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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Enhancing Cancer Care in Oxford County

Woodstock Hospital Unveils Newly Redesigned and Expanded
Chemotherapy/IV Infusion Clinic

At a ribbon-cutting ceremony held on Wednesday, October 8th, 2025, Woodstock Hospital unveiled its newly redesigned and expanded Chemotherapy/IV Infusion Clinic. The project began in response to Cancer Care Ontario statistics showing a projected increase in cancer diagnoses, along with the expected growth of our community.

From the very beginning, patient and staff voices played a key role in shaping the design. Their feedback and ideas are reflected throughout the clinic.

“This is a project built on collaboration between our hospital team and patient advisors,” says Fatima Vieira-Cabral, Director of Pharmacy and the Chemotherapy/IV Infusion Clinic. “Before renovations began on June 3rd, 2024, we surveyed both patients and staff to understand what mattered most to them. We also invited two patient advisors, Nora and Deb, to work alongside our Capital Projects team as the renovation progressed. One of the top requests was to have more natural light in the treatment area, along with increased patient privacy and more space for care partners.”

The clinic has expanded its capacity from eight treatment chairs and three exam rooms to 15 treatment chairs and three exam rooms. The new layout features treatment pods of four, replacing the previous open-concept design, to provide greater privacy and comfort. There are also flexible partitions that can be used for added privacy. Large floor-to-ceiling windows fill the clinic with natural light, creating a bright and welcoming environment. The clinic also features several unique touches, including a prominent victory bell wall with LED lighting behind it that glows in different colours to represent the type of cancer the patient has completed treatment for.

For Nora, a patient advisor who has recently celebrated completing her 200th treatment at Woodstock Hospital, being involved in this project was very meaningful.

“I’ve received such excellent care here over the past 12 years. To be able to give feedback and work alongside hospital staff on envisioning this future space was very rewarding,” says Nora. “For a lot of the patients, this clinic is about more than just a place to receive treatment; it’s a place of hope. Knowing I played a small part in making it brighter and more comforting for other cancer fighters means a lot to me.”

Community support made our vision for the future clinic a reality. Through the Woodstock

Hospital Foundation, \$2.7 million has been raised for the transformation of the Chemotherapy/IV Infusion Clinic.

“On behalf of the Woodstock Hospital Foundation, I want to thank our donors who have made this all possible,” says Ron Burns, Chair of the Woodstock Hospital Foundation. “Not only did our donors support this project financially, but they also shared their personal stories to help inspire others in the community to give. Cancer touches so many lives, and by coming together, we have expanded the clinic’s capacity so that more people can receive care close to home.”

This project has been made possible through the generosity of several major donors, including Ken and Roberta Sommers with a \$500,000 gift; Annette Vriends, who left \$450,000 in her estate for cancer care; Doug and Patti Bell, who gave \$350,000; Maglin Site Furniture, whose support added \$250,000; and the Verspeeten Family, who contributed \$100,000. These donations underscore the community’s commitment to making the best possible cancer care available in Woodstock.

The Chemotherapy/IV Infusion Clinic at Woodstock Hospital receives referrals through the London Health Sciences Centre’s Verspeeten Family Cancer Centre as a level 4 satellite clinic with oversight by the Southwest Regional Cancer Program as part of the Care Closer to Home strategy.

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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