



Long-Term Care Home Update

Community Newsletter



October 2021



A Letter from the Home's New Administrator

To the Durham Region community,

My name is Jennifer Bishop, and I am honoured to introduce myself as the new Administrator of the long-term care home currently under construction at Ajax Pickering Hospital. An important part of my role is to connect with our community, and I would like to take this opportunity to formally introduce myself before the home opens in 2022.

I grew up and went to school in Ottawa; however, I have called Durham Region home for the last 22 years. I have also worked for the Region for more than two decades, including 13 years at Fairview Lodge Long-Term Care Home in Whitby. Some of you may remember the fire at Fairview Lodge in 2014. While this was a challenging time for many, it was also very moving as our community came together to support residents and staff. During my time at Fairview Lodge, I also collaborated on the redevelopment and rebuild of the home, which has been an important part of my recent work at Lakeridge Health.

I have been fortunate to be a part of the Lakeridge Health community for some time now. Since August 2020, I have had the opportunity to provide advice and guidance to Lakeridge Health's build team, providing a long-term care perspective to the design of the new home beside Ajax Pickering Hospital.

Recently, I was able to tour the inside of the home and it is truly remarkable to see the incredible progress underway. We should all be proud of the amount of effort and dedication from so many people to complete the home at such a rapid pace.

When the home opens, my job will be to provide strong leadership to ensure the efficient operation of the entire home. This includes supporting and empowering our future team members in their various roles, communicating with families, enabling and supporting staff to provide person-centred care for residents, overseeing all legislative requirements, and most importantly, ensuring the highest quality of care.

My goal has always been to provide Durham Region seniors and the aging community with safe, compassionate, and person-centred care. As a mother of two children and two stepchildren, family is also really important to me. This is why I continuously aim to create a culture that fosters a healthy workplace and a family atmosphere for residents, staff, and their loved ones. I am incredibly excited to bring my passion, expertise, and experience to the new long-term care home in Ajax as Administrator.

Finally, I'd like to thank the community. Your support and engagement have played a tremendous role in the home's development. I am confident that the new long-term care home will reflect our incredible community. I look forward to meeting and welcoming you to the home in the very near future.

I will be in touch in the coming months as we plan the operational rollout of the new home. In the meantime, if you have any questions for me or about the home, please send an email to AjaxLTC@lh.ca.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Bishop

This Month's Construction Progress

Construction on the new long-term care home beside Ajax Pickering hospital remains on track and progress inside of the home is ramping up to our anticipated March 2022 opening.

Interior finishing is ongoing on the first and second floors, and the dedicated trade crews are working on final touches. This process will continue over the next couple of months as crews make their way through finishes throughout the building. The architectural and construction teams also completed a mock-up resident room this month. The room — complete with furniture, bathroom and light fixtures, and a fresh coat of paint — will be used as a model for the other rooms in the home.

While most of the progress has taken place inside the home, you may have noticed some recent changes to the home's exterior. The external insulation and bracing is rapidly being covered with two tone siding. Over the coming weeks, the construction elevator system will also be dismantled, and the 24 resident balconies will be completed. The road network, which will connect the home to Lakeridge Health's existing roads, is also nearing completion with curb installation and final top coat paving complete.

The first part of the concrete foundation of the new parking garage was also poured this month. Once completed, the new parking structure will create 500+ parking spots for long-term care home and hospital team members, residents, visitors, and family members.



Did You Know

During October, over 100 drywall sub trade men and women were on-site on any given day?

What to Expect in November

In the coming weeks, we are expecting more changes both inside and outside of the home.

The second floor, which includes the behavioural unit as part of the floor's 64 resident rooms will be complete. The first floor common and support areas will be in the final stages of completion and most of the upper floors will be well developed. From the outside, siding installation should be almost complete and landscaping will start to take shape.



A look at the new exterior siding on the north side of the building (October 11, 2021)

Stay Connected

If you have questions or would like more information about the home, please call **905-576-8711 ext. 34167** or email AjaxLTC@lh.ca. You can also visit our website www.lh.ca for ongoing updates!