



## **Unveiling of our “CogWall”**

*Woodstock Hospital installs innovative interactive wall for patients*

Woodstock Hospital is home to the first interactive wall on a hospital inpatient unit in the South West LHIN. The new interactive wall is meant to stimulate a patient’s cognition, so has been named the “CogWall.”

The CogWall is the result of a partnership between the hospital and Fanshawe College and is designed to engage and stimulate patients with memory impairments during their admission to the hospital and aims to decrease both physical and cognitive decline. The CogWall is located on the Complex Continuing Care unit (2100) in the hospital. Patients admitted to this unit are often older adults with complex medical and intellectual needs and can remain in hospital for long periods of time.

“We are very proud of this innovation, which will give our patient’s an opportunity to recall experiences and senses that they would in their day to day lives at home,” explains Sherry McKnight, Director of Patient Care, Inpatient Rehabilitation and Complex Care.

The CogWall was developed through a partnership with Fanshawe College. A dedicated team of students brought the ideas to life, creating a design that allows the patient to independently approach one of four modules. Each module is themed with background pictures, such as a 1950’s kitchen, and intended to encourage the patient to reminisce about the images they might normally interact with.

“The CogWall was purposely constructed so that patients with poor memory could still feel successful during interaction with the modules,” states Michelle Worsfold, Director of Mental Health Services. “Patients can ‘steer’ the tractor through a wheat field on a screen, or ‘answer’ the rotary phone that is pre-programmed to ring at intervals and listen to a recorded general message. Hospital volunteers and family members may even be involved by leaving ‘mail’ in the mailbox.”

Woodstock Hospital is committed to providing a compassionate and caring experience for patients. Innovative projects such as the CogWall are an example of how the hospital is meeting the needs of patients and their families and striving to improve patient outcomes.

### **Media Opportunity:**

Please join us on **Tuesday January 31, 2017 at 2:30pm** on Unit 2100 in Woodstock Hospital for our official launch of the wall (look for signage directions)

#### **About Woodstock Hospital**

Built in November 2011, Woodstock Hospital is a 178 bed, full-service community hospital, providing primary care to a population of 55,000 and specialized care to nearly 110,000 within the County of Oxford. The new facility offers a wide range of health programs including Maternal Child, Women’s Health, Specialized Surgical Services, Inpatient and Outpatient Mental Health Services, Dialysis and Rehabilitation Programs, a Systemic Therapy Program and an MRI. Our full service facility works closely with our community partners to provide our patients with healthcare services, close to home.

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