



Long-Term Care Home Update

Community Newsletter



April 2021

A Month in Review

Lakeridge Health is proud to work alongside its partners and its community to bring 320 long-term care beds to the Durham Region. The new Long-Term Care Home currently under construction at Ajax Pickering Hospital is part of the Accelerated Build Pilot Program announced last summer by the provincial government that will add up to 1,280 long-term care beds across the GTA by early 2022.

We are also proud to report that construction progress is on track and a number of exciting developments are underway. In March, the PCL Construction team installed necessary utility services and began pouring the home's foundation. Now, less than a month later, the elevator core structure and first-floor wall panels are complete.



A look at the home's partially completed foundation on March 3



The first-floor walls and the elevator core taking shape just 24 days after the first photo was taken

Looking Forward to May

On April 16, the Government of Ontario announced additional COVID-19 restrictions, including the shutdown of non-essential construction. Health sector projects will not be impacted by this shutdown, and the long-term care home build will proceed with strict health and safety standards.

Construction on the second-floor structure, which includes resident living spaces, is expected to begin by the end of this month. Washroom pod deliveries are also expected to start at the beginning of May. Over the course of the home's construction, an estimated 280 pre-fabricated washroom pods will arrive in Ajax and be lowered into place. These pods will provide private washrooms to the majority of the home's residents. This is a great example of the modern, comfortable, and home-like environments that residents will benefit from.

In addition to the washroom pods, wall panels, precast concrete elements, and HVAC units will be built off-site. These modular elements enable the new home to be constructed faster than traditional long-term care projects.

Construction Hours and Activity

On-site teams will continue to work later hours on weeknights, with shifts ending at midnight Mondays through Fridays. With activity ramping up, we are expecting increased truck activity in the area and extended crane operations into the evening. The construction team continues to do its best to minimize any noise or impact to the neighbourhood. A designated traffic control plan is in place to minimize idling and congestion leading to and from the site for both deliveries and parking.

We appreciate the neighbours in the immediate vicinity who have been so patient and collaborative throughout these changes as we work to complete this important and much-needed long-term care home as quickly as possible.

Engaging with Our Community

Getting feedback from residents is an important step in the home's development to make sure it reflects the needs and diversity of the Durham community.

Last month, we hosted our first-ever Facebook Live Open House with our PCL Construction and G architect colleagues to "walk through" the home. To rewatch the Open House and to learn about the home's upgraded features and enhanced infection prevention and control (IPAC) practices, please visit our website lh.ca.

Lakeridge Health is also working with a number of patient advisors and volunteers who make up a 'Welcoming Spaces Working Group'. In April, Lakeridge Health and the PCL design team engaged with the Working Group to help guide the planning of the home's signage, interior wayfinding, and resident home area themes.

We are looking forward to announcing upcoming opportunities to connect with our community and hear your voice.



Ajax's New Long-Term Care Home in the News

The long-term care home's rapid progress was showcased in a recent episode of [Health 180 with Carion Fenn](#). Ajax MPP **Rod Phillips**, Lakeridge Health's President and CEO, **Cynthia Davis**, and **Mark Murphy**, Senior Director of Capital Planning and Development at Lakeridge Health, all joined the episode to explore the home. Visit RogersTV.com and select 'Durham Region' to watch the episode.

A Look at the Home's Numbers



The home will stand **6 stories tall** and covers **273,000** square feet.



Resident bedrooms will be **15% larger** than a standard long-term care home in Ontario.



Over **500 windows** and **1,000 doors** will be installed throughout the home.



At its peak, the project will see just over 600 skilled workers a day. This equals **4,800 working hours per day** and a significant economic boost to our community and the province.

Stay Up-To-Date

We will continue to keep you updated on our progress through this newsletter and our website. We are also planning to host another Virtual Open House to provide information about the home, showcase more of its features, and give participants an opportunity to ask questions. Stay tuned for more information.

In the meantime, should you have questions or would like more information, please call **905-576-8711 ext. 34167** or email AjaxLTC@lh.ca. You can also follow us on Twitter and Facebook.

Thank you for your support and stay safe.