

## Coming to the Durham Regional Cancer Centre for your first appointment

This handout will give you the information you need for your first visit to the Durham Regional Cancer Centre (DRCC).

### Location of the Durham Regional Cancer Centre (DRCC)

The Durham Regional Cancer Centre is part of Lakeridge Health. The DRCC is located on the west side of Simcoe Street North in Oshawa, Ontario.

### The first time you come for an appointment

If you are coming for a Radiation CT Simulation appointment, check in at the reception desk on the B1 level (lower level) of the DRCC. For any other appointment, check in at the reception desk on the main floor of the DRCC. You will be given a booklet called the “Your Guide to the Durham Regional Cancer Centre”. This booklet will give you more information about your appointments and the programs and supports available to you at the DRCC. An electronic copy of this booklet is available at [lakeridgehealth.on.ca/en/ourservices/Visiting-Us.asp](http://lakeridgehealth.on.ca/en/ourservices/Visiting-Us.asp)

### What to bring to your appointment

- Your Ontario Health Insurance card (OHIP card).
- A list of the medications you are currently taking. We need to update this information in your chart. This includes any medications you do not have a prescription for (for example: antioxidants, Tylenol, Aspirin and vitamins).
- A supply of the medications you need to take during the time you will be at the cancer centre.
- If you are a diabetic, bring your glucometer and supplies with you.
- Eye glasses and hearing aids if you use them.
- A friend or family member. It is helpful to have someone with you to hear the information you will be given.
- If you are on oxygen, be sure that you have enough oxygen to last for 6 to 8 hours.

### Transportation to the DRCC

#### 1. Ask a family member or partner-in-care

2. Ask a family member or partner-in-care to drive you to the cancer centre. Lakeridge Health and the DRCC continue to restrict the number of visitors in some areas of the hospital. This includes your family members or partners-in-care. At this time, everyone entering the hospital must use hand sanitizer and wear a medical mask at all times.

#### 3. Canadian Cancer Society

The Canadian Cancer Society's Wheels of Hope Program offers rides to treatment appointments only. For more information, call 1-888-939-3333. There is an annual registration fee. You can qualify for this program if you receive government assistance (examples: ODSP and OW).

To be eligible for this program, you need to:

- Have no other options for a ride to your treatment appointments.
- Have your healthcare team at the cancer centre complete the referral form.
- Provide 3 business days of advance notice to book a ride.
- Have no cold, flu or COVID-19 symptoms.

You are encouraged to:

- Use hand sanitizer before and after the ride to your appointment is encouraged.
- Wear a medical grade mask during the ride to your appointment.

If you need assistance getting in and out of the vehicle, you must arrange to have a family member or friend (18 years of age or older) travel with you in the vehicle. Drivers are not allowed to lift you in and out of the vehicle.

It is important to have a back up plan for your transportation to the cancer centre as these rides are not guaranteed. This may be due to the lack of drivers in your area. Uber drivers may support the Wheels of Hope transportation program in the greater Toronto area (GTA).

The Canadian Cancer Society's Community Services Locator found at <https://csl.cancer.ca/en> can help you search for other fee for service transportation options.

The Canadian Cancer Society's (CCS) Travel Treatment Fund may be able to offer support for some of your travel costs. A financial assessment is required for this program. A member of your healthcare team needs to complete your application form. You can apply for this fund once a year while you are having cancer treatment. Call 1-800-263-6750 or email [transportation@cancer.ca](mailto:transportation@cancer.ca). For more information, go to [cancer.ca](https://cancer.ca) and search 'Travel Treatment Fund'.

#### **4. Community Care**

Volunteers are available to drive you to your medical appointments. You need to call and register with the Community Care office closest to your home. There is a fee for this service.

Call to register:

- Community Care Durham: 1-888-255-6680
- Community Care Peterborough: 705-742-7067
- Community Care Kawartha Lakes: 1-800-461-0327
- Community Care Northumberland: 1-866-514-5774

Community Care in Scarborough does not provide rides to Oshawa.

#### **5. Taking a taxi**

Call a local taxi company. Ask if they offer any reduced rates.

#### **6. Durham Region Transit (DRT) and DRT Specialized Services**

Durham Region Transit (DRT) has bus service available in the municipalities of Pickering, Ajax, Whitby, Oshawa, Clarington, Scugog, Brock, and Uxbridge. DRT Specialized Services has accessible door-to-door transit service for residents of the Durham Region who are temporarily or permanently disabled, and not able to ride on a regular bus or walk 175 metres.

