

Community Care within Easy Reach

The growth and evolution of St. Mary's Hospital Center reflects ongoing changes in the delivery of healthcare. In recent years, there has been a trend toward shorter hospital stays, along with a growing emphasis on outpatient services for maintenance care, preventative strategies and the management of acute ailments.

The growth of St. Mary's Family Medicine Centre - now the largest such centre in Montreal - is one indication of how the Hospital is responding to these changes. St. Mary's has also launched the Women's Health and Wellness Initiative, an ambitious program that is revolutionizing the focus and availability of specialized health care for women of all ages and walks of life, by formalizing the important role the Hospital has always played in women's health:

- It is home of one of the largest Birthing Centres on the island of Montreal.
- The Hospital has some of the finest gynaecologists and obstetricians in the province.
- It operates the largest Family Medicine residency training program in the country.
- Its recently renovated Community Cancer Centre handles one of the largest populations of breast and gynaecological cancer patients in Montreal.

St. Mary's is embarking on a bold new venture aimed at providing its patients with the highest level of primary and secondary care. The St. Mary's Hospital Foundation has acquired a facility at 5300 Cote-des-Neiges that promises to relieve congestion at the adjacent Hospital. Conveniently located next to a metro station, this community care centre will offer walk-in services, including medical imaging, private medical clinics, CAM-related services and clinics related to the Women's Health and Wellness Initiative.

Plans call for the current structure to be rebuilt as a six-storey building, thereby doubling its space - from 3,000 square metres to 6,000 square metres. This bright new centre will deliver the following benefits:

1. **Improved access** - the building's location on Côte-des-Neiges, next to a metro station, will make it readily accessible for walk-in clinics and other services.
2. **Easing of congestion** - the provision of walk-in services at the new facility will ease congestion at the Hospital and reduce waiting times for certain types of procedures.
3. **Women's Health and Wellness** - this facility will provide a spacious new home for this exciting initiative. Many of the obstetric and gynaecological services and clinics in this facility will complement those already being offered at the Hospital.
4. **CAM-related services** - the provision of clinics for acupuncture, naturopathy and other alternative therapies will further enhance the Hospital's stellar reputation for integrative medicine.

The new community care facilities at 5300 Côte-des-Neiges will enable St. Mary's to keep pace with the ever-evolving face of contemporary medicine and to uphold its reputation for delivering *healthcare on a human scale*.