



## BACKGROUNDER:

### The New MUHC: transforming health care for generations to come

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The New McGill University Health Centre (MUHC) isn't about bricks and mortar. It's about improving the care we offer our patients. As an academic health centre, the MUHC has a four-part mission: providing specialized patient care, teaching the next generation of healthcare professionals, conducting fundamental and clinical research, and evaluating new technologies. Of course, none of this is possible without the contribution of our more than 13,000 exceptional employees.

#### Better patient care in better facilities

Our patients and their families are at the heart of what we do. The New MUHC will feature **100 per cent single-patient rooms**, creating a more comfortable, dignified, safer and more effective environment for patients and staff.

- Reduction in hospital-acquired infections thanks to single-patient rooms: **45%**<sup>1</sup>
- Increase in satisfaction thanks to reduced noise in single-patient rooms: **50%**<sup>2</sup>
- Average reduction in pain medication costs for patients exposed to natural light: **22%**<sup>3</sup>
- Percentage of age groups and patient types who reported greater satisfaction in single-patient rooms: **100%**<sup>4</sup>
- Empowerment of patients with single-patient rooms that provide control over lighting, temperature and other aspects of the physical environment
- Encouragement of family members in healing and care through a dedicated family area with daybed

#### Caring for those who care for our community

The MUHC is one of Montreal's Top 15 employers. The Redevelopment Project will make the MUHC an even better place at which to build one's career, enhancing our ability to attract and retain top healthcare professionals. Benefits of the New MUHC include:

- More than \$190 million in state-of-the-art equipment and technology will give caregivers the latest tools.
- Logical adjacencies and efficient, ergonomic design will make working life easier and reduce time wasted by unnecessary walking: nurses' current average travel is 12 km a day.
- A more pleasant, convenient and dynamic environment with on-site daycares, pharmacies, retail areas, reserved parking areas for employees, staff lounges and rest areas.
- Access to natural light, green spaces and nature will alleviate stress and create opportunities for rejuvenation.

#### A facility designed for teaching

In 2005-06, close to 3,000 people received training at the MUHC, including 825 medical and surgical residents, 450 medical students, 1,075 nurses, and 525 people in health-related disciplines. These students go on to become the next generation of health professionals, serving our community at the MUHC and other Quebec institutions. Here is how the New MUHC will strengthen teaching:

- Single-patient rooms will have ample space for students so teaching can take place without compromising patient confidentiality or comfort.
- Access to high-tech simulation will let students practice complex surgical techniques outside the operating room.
- Dedicated teaching areas will allow students and teachers to interact comfortably away from patients.
- Telemedicine and other communications technologies will allow for remote teaching, giving students the chance to learn from institutions across Canada and around the world.

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<sup>1</sup> "Modern Hospital Design for Infection Control". Van Enk, Richard. *Health Care Design* September, 2006.

<sup>2</sup> Pebble Project study at St. Alphonsus Regional Medical Centre in Boise, Idaho. <http://www.healthdesign.org/research/pebble/data.php>

<sup>3</sup> "The Effect of Sunlight on Postoperative Analgesic Medication Use: A Prospective Study of Patients Undergoing Spinal Surgery."

Walch, Jeffrey et al. *Psychosomatic Medicine* 67:156-163 (2005).

<sup>4</sup> "How Single versus Double Patient Rooms Affect Outcomes." Ulrich, Roger S. <http://www.sykehusplan.org/data/ulrich.pdf>

## Accelerating discovery at the new Research Institute at the Glen

The Research Institute of the MUHC (RI-MUHC) is an international research powerhouse, supporting over 600 researchers and over 1,700 graduate students, post-doctoral students and fellows devoted to a broad spectrum of fundamental and clinical research. Over 1,000 clinical research studies are conducted each year; in 2007-08, MUHC researchers attracted more than \$84 million in external funding.

Thanks to the largest grant ever awarded by the Canada Foundation For Innovation to a single institution—\$100 million, matched by \$100 million from the Quebec government and \$50 million from donors—the MUHC is creating one of the most advanced research facilities in North America at the Glen Campus:

- More than 34,000 square metres will be dedicated specifically to research
- The Centre for Innovative Medicine (a self-contained clinical trials facility) and Centre for Translational Biology (specializing in advanced genetics research) will be unique in Canada, helping move discoveries from the lab bench to the marketplace for the benefit of patients around the world.
- The “Montreal Excellerator”, a not-for-profit venture created through the RI-MUHC and McGill University, will help accelerate the conversion of discoveries into clinical and commercial activities, keeping the economic benefits of new drugs, treatments and technologies in Canada. **The RI-MUHC expects to generate more than 1,000 direct new jobs in the next decade**, and an even larger number in indirect job creation.