

Regional Cancer Program at Southlake

Backgrounder

THE NUMBERS SAY IT ALL:

Southlake's Regional Cancer Program must be prepared to accommodate **100,000** patient visits for cancer care by **2012**, a six-fold increase from current visits. That means expanded surgical suites and inpatient cancer units for patients requiring surgery and hospital admission. That also means a redevelopment of the existing Laboratory to accommodate the anticipated **89%** increase in testing and advanced testing technologies required for the complexities that characterize many cancers.



- The **Regional Cancer Program** will provide a full range of cancer services throughout the Southlake campus, including advanced screening and diagnostics in the Medical Arts Building at Davis Drive and Lundy's Lane; laboratory, surgical, inpatient and supportive care services in the main Hospital building, and outpatient services in the state-of-the-art Regional Cancer Centre, the centrepiece of the Regional Cancer Program at Southlake.
- The **Regional Cancer Centre** will serve as the outpatient cancer treatment centre, providing chemotherapy, radiation therapy, follow-up and clinical trials, with capacity for 100,000 patient visits by 2012, a six-fold increase from the current number of annual cancer patient visits. Radiation therapy, a required treatment for almost 60% of cancer patients, and previously only available in Toronto as the closest site to York Region residents, will be a welcome addition to cancer care services in our region, given the necessity for daily treatments over many weeks.

Scheduled to open in mid-2009, the Regional Cancer Centre will house one of the most advanced cancer care teams in a non-teaching hospital in Canada, thanks in large part to Southlake's collaboration with Princess Margaret Hospital (PMH). With access to PMH's world-renowned expertise in cancer research and care, Southlake patients will have access to the latest technology and newest discoveries the moment they become available, translating into care that is more timely, targeted, accurate, and less invasive, all leading to better outcomes and more lives saved.

- When it comes to imaging, the future is at Southlake's **Diagnostic Imaging Centre**. More diagnostic images, shorter examination times, immediate access to digital images by physicians, greater capacity for more patients to be seen, and improved management and accessibility of diagnostic imaging files all translate to better care.

The centrepiece of the Diagnostic Imaging Centre is the Digital Mammography unit, one of Canada's first fully digital centres. Digital





Southlake... *Count on me*
Supporting the Regional Cancer Program

Building the Regional Cancer Program is the most ambitious initiative ever undertaken in this region and will take the support of us all.

The **Southlake . . . count on me** fundraising campaign asks each and every person in our region to help build this much-needed service so our family members, friends, neighbours and colleagues can be cared for in the supportive arms of their own community.

Your support is needed now more than ever to help pay for construction costs, purchase cutting edge equipment and ensure that our cancer team is on the forefront of the most advanced knowledge available.

The \$60 million Southlake . . . *count on me* campaign needs your help to bring the most advanced cancer care to our region, right now, and transform the face of cancer care in our community.

Every day, in every way, you count on Southlake. Today we hope Southlake can count on you.

mammography is the 'gold standard' for mammography world-wide and for good reason. Digital mammography provides a better detection rate at a lower radiation dose than traditional film mammography. It takes far less time to process exams and it is estimated that Southlake's Digital Mammography unit will double its annual mammograms to 20,000. Even more important is the accuracy of the digital technology which can, for some women, detect 28% more cancers than film mammography.

- The **Diagnostic Assessment Centre** has been designed to provide both rapid and streamlined screening and/or assessment procedures so that, under one roof, Southlake patients will have quick access to all the tests required to make a definitive diagnosis. The Centre will open with a focus on breast and lung cancer with plans to expand to services for prostate and colorectal cancer.

The **Breast Assessment Unit** is a fast-track service for women who require further assessment following suspicious findings in a mammogram, biopsy or physical examination. In one comfortable location, women will have rapid access to digital mammography, ultrasound, and biopsy, allowing for expedited clinical decisions and shorter time to treatment, if required, and with the support of one health care provider to coordinate all procedures. In addition to the obvious clinical benefits, this service will dramatically reduce a woman's anxiety by moving quickly to a diagnosis and treatment plan. In fact, the goal is to provide the patient with a definitive diagnosis and treatment plan within two weeks of first examination of a suspicious finding.

The **Lung Assessment Unit:** Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer deaths in Canada and, unlike many other forms of cancer, progresses rapidly with symptoms often surfacing when it is too late for curative treatment. The Lung Assessment Program will focus on those with the highest risk, with a goal to reduce the timeframe for diagnosis from several months to a few weeks. An equally important role will be coordinating the management of the patient's care from referral to diagnosis.

- The Regional Cancer Program at

Southlake will feature some of the latest advances in cancer care – equipment technologies that will help detect cancer sooner, increase the effectiveness of treatment, and mark Southlake as a Canadian leader. In addition to the gold-standard digital mammography, highlights of Southlake's advanced technologies include:

- **Image-guided radiation therapy** units, the most advanced radiation therapy available – one per treatment room – will ensure more



accurate and efficient treatment.

- The Regional Cancer Program will feature a state-of-the-art **digital specimen radiography unit**, one of only a handful in Canada, and specially designed to expedite diagnostic decisions for surgeons in the operating room. Where surgeons now must wait for the specimen to be transported from the operating room, X-rayed and the film reviewed by a radiologist or pathologist, they will soon have access to digital specimen images directly within the surgical suite. Equipped with this critical information, the health care team can immediately verify the lesion removal, form a clinical decision about the next stage care and successfully conclude the surgery, further reducing the patient's exposure to anesthesia.



SOUTHLAKE
REGIONAL HEALTH CENTRE