



Drilling to start mid-October on MHS grounds

Part of ongoing preparatory work for new Providence Care Hospital

In preparation for our new Providence Care Hospital, as with any new construction project of this magnitude, it is necessary to complete a Phase 2 Environmental Impact Assessment. This will require drilling on the grounds of Mental Health Services.

Drilling to take place mid-October to early December, 2011

The Phase 2 Environmental Impact Assessment work involves subsurface investigation of the soil, rock and groundwater to determine if there is any existing contamination that needs to be cleaned up. The drilling will also provide information about the strength of the soil and rock, which will help the structural engineers design the foundations for our new hospital. In order to carry out this investigation 200-300 holes will be dug throughout the Westwood site grounds. (Between King St on the north, the access road to the east, the Lake Ontario Park fence to the west and the top of the hill to the south.)

The majority of the boreholes will be drilled into bedrock which will be noisy. The drilling process uses water continuously to minimize dust. The majority of these holes will be plugged immediately after drilling.

There are around five holes that will have wells installed in order to monitor groundwater conditions over the next year. These wells will protrude about 1m above ground and have lockable caps on them so that they can not be accessed except by authorized technicians.

Two holes will be drilled approximately 200 metres deep and a test geothermal system will be installed to determine the feasibility of installing a geothermal heating/cooling system in the new hospital. There will be some equipment required to remain on site during this trial which will be secured and then removed when the testing is done.

Safety Measures in Place

The safety and well-being of our clients, visitors and staff is a high priority. The company conducting the investigative work will have supervision on site and will ensure work areas are secure. All drill holes will be filled once the drilling is complete. Equipment will be stored in a safe and secure location at the end of each day.

***We appreciate your cooperation and understanding
while this necessary work is taking place.***