# **OUR FUTURE Newsletter**



### Wallaceburg Site Redevelopment Project

#### Update from the Project Team

The Project Team has recently submitted their responses to the Ministry of Health's questions regarding the Stage 1.3: Functional Program submission. Requests for supplementary information and clarification during the Capital Planning process is a common occurrence. All conversations with the Ministry have been positive thus far and the Project Team look forward to providing a significant update in the near future. For more detail on the Capital Planning framework and the accompanying stages, please visi<u>t www.ourhospitalourfuture.com/wallaceburg-redevelopment/.</u>

The team is also currently in the recruitment phase for a Communications Specialist who will support the communications and community engagement needs of the project over the next year. Additionally, community engagement pre-work has begun in preparation for the launch of the full engagement plan later this year. As part of this engagement, the team looks forward to working with local Indigenous artists in the creation of the hospital's new spaces.

#### Indigenous Art Unveiled at Wallaceburg Site

On July 13, 2023, CKHA was pleased to unveil the first Indigenous art piece at the Wallaceburg Site. This milestone marks a significant step forward in CKHA's commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion. The artwork, created by Walpole Island First Nation resident Mariah Alexander, not only enhances the physical space, but also enriches the empathy, compassion and inclusivity of CKHA. The piece titled "Revitalizing River" is located in the waiting room of the Emergency Department.

The addition of Indigenous artwork at the Wallaceburg Site is part of CKHA's Innovation Grant Program. The program offers staff, physicians, volunteers and patient advisors the opportunity to bring forward ideas to make positive change at CKHA that either benefit patients or benefit the quality of the workplace for colleagues. Earlier this year, the hospital's WeRCKHA Staff Engagement Council voted on the grant submissions – Indigenous artwork for the Wallaceburg Site was chosen as one of seven \$1000 grant recipients. Following the grant recipient announcements, CKHA put out the call for Indigenous artists to submit an application for this opportunity, with Mariah Alexander chosen as the successful candidate.



"This artwork celebrates the youth in our community and their contributions to sharing Indigenous teachings and knowledge. Revitalizing River speaks to our collective journey towards a future where Indigenous traditions and culture are nurtured," said Chief Dan Miskokomon, Walpole Island First Nation and CKHA Board Member. "I am pleased this piece created by Ms. Alexander will become a permanent part of CKHA's Wallaceburg Site and will be enjoyed by many for years to come."

Mariah described Revitalizing River, "This art piece was created to encourage healing by connecting people to their land and family. On top of an image I captured of the Snye River, sturgeon and flowers flow into one another. Sturgeon represent depth and strength, as well as connection to ancestors and teachings. The florals symbolize regeneration. The strength of our ancestors, loved ones, and the land flows within you."

Mariah's passion for her heritage and her commitment to promoting understanding through art are evident throughout her creation, making her an ideal choice for this prestigious opportunity. Her artwork beautifully captures the essence of Indigenous values and culture. CKHA would like to extend sincere gratitude to Mariah for her incredible talent and providing the hospital with her remarkable artwork.

#### Community Engagement

CKHA is now collaborating with Community Engagement Consultants from DIALOG Design. Several interactive staff and community engagement initiatives will be held beginning in 2023. Stay tuned for upcoming engagement opportunities!

The results from the community engagement question, "What does 'Hospital' mean to you?", are now posted and available at www.OurHospitalOurFuture.com/engagement.

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#### Wallaceburg Chamber of Commerce

On May 18, 2023, CKHA was proud to receive the prestigious 5-Year Certificate of Membership Award from the Wallaceburg & District Chamber of Commerce. This recognition reflects CKHA's commitment to providing exceptional healthcare services to the community. The hospital is grateful for the support and this special honour from the Chamber of Commerce.



#### Werckha Site Visit & Engagement

CKHA's WeRCKHA Staff Engagement Council took a trip to the Wallaceburg Site to take a tour of the hospital, learn more about the Our Hospital, Our Future: Wallaceburg Site Redevelopment project and provide their feedback and input on the future of the site.

WeRCKHA was established in 2017 and since then has been instrumental in providing a forum for staff members, physicians, volunteers and patient advisors to bring forward their unique perspectives and contribute to the overall direction of the organization.



"I just wanted to let you know how amazing the staff at the Wallaceburg hospital were during a recent visit in June. The physician and staff on night shift were amazing; they had me registered and seen and out the door all within two hours which I am very thankful for. They were diligent and so soft spoken and made sure I understood everything before leaving. I'm forever thankful for all the staff at both of CKHA's sites."

-A Grateful Patient

#### Did You Know

**Grateful Patient** 

Did you know the Gift Shop at the Wallaceburg Site officially re-opened on July 18, 2023? The Auxiliary is celebrating the reopening with a Clearance Sale, followed by the arrival of all new stock in the coming weeks. The wonderful volunteers are thrilled to be back and working in a refreshed space at the entrance to the Wallaceburg Site. Store hours are Monday to Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Proceeds from sales support the fundraising initiatives of Chatham-Kent Health Alliance Foundation.



#### Contact Us

For more information about the Wallaceburg Site Redevelopment Project, please visit our website OurHospitalOurFuture.com or contact us at OurHospitalOurFuture@ckha.on.ca

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