

camh Connections

Queen Street Redevelopment Update

Queen Street Redevelopment

While keeping staff and patients safe as we work on the frontlines in response to COVID-19 remains the top priority for CAMH, we have also continued to make progress on our two new hospital buildings.

Once open, the **McCain Complex Care & Centre** and the **Crisis & Critical Care Building** will transform mental health care as we know it in Canada. It will include spaces where patients can heal and recover with dignity, and it will deepen our integration with our community at Queen and Ossington.

We are anticipating a late 2020 move in date, which will also include the relocation of our psychiatric emergency department, currently located at 250 College Street,

at the corner of College and Spadina. Our emergency department is the only 24/7 psychiatric emergency service in Ontario.

Currently, work is being finalized on the interiors of both buildings, including flooring and painting. Streetscaping work is also underway, which will see trees, plants and a sidewalk installed in front of both buildings along Queen Street and improvements to our green spaces including TD Commons.

In lead up to move in, we will be organizing a number of activities, both digital and in-person where distancing and public health protocols permit, to celebrate this important occasion. Stay tuned for more information.

Partners in Purpose: The Role of Philanthropy in Hospital Infrastructure Projects

Mental Health is Health is CAMH's belief. It conveys our conviction that mental health deserves to be treated like physical health and focuses our efforts on ending prejudice and discrimination faced by people with mental illness.

For the tens of thousands of Canadians that support CAMH it is also a call to action; to help transform the way society thinks about mental health and to redefine the limits of what is possible in mental illness research and care.

While most costs related to providing direct patient care are government funded, all hospitals rely on donations to fulfill their mandates. Philanthropic support is crucial in filling the gaps: supporting the construction of dignified spaces where patients can recover, discovering new treatments to help save lives, and providing essentials and comforts so that anyone who arrives at CAMH doesn't have to worry about having a pair of pajamas or a toothbrush.

At CAMH, our donors have enabled critical initiatives that support care, including cutting edge brain research, education and infrastructure projects, like our Queen Street redevelopment project. In particular, infrastructure projects are funded differently than operational projects. Hospitals are required by government to generate additional revenue to support new buildings.

That is why it has become more common over the past several decades to see equipment, public areas, rooms, departments and centres within a hospital, and even entire hospital buildings, adopt the name of a donor or donor group.

THE CAMPBELL FAMILY

Mental Health Research Institute

THE MARGARET & WALLACE MCCAIN CENTRE

for Child, Youth & Family Mental Health

THE SLAIGHT FAMILY CENTRE

for Youth in Transition

THE CUNDILL CENTRE

for Child & Youth Depression

THE KREMBIL CENTRE

for Neuroinformatics

THE AZRIELI FOUNDATION

Adult Neurodevelopmental Centre

THE TEMERTY CENTRE

for Therapeutic Brain Intervention

THE AZRIELI CENTRE

for Neuro-Radiochemistry

THE TANENBAUM CENTRE

for Pharmacogenetics

For CAMH in particular, this level of philanthropic support is especially significant. Not that long ago, the level of stigma around mental illness prevented many from publicly supporting mental health causes. It was only in 2009 that CAMH recognized the McCain Family generous gift of \$2million to support the second phase of our Queen Street Redevelopment Project. This marked the first time in our history that a building had been named for a donor, signalling an important shift in public attitudes towards mental illness and addiction.

Without donor support, many advances in care and treatment would simply not be possible. We thank our donors for championing our goal to put mental health at the centre of health care and for their tremendous support in making our vision a reality.



Faces of Philanthropy: Paul Petro

What do CAMH's two new hospital buildings mean for the West Queen West community?

CAMH supporter, Paul Petro, shares his family's experience with mental health and the significance of CAMH's new hospital buildings in his community.

