

Minister Of Health Helps To “Top Off” New Wing



(LtoR): David Bragg, chair, Toronto Rehab Board; Mark Rochon, CEO & president, Toronto Rehab; Hon. Deb Matthews, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care; Tim Casgrain, chair, Toronto Rehab Foundation Board; Dr. Abe Sniderman, neuro psychiatrist, Toronto Rehab; and Frank Ross, president, Aecon Buildings Group at a ceremonial cement pour on the roof of the 13-storey new patient care and research wing.

On April 21, the Hon. Deb Matthews, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, joined more than 200 hospital officials, employees and special guests to celebrate the “topping-off” of the new 13-storey patient care and research wing at Toronto Rehab’s University Centre.

The “topping off” ceremony is a tradition on building sites, to signify that the highest point of a building has been reached – it also heralds the gradual shift from working on the exterior of the building to working on interior space.

“This is where research and patient care will be married,” said Minister Matthews. “Miracles will happen here. Congratulations to all of you...When complete, this redeveloped hospital will offer patients improved access to enhanced rehabilitative care”.

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Timeline

Now – December 2010

Work on interior spaces, including wiring, building walls, installing computer systems, fixtures and fittings, and setting up for the delivery and assembly of furniture and equipment.

July 2010

Equipment begins to arrive on site from around the globe to equip the state-of-the-art iDAPT research lab. A team of international experts will also be on site to assemble and test the equipment.

January-February 2011

Patients and staff begin to move into the new patient care, research and education space in the new wing.

Spring 2010 – February 2012

Renovations to the rest of University Centre.

Winter 2012

University Centre redevelopment is complete.

As the ancient Scandinavians did to appease the tree-dwelling spirits that had been displaced during construction of their buildings, evergreen sprigs were given to guests to replant in their own gardens.

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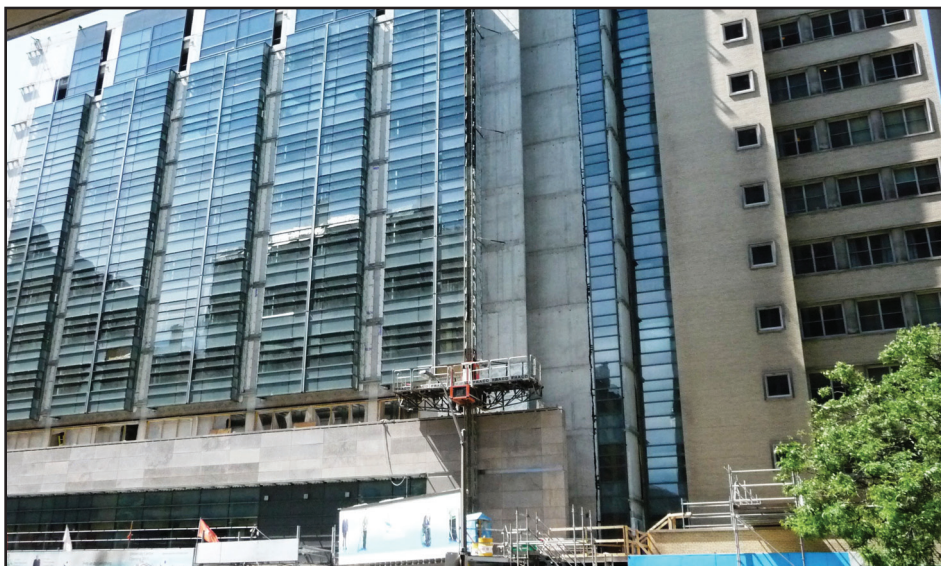
In addition to the new wing, this capital redevelopment project includes renovations to the hospital's existing 12-storey east wing and four-storey north wing. The outcome will be improved facilities that are designed specifically for adults undergoing rehabilitation for serious injury and illness. The project will also accommodate Toronto Rehab's new iDAPT (Intelligent Design for Adaptation, Participation and Technology) research facility - one of the world's most advanced rehabilitation centres.



A patient room on the 5th floor is flooded with light from generously sized windows.

Toronto Rehab's president and CEO, Mark Rochon, shared Minister Matthews' excitement at the topping off event. "Today's celebration marks a significant milestone in the redevelopment of University Centre and brings us closer to the completion of our new state-of-the-art facility, a facility that will allow us to take a leap forward in how we deliver rehabilitation care to our patients."

Work on the new wing is scheduled to be completed in January 2011 and the entire redevelopment project is expected to be completed by winter 2012. It is expected that patients will begin receiving treatment in the new space in February or March of next year.



View of the new wing from Elm Street.

Interesting Facts

- Construction of the new wing is now almost 50 per cent complete;
- Since the start of construction, approximately 18 months ago, there has been a daily average of 175 construction workers on the work site at any one time;
- 18,000 cubic metres of earth has been excavated from the site – equivalent to digging 250 family-sized swimming pools;
- 12,000 cubic metres of concrete has been poured – enough to lay sidewalk from Toronto Rehab's University Centre to Toronto's waterfront;
- 1,600 tonnes of rebar has gone into the new tower – enough to build more than 1,400 cars
- Over the course of construction, approximately \$39.7 million will be paid in construction salaries and \$44 million worth of materials will be purchased locally.

Stay Informed

Interested in knowing more about Toronto Rehab's exciting renewal and expansion?

Visit our website at

www.torontorehab.com

The information and pictures are updated regularly.

"We value your feedback and encourage you to contact us if you have any questions or concerns. Our redevelopment hotline is 416-597-3422, ext. 3343.