thierry Mesana, President and CEO of the Institute, joined John Fraser, MPP for Ottawa South and Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, Yasir Naqvi, MPP for Ottawa Centre and Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services, and Mayor Jim Watson, to celebrate the start of construction of the Heart Institute's expansion and redevelopment project.

The project will expand the facility to accommodate the changing needs of the surrounding communities, as well as improved technological advancements to ensure continued access to high-quality, specialized cardiac services for the residents of the Champlain Local Health Integration Network region (LHIN), and all Ontarians.

"Today marks a historic milestone as we begin the construction of the most significant expansion of the Heart Institute since its foundation," said Dr. Thierry Mesana, President and CEO of the Heart Institute. "Our new facility will not only reinforce our cardiovascular care, research, and training capacities, but it will also ensure that our patients continue to receive world-class care, from an extraordinary team evolving in a state-of-the-art environment. This is our promise."

The new Heart Institute expansion will:

- Add approximately 147,000 square feet of space, some of which will house life support services such as cardiac catheterization, cardiac surgery and the cardiac surgery intensive care unit.
- Create an addition with four floors of state-of-the-art clinical and in-patient services.
- Expand support services such as biomedical engineering and information management services.

Redevelopment work at the existing facility will:

- Include renovation of approximately 59,000 square feet of space.
- Provide support services for the heart catheterization/electrophysiology suite, surgical suite and the cardiac intensive care unit.
- Relocate and expand the cardiac imaging suite.

“The Ottawa Heart Institute is a critical pillar in our City’s health community,” said Ottawa Mayor Jim Watson. “Expanding the Heart Institute will help the amazing team of professionals working there stay on the cutting edge of cardiovascular research and training while serving even more people and saving even more lives.”

“The expansion and redevelopment of the University of Ottawa’s Heart Institute is an example of how our government is working to improve patient outcomes and ensuring they can access the services they need close to home,” said John Fraser, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care and MPP for Ottawa South.

“I am very excited that with today’s groundbreaking, the expansion of the University of Ottawa Heart Institute is underway. This investment in high quality health care will ensure expanded cardiac care services are available and delivered to the residents of Ottawa in a new state-of-the-art facility,” Yasir Naqvi, MPP for Ottawa Centre.

The project between PCL and the Heart Institute will create employment in the construction sector, with approximately 150 workers expected on site each day at the peak of activity. PCL estimates that approximately 90 to 95 per cent of the labour for the project will come from the Ottawa area.

About the University of Ottawa Heart Institute

The University of Ottawa Heart Institute (UOHI) is Canada’s largest and foremost heart health centre dedicated to understanding, treating and preventing heart disease. UOHI delivers high tech care with a personal touch, shapes the way cardiovascular medicine is practiced and revolutionizes cardiac treatment and understanding. It builds knowledge through research and translates discoveries into advanced care. UOHI serves the local, national and international community, and is pioneering a new era in heart health.

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