

HOSPITAL RENAMING

WEST NIAGARA MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

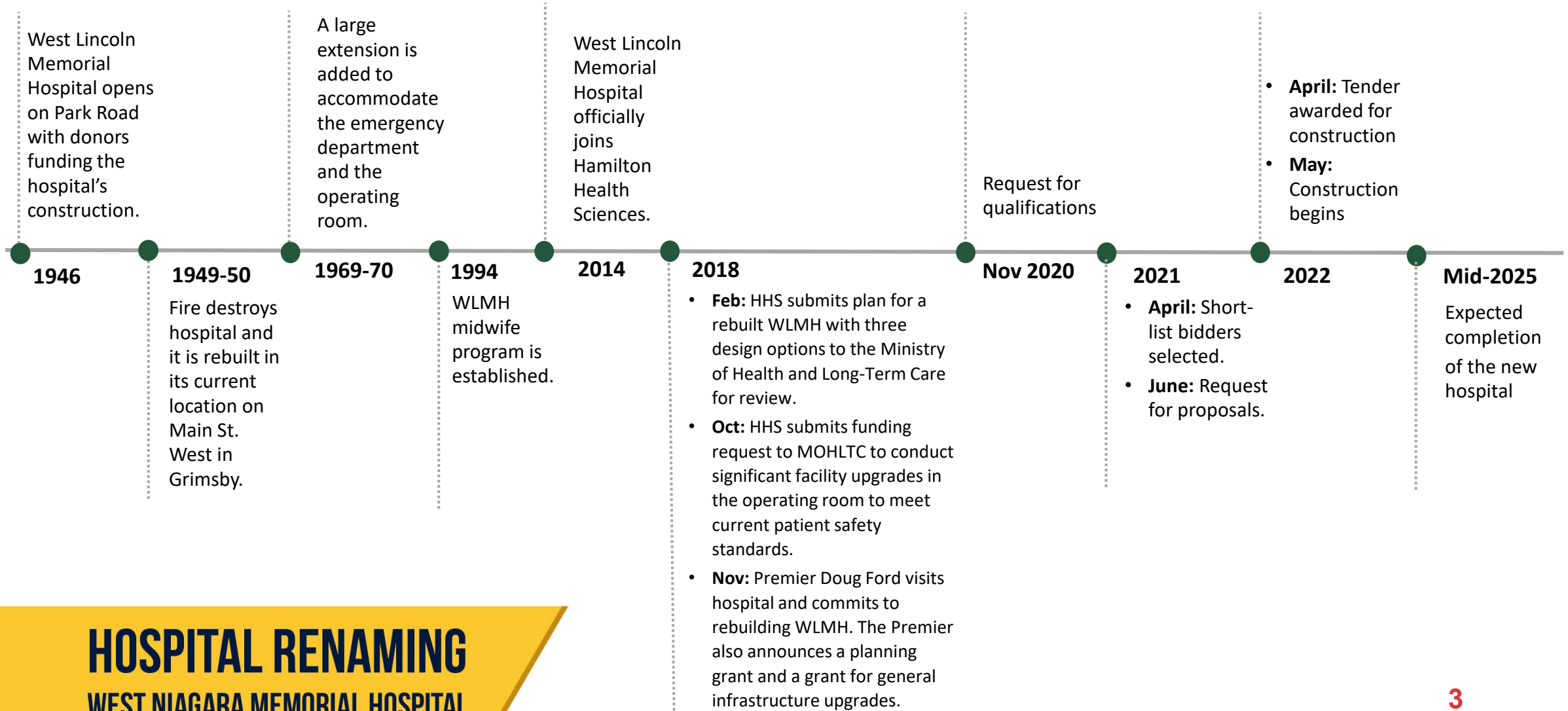
May 8, 2024

Project Background: The New Hospital

- West Lincoln Memorial Hospital (WLMH), a Hamilton Health Sciences hospital, is being rebuilt to accommodate the growing health care needs of west Niagara's communities.
- Public support of the new hospital has been overwhelmingly positive, as local residents acknowledge this important endeavour and have demonstrated unwavering commitment to this redevelopment project.



WLMH Timeline



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Take it to the Finish Campaign

- “Take it to the Finish...Building a Healthy Community Campaign” was the name of the fundraising campaign for the new hospital, led by the WLMH Foundation
- The campaign goal was \$7.5 million.
- In November 2022, the Campaign Team announced that as a community we have met the goal of the campaign and together achieved the \$50 million local share to build and equip the new hospital.
- We recognize the contributions of the Region of Niagara, the three local municipalities, and community and business members.

Capturing the Opportunity

- After discussing the matter, the Mayors of Grimsby, Lincoln, and West Lincoln, as well as the Regional Chair of Niagara, submitted a request to Hamilton Health Sciences (HHS) to consider a proposed name change to ***West Niagara Memorial Hospital***.
- The redevelopment of the West Lincoln Memorial Hospital (WLMH) facility makes for an opportune time to explore the idea of this name change.
- The proposed name aims to better represent the broader community the hospital serves and the geographical location of the hospital.

Capturing the Opportunity

- Names not only identify, but they also provide historical connections and symbolize the communities in which they belong. Since the creation of the Niagara Region in 1970, the hospital is no longer located in what was formerly known as “West Lincoln County.”
- Much thought has also been given to keeping “memorial” as part of the hospital name, as the word retains part of its history. The word “Memorial” was included in the original name of the hospital – West Lincoln Memorial Hospital – to pay homage to those who served in the two World Wars at the time the hospital was founded in 1946.
- The proposed new name – ***West Niagara Memorial Hospital*** – continues to uphold this recognition.

Public Engagement

- We recognize that the initial engagement was limited in scope and timing and apologize for this. We heard loud and clear that more public engagement was desired, and this is why we implemented a survey across the three municipalities – with community members able to respond within their community. And this is why we have provided an opportunity for in-person public input and Council dialogue this evening.
- We received feedback from many Lincoln, West Lincoln, and Grimsby community members and are grateful