

CEO Update July 2017

The Timmins and District Hospital has seen many renovations, upgrades and additions since the Grand opening in October 1993. As our health care services expand, so does the need to expand our hospital in order to better serve our community and our district.

As some of you may be aware, our Emergency Department requires a much needed redesign and expansion. In the past year, the Emergency Department received approximately 42, 000 visits.

The current ED has an insufficient number of private rooms to provide the required privacy and infection control measures as directed by current best practice. In addition, there are undersized spaces for triage, trauma care, mental health care, nursing and physician work area, ambulance offload, multi-space office for police/ ambulance/ crisis workers, sub-waiting rooms and lack of patient holding areas for consultation.

According to our consultant, with the current and forecasted numbers for annual visits over the next 15 to 20 years, the ED needs to be enlarged from 9, 485 to at least 21,000 square feet to meet current standards for emergency department. This estimated 28 million dollar project will need to be reviewed by several steps from the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care to obtain approval. The schedule for approval could be as long as 6 years and construction would take approximately 2 years.

Speaking of Emergency Department, the summer brings a lot of fun and some health and safety challenges. Take a few minutes to be safe and healthy in order to be less in the ER and more outdoors!

- Approved life jackets on the water
- Dive with care in unknown waters
- Put on sunscreen and a wide-brimmed hat to protect your skin from the sun
- Drink plenty of water even if you don't feel thirsty
- Put on insect repellent

- Wash your hands often
- Stay cool in the heat
- Wear the right helmet
- When thunder roars, go indoors
- Pack an emergency kit
- Keep food fresh
- Stay safe on the roads

Sincerely,

Blaise MacNeil
President & CEO