



August 27, 2019

Mayor Dan Carter
City of Oshawa
50 Centre Street South
Oshawa, ON L1H 3Z7

Dear Mayor Carter:

On behalf of the students, faculty and staff at Ontario Tech University, it is my pleasure to offer this letter of support as Lakeridge Health undertakes their Master Plan development process. The University recommends serious consideration be given to northern Oshawa as a location for the acute care hospital. Providing easier access and collisions between doctors, nurses and hospital staff, with researchers, student entrepreneurs and student experiential learning will help both organizations remain on the cutting edge of innovation in the healthcare sector.

Having the hospital located adjacent to Ontario Tech would have significant benefits for both organizations. Benefits include Ontario Tech's Collaborative Nursing Program which prepares nurses who are committed to excellence and innovation in assessing and meeting the nursing needs of society. As modern health care becomes increasingly dependent on complex laboratory tests that aid in the diagnosis, monitoring and treatment of disease, our Medical Laboratory Science program increases in importance. Perhaps even more impactful is Ontario Tech's experience and knowledge in big data, health informatics, intelligent clinical decision support systems, stream computing, temporal data mining, critical care health informatics, neonatal health informatics, cloud computing in healthcare, patient journey modeling and more.

Collisions between the hospital and the university offer other strategic advantages:

- Ontario Tech can assist with the development and implementation of robotics and automation in the hospital environment including pharmacies, delivery of medication, meals and supplies, and surgery.
- Our expertise in artificial intelligence and data analytics can assist with clinical diagnoses.
- Our game development programs can train medical staff and help prepare patients for surgery through simulated environments.
- Our expertise in app development and online tools can enhance the patient journey of care in the hospital or at home.

- Our Brilliant Solutions student teams are multi-disciplinary groups able to help Lakeridge solve important problems and develop new processes like revitalizing and updating a patient's experience in the emergency department.
- A new hospital will certainly require a data centre and we have unique expertise in managing and securing complex networks.
- Our gaming and user experience groups can help revolutionize the way information is presented to hospital staff and patients to best convey complex information so they can make the best possible decision regarding their own health care.
- We also have deep expertise in data visualization which can be harnessed to make complex datasets easier to interpret by clinicians.
- As the province looks to develop Ontario Health Teams, understanding the connection to affiliated health and social services in the community becomes essential. The interdisciplinary relationship between our faculties provides a unique ability to bridge the gap between the technical and societal imperatives.

The northern portion of the City of Oshawa, adjacent to the eastern limits of Whitby, exhibits strategic placement opportunities, including proximity to significant existing and planned residential growth areas, and the availability of large tracts of serviced land. Accordingly, this area offers an exemplary location for Lakeridge Health's expansion with a new hospital, and would be highly compatible with the types of uses permitted in Northwood Business Park. As well, the proposed location is adjacent to Highway 407 and the Oshawa airport for ease of transporting patients. The close location of the shared campus of Ontario Tech University and Durham College allows for exceptional opportunities for post-secondary partnerships with a teaching hospital.

We believe the synergies outlined above warrant specific consideration of north Oshawa as the location of a proposed acute care hospital as Lakeridge Health completes their Master Plan.

Sincerely,



Dr. Steven Murphy
President and Vice-Chancellor