



*“I cannot imagine a location for a new hospital **worse** than the Central Experimental Farm.”*

*Michael Vorobej, ReImagine Ottawa supporter*

**Help us wake up our political decision-makers to the reality that the Farm is NOT the right site for development of any kind.**

Our goal is to have large numbers of citizens phone or email their concerns to Federal and provincial politicians. A message any time is a good thing, but better if you can make it part of our **January 24 – February 7** Blitz. It’s the **number** of calls they receive that matters.

Our request is that you call as many on the following list as you can. There are dozens of messages provided after the contact list for you to choose from.

**IT REALLY WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE.**

## **WHO TO CALL**

### **PROVINCIAL (They hold the purse strings)**

- 1. Premier:** Hon. Doug Ford, Premier: 416-325-1941 [Premier@ontario.ca](mailto:Premier@ontario.ca)
- 2. Health**
  - Christine Elliott, Minister of Health: 416-327-4300, [Christine.elliott@ontario.ca](mailto:Christine.elliott@ontario.ca)
  - Dr. Catherine Zahn: Deputy Minister of Health, 416-327-4496, [Catherine.zahn@ontario.ca](mailto:Catherine.zahn@ontario.ca)
- 3. Accessibility**
  - Raymond Cho, Minister of Seniors & Accessibility: 416-314-0797, [ministerseniorsaccessibility@ontario.ca](mailto:ministerseniorsaccessibility@ontario.ca)
  - Carlene Alexander, Deputy Minister, Seniors& Accessibility: 437-488-5746, [Carlene.alexander@ontario.ca](mailto:Carlene.alexander@ontario.ca)
- 4. Environment**
  - Hon. David Piccinin, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, 416-314-6790, [minister.mecp@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.mecp@ontario.ca)
  - Philip Welford, Chief of Staff, 416 314-6790, [Philip.Welford2@ontario.ca](mailto:Philip.Welford2@ontario.ca)
  - Andrew Evans, Director of Policy, 416-314-6790, [Andrew.Evans4@ontario.ca](mailto:Andrew.Evans4@ontario.ca)

## 5. Transportation

- Hon. Caroline Mulroney, Minister of Transportation, 416-327-9200, [minister.mto@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.mto@ontario.ca)
- Michael Beaton, Chief of Staff, 416-327-9200, [Michael.Beaton@ontario.ca](mailto:Michael.Beaton@ontario.ca)
- David Artemiw, Director of Cabinet Affairs and Legislative Affairs, 416-327-9200, [david.artemiw@ontario.ca](mailto:david.artemiw@ontario.ca)

## 6. Cost

- Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance: 416-325-0400
- Infrastructure (roads, water, sewer, powerlines, landscaping)
  - Kinga Surma (Ms.): Minister of Infrastructure: 416-327-4412, [ministryofinfrastructure@ontario.ca](mailto:ministryofinfrastructure@ontario.ca)
  - Chris Giannikos (Mr.), Deputy Minister of Infrastructure: 416-326-3880, [ministryofinfrastructure@ontario.ca](mailto:ministryofinfrastructure@ontario.ca)

## 7. Your MPP. See <https://www.ola.org/en/members/current/contact-information>

## FEDERAL

1. Prime Minister: Hon. Justin Trudeau, 613-992-4211, [Justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca)
2. Minister of Environment & Climate Change, Steven Guilbeault, 613-992-6779, [steven.guilbeault@parl.gc.ca](mailto:steven.guilbeault@parl.gc.ca)
3. Minister of Public Services and Procurement Canada Filomena Tassi, (has oversight of the NCC), 613-992-1034, [filomena.tassi@parl.gc.ca](mailto:filomena.tassi@parl.gc.ca)
4. Tobi Nussbaum, CEO, National Capital Commission, 613-239-5678 x 5191, [Tobi.nussbaum@ncc-ccn.ca](mailto:Tobi.nussbaum@ncc-ccn.ca)
5. Marc Seaman, Chair, NCC Board of Directors, [info@ncc-ccn.ca](mailto:info@ncc-ccn.ca) (no phone listed)

## LOCAL

1. Your city councillor and city planner Sean Moore! The five-acre garage goes to Planning Committee for approval on Feb 10. The massive tree loss (our count is 750), lack of indigenous consultation, accessibility, traffic, are all good arguments. Construction should not begin until there has been an full environmental impact assessment and proper Indigenous consultation on the site selection.
2. Matthew Luloff, Ottawa City Councillor, Accessibility Advisory Committee Liaison Councillor, 613-580-2471, [matt.luloff@ottawa.ca](mailto:matt.luloff@ottawa.ca)
3. Allan Hubley, Ottawa City Councillor, Chair, Transit Commission(OC Transpo), 613-580-2752, [allan.hubley@ottawa.ca](mailto:allan.hubley@ottawa.ca)
4. Katherine Cotton, Chair, Board of Governors, The Ottawa Hospital, 613-761-4867, [Board@toh.ca](mailto:Board@toh.ca)