You need to have a member of your healthcare team complete the application form before you can use this service. Call 1-866-247-0055 to book your trip in advance.

Go to the Durham Region Transit website: [www.durhamregiontransit.com](http://www.durhamregiontransit.com) or call 1-866-247-0055 for more information.

## 7. **GO Transit**

GO Transit is a regional public transit service for the Greater Toronto Area and surrounding regions. There is a fee for this service.

Website: [www.gotransit.com](http://www.gotransit.com). Plan the trip you need to take to get to the cancer centre based on the time of your appointment on this website.

## 8. **The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society of Canada (LLSC)**

The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society of Canada (LLSC) offers funding support if you have:

- A blood cancer and
- 4 appointments in the next 60 days and
- A problem paying for transportation to your appointments

You need to have a social worker at the cancer centre complete the online application form.

Go to [www.llsform.org/8101FS01/bhn2ubohiw/index.html](http://www.llsform.org/8101FS01/bhn2ubohiw/index.html) for more information.

Call the DRCC at 905-576-8711 / 1-866-338-1778 extension 33282 and ask to talk to a social worker if you need help with an application form or you have problems planning transportation to your appointments.

## **Driving to the cancer centre**

### **If you are coming from the west**

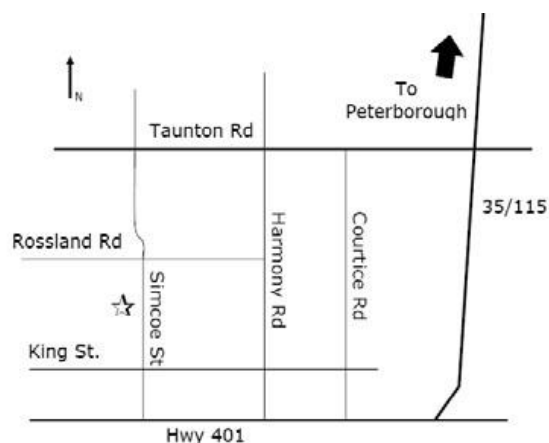
Take Hwy 401 east (to Kingston) to exit #417 – Simcoe Street. Turn left at Bloor Street. Turn left at Simcoe Street. Continue driving north on Simcoe Street for 2.6 km. Turn left on Parkwood Court. There is a parking garage at the end of the Court. You can also park in the parking garage on the north side of the hospital (Hospital Court).

### **If you are coming from the east**

Take Hwy 401 West (to Toronto) to exit #418 – Ritson Road/Simcoe Street. Merge onto Drew Street. Turn left at First Avenue and then turn right at Simcoe Street. Continue driving north on Simcoe Street for 2.6 km. Turn left on Parkwood Court. There is a parking garage at the end of the Court. You can also park in the parking garage on the north side of the hospital (Hospital Court).

### **If you are coming from the north**

Take Hwy. 35/115 South to exit for Taunton Road. Travel west on Taunton Road. Turn left at Simcoe Street. Continue driving south on Simcoe Street for 3.3 km. Turn right on Parkwood Court. There is a parking garage at the end of the Court. You can also park in the parking garage on the north side of the hospital (Hospital Court).



☆ R.S. McLaughlin Durham Regional Cancer Centre

## Parking is available:

- On the south side of the hospital at the end of Parkwood Court
- On the north side of the hospital on Hospital Court

Bring the ticket you get from the machine when you enter the parking garage with you into the hospital. You will need it to pay a fee before you leave the parking garage. Payment can only be made by credit or debit card. Pay stations are located in the main lobby of the hospital and in the parking garages. If you are coming to the cancer centre for regular appointments, buying a 5, 10 or 30 exit pass will save you money on the daily parking rate. You may also want to call the Parking Office to ask about a monthly parking pass.

You can call the Parking Office at 905-576-8711 or 1-866-338-1778 at extension 33707.

If you are unable to walk from the parking garage, your driver can drop you off at the front of the cancer centre on Parkwood Court (south side of the hospital).

You may be able to claim your parking and transportation costs as medical expenses on your taxes.

**The Durham Regional Cancer Centre is a scent-free environment.** We ask you not to use anything with a perfume or scent before you come to the cancer centre.

Talk to a member of your healthcare team if you have questions or do not understand any of the information in this handout.

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