



# Glenn Thibeault, MPP

## Sudbury

### **Health Sciences North to Get \$5.8 Million Boost From Ontario Budget** *Province to Increase Hospital Funding in Sudbury to Reduce Wait Times and Expand Services*

**NEWS**

May 5, 2017

Ontario will invest an additional \$5.8 million in Health Sciences North that would provide faster access to health care, expand crucial services and procedures, and improve the experience of local patients.

This investment in Sudbury's community hospital is part of the 2017 Budget. The proposed Budget will also deliver Sudbury's St. Joseph's Continuing Care Centre with more than \$210,000 in additional funding.

These investments would provide Sudbury patients with improved access and reduced wait times for chemotherapy, stroke treatments, hip and knee replacements, Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRIs) and other vital services and procedures.

Ontario is increasing access to care, reducing wait times and improving the patient experience through its [Patients First Action Plan for Health Care](#) and [OHIP+: Children and Youth Pharmacare](#) – protecting health care today and into the future.

#### **QUOTES**

“These new investments will mean reduced wait times, better access to more procedures, and an improved experience for patients in Sudbury. This is a good budget for our community, and I will continue to be a strong advocate to ensure Sudbury has access to the highest quality healthcare.”

— Glenn Thibeault, MPP for Sudbury

“By increasing our investment to each and every publicly funded hospital in Ontario, patients will be able to connect with specialists faster, have reduced wait times and better access to the procedures they need close to home.”

— Dr. Eric Hoskins, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care

“The North East LHIN works diligently with all of our 25 hospital to improve access to care and reduce wait times. This new investment will benefit Northerners by strengthening access to vital services. This is good news for our entire North East region.”

— Louise Paquette, CEO of the North East Local Health Integration Network (LHIN)

“This funding will help alleviate the pressures we are facing here at HSN, which are common to hospitals across Ontario. We know we still have a lot of work ahead of us, but this funding is a step toward improving patient care in Greater Sudbury.”

— Nicole Everest, Chair, Board of Directors, Health Sciences North

“St. Joseph’s Continuing Care Centre is thankful for the funding announcement as it will allow us to continue our programs which serve as a medical intervention for vulnerable patients, particularly the frail elderly that allows them to return to the community and avoid Alternative Level of Care designation and long-term care placement.”

—Jo-Anne Palkovits, President and CEO, St. Joseph’s Continuing Care Centre

## QUICK FACTS

- Each of Ontario’s 141 public hospitals will receive at least a 2 per cent increase to its base funding in 2017–18.
- This investment will also support service delivery by hospitals in high-growth communities, as well as small, medium, northern and rural hospitals, and mental health and stand-alone paediatric hospitals.
- Hospital operating funding in Ontario has increased more than 58 per cent, from \$11.3 billion in 2003 to \$18 billion this year.
- In 2016, the province announced an investment of up to \$4.6 million to support an expansion of Health Sciences North to allow for the installation of a PET-CT scanner. This is in addition to the \$1.6 million the province has committed to cover the scanner’s annual operating costs.
- Ontario’s health care budget will total \$53.8 billion in 2017–18 — a 3.8 per cent increase from the previous year.
- The province also plans to invest an additional [\\$9 billion over 10 years in capital grants to hospitals to build modern infrastructure](#). About 34 hospital projects are now underway across the province.

## LEARN MORE

[2017 Ontario Budget](#)

[Patients First: Action Plan for Health Care](#)

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