"I think it is important to share our stories to help erase the stigma and reflect how we all have a stake in the success of research and client support," said Paul Petro of Paul Petro Contemporary Art. Paul is a staple in the West Queen West community who has a long history of awareness when it comes to mental health issues in Canada. Due to an acute birth defect, Paul's older brother, who was seven at the time, was institutionalized at Orillia's Huronia Regional Centre (HRC) in 1964. Paul's family remained involved in the HRC community until 1999 when his brother was relocated to a group home in Toronto. "I was struck by the highly compassionate

relocation process," Paul recalled about his brother's transition to a new life in Toronto.

In 2001, Paul moved his gallery to Queen and Ossington. "I had already been living across the street from CAMH for a couple of years and was accustomed to the routine of saying hello and discussing the weather with regular clients of the hospital, having been sensitized at a very early age to approach these encounters with respect and compassion, and without judgement," Paul explained. "So I didn't hesitate when I was approached to offer my gallery as a setting for CAMH's UnMasked dinner fundraiser." UnMasked is an intimate dinner party filled with and inspiring conversations to raise funds in support of mental health research and advocacy. "One of the highlights of these dinners was the opportunity



"I think it is important to share our stories to help erase the stigma and reflect how we all have a stake in the success of research and client support"

to listen to a presentation by a member of the CAMH research staff who would describe the groundbreaking work that they were doing." Today, this research includes brain imaging to advance diagnosis and treatment for mental illness, neurodegenerative disease and other brain disorders, and extensive policy research including studies on suicide notes for prevention. study of hundreds of suicide notes in hopes of preventing further tragedies, and more.

Growing up with a family member who struggled with mental health issues deeply affected Paul's world view. "I gained a greater appreciation for the simple things in life," Paul mentioned. "Watching the phases of redevelopment unfold across the street from my gallery provides many opportunities for reflection on the roles of art and science in our life." CAMH is currently in the process of opening two new buildings to advance treatment for patients and research capacity for clinicians.

"The two new CAMH buildings, one including a publicly-accessible library, will make CAMH feel more open to the neighbourhood and mental health more intelligible to the community." The library will be located right across from Paul's gallery and, as somebody with lived experience, he hopes that access to information and resources will help erase some of the stigma around mental health. "My main hope is that the services provided by the hospital will become increasingly inclusive, accessible and responsive to day-to-day inquiries by those in crisis or distress as much as by those in search of answers to questions. With the beginnings of a trend away from policing mental health, CAMH is now in a potentially better position to progressively participate on the front lines as well as in its many areas of research."

COVID-19 Resource

We hope that you and your family, friends and colleagues have remained safe and well during this most unprecedented time.

From the outset of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have been focused on providing exemplary care for our patients, following every precaution to keep our staff and patients safe and being transparent with our communications with the patients, staff and the public.

At CAMH, we know this situation is stressful for everyone. For people living with mental illness and addictions, it may be especially difficult to cope.

To support the mental health of our communities, we created a free online resource that includes a discussion forum, tips from our experts and helpful tools to manage stress, anxiety and grief brought on by the pandemic.

You can visit www.camh.ca/covid19 to access this important resource.

And while we have strived to be here for the community, we also want to thank the community for being there for CAMH, especially our patients and frontline workers.

We are so thankful to the many local businesses and individuals who donated gifts of PPE, warm meals, teddy bears, chocolate, non-alcoholic beverages, flowers and other items that helped to keep our patients and staff safe and feeling supported and appreciated.

Finally, we thank our amazing and dedicated staff members for keeping our patients and our community safe.

CAMH thanks our frontline staff for keeping our patients and community safe during COVID-19.





Mystery Under Wraps

**What...or who...is hiding behind this covering?
It won't be long now until the mystery is revealed.
Stay tuned for more details.**



Thank you!

**This phase of the Redevelopment Project is almost complete.
Thank you for your patience and support.**

**We look so forward to welcoming you into our new buildings
and celebrating the transformation of mental health care with you!**

Continue the conversation online

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