



The Corporation of the Town of Tecumseh Office of the Mayor



Mayor Gary McNamara

August 27, 2019

The Hon. Christine Elliott
Minister of Health & Long-Term Care
Queen's Park, Room 263
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A8

Dear Minister Elliott,

In 2012 a task force was created to examine the need for a new regional acute care hospital to replace the two aging hospitals in Windsor. After extensive community consultation, and much investigation, it became increasingly apparent that the need to improve the hospital system now and for future generations in Essex County was overwhelming.

Since that time, residents living in Windsor/Essex (Amherstburg, Essex, Kingsville, Lakeshore, LaSalle, Leamington, Pelee Island and Windsor) have been working – together – on a new healthcare plan. This plan - the Windsor-Essex Hospitals System – is a local and shared plan committed to the future of healthcare in the region, the central part of which involves construction of a new \$2b single-site acute care hospital on the chosen site at County Road 42 and Concession 9. However, after more than 70 public meetings to consult residents and gather feedback, there remains a small group of residents who have filed an appeal through the LPAT of the rezoning decision of Windsor City Council.

This new hospital must be accessible to a growing population in Essex County which now stands at half the population of Windsor/Essex. This new hospital must also be accessible to patients coming from outside the region who will access regional programs at the site. Living and working in this region, it may be a family member, a friend, or even me who one day desperately requires the care that this region's new "Mega Hospital" will provide.

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I believe that the chosen location of this new hospital will provide regional and fair access to all and we can't ignore the voice of the thousands of people who support this location. Windsor/ Essex residents deserve one system and one focus to pull our communities together to benefit our future. The safety and well-being of all our residents is paramount, and they deserve no less.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gary McNamara', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Gary McNamara
Mayor, Town of Tecumseh

cc: The Hon. Doug Ford, Premier, Province of Ontario
The Hon. Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing
Lisa Gretzky, MPP Windsor West
Percy Hatfield, MPP, Windsor-Tecumseh
Taras Natyshak, MPP, Essex