## WHAT TO SAY? THERE'S LOTS TO CHOOSE FROM!

### IT'S THE WRONG SITE

- It's taking 40 acres of a National Historic Site
- It destroys a park that commemorates Queen Juliana of the Netherlands' WWII stay in Ottawa and the thousands of tulips she sends the city annually. And the 7,600 Canadians who died liberating her country.
- the Algonquin people whose unceded land is being taken, were not properly consulted
- It has many expensive design challenges to overcome: a 15 metre slope, a fault line, and an irregular shape
- It is in a heavily-populated tourist area

### ENVIRONMENT

- An estimated 750 trees will be destroyed, a great loss to Ottawa's insufficient green canopy and counterweight to the heat of the surrounding neighbourhoods. Destroying these trees is irresponsible during a climate crisis especially considering Canada's COP 26 commitments.
- The PM has promised 15 new urban parks but is destroying one in the centre of Canada's capital and his home town. Politicians need to walk the walk on climate change.
- A proper Environmental Impact Assessment under the Impact Assessment Act is needed. (ReImagine Ottawa has applied and awaits a decision.)

### SITE SELECTION PROCESS

- The NCC engaged key stakeholders including the public, conducted a six-month study of 12 sites, and chose Tunney's Pasture. The Hospital rejected Tunney's, with unsubstantiated reasons and the government of Canada handed over 53 acres of a National Historic Site and a commemorative park.
- Dow's Lake choice – a purely political decision. Why did the Government of Canada accede to a hospital board's preference over the well-considered recommendation of the NCC?

### HOSPITAL SIZE

- Research indicates reduced efficiency when hospitals exceed 600 beds. Civic plan is for 1,246.
- A 53-acre hospital site is unnecessary and wasteful of greenspace. Many new hospitals are built on a significantly smaller footprint. The Civic plan has almost 17 acres for parking (31.5%).
- Basic health care services are better located in community hospitals nearer to where people live. Population growth is in the suburbs and a long drive for care.
- Specialized care with associated research such as that at the Heart Institute could be centrally located, perhaps even in a new building on the existing Civic site. Heart Institute that has just done a multi-million dollar renovation could stay put.

### ACCESSIBILITY

- No work on the chosen site of the new campus at Dow's Lake should occur until all key issues of accessibility have been resolved. (the Ottawa Disability Coalition has requested this of the Ontario government)
- The distance from the Dow's Lake LRT station to the main doors of the hospital is 520 metres, the equivalent of just over 5 football fields. Unacceptable!

- The Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act mandates that Queen's Park is to ensure that the Province is fully accessible by 2025, and this includes access to hospitals.
- The 15-metre rise from Carling to the hospital entrance is a barrier to persons with disabilities and the elderly.
- There are no plans to have OC Transpo buses stop at the main doors.
- The Province and City have spent \$Billions on the city's LRT system and will be spending \$Billions more on the new Hospital. This amount of spending should ensure that the LRT is more accessible to the front door of the hospital.

## COST

- The \$300M parking garage is scheduled to start in this spring – **before** the hospital budget is approved. Christine Elliott, Ontario Minister of Health, has the legal authority to stop construction. Ask her to halt the garage construction before the construction forces the province to approve the larger project.
- The \$2.8 billion budget is significantly understated. It was estimated several years ago and does not include the design and construction challenges of the Farm site.

## PARKING

- A five-acre, four-storey, 2,500 car garage will destroy Queen Juliana Park.
- There will be additional surface parking lots bringing total parking capacity to 3,099 vehicles.
- Construction of garage expected to start in Spring 2022, before a comprehensive traffic study and traffic management plan are done. Communities expect huge spill-over parking in surrounding residential neighbourhoods – city has no plan to deal with this.
- 31.5% or nearly 17 acres of the surface is for parking. Hospital relies on parking revenues so naturally wants to maximum garage and parking lots. This creates a conflict of interest with climate change priorities.
- The hospital claims trips to hospital by private car will fall from 85% to 35% by time hospital is fully open, but there is no plan on how this is to be achieved.

## TRAFFIC

- The Preston/Carling district is slated to be become one of the most intensified districts in the whole of Ottawa with 34 high-rises planned so far with a total of 9,000 new units and 517,000 square feet of commercial/retail space. About 8,000 new vehicles will be added to the 2,740 expected daily visits by vehicle to the hospital.
- The City has stated there is no traffic problem in the area and should one arise after hospital is built, it will be dealt with at that time • Too late to close the barn doors after the horse has bolted!•

**Thank-you for your support! Together, we can make a difference.**