



And the goal is ... \$70 million

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Got bucks?

The long-awaited local fundraising goal for hospital redevelopment was announced Tuesday by the University Hospitals Kingston Foundation.

The Together We Can fundraising campaign goal is \$70 million — roughly 10 per cent the total project for hospital redevelopment, equipment, research, and staff education at Hotel Dieu Hospital, Kingston General Hospital and Providence Care.

The goal, the largest health-care fundraising campaign in the history of southeastern Ontario, was launched at Market Square amid much fanfare and high spirits.

“The impact of this campaign will transform our hospitals, and our health-care system, here in Kingston and across southeastern Ontario,” said Ian Wilson, campaign chair.

“The benefits will reach into every community in this region, every neighbourhood, every street and every home. Never has such an opportunity been placed in the hands of this community — the opportunity to change the health care they will receive tomorrow.”

The provincial government has agreed to invest hundreds of millions of dollars in the redevelopment of the hospitals – the biggest change in health care in southeastern Ontario in a generation. The province will pay for 90 per cent of the eligible redevelopment construction costs at the three hospitals if the community will pay the remaining 10 per cent plus the cost of the equipment for those facilities.

Redevelopment will have an impact across the region. The three hospitals serve more than 500,000 people in southeastern Ontario. About half of all visits to the hospitals come from people outside Kingston.

At the public launch, the campaign announced that \$50 million has been raised to date.

Wilson says more support is needed.

The massive redevelopment projects include an expanded cancer centre, new home for the pediatric inpatient unit,

expanded dialysis program, new mental health inpatient unit and expanded surgical support services at KGH.

At Hotel Dieu Hospital, 36,000 sq. ft. of space for outpatient clinics will be constructed and two more elevators built to handle increased visits.

The biggest project is a new hospital at Providence Care to replace St. Mary's of the Lake and Mental Health Services, still in the planning stage.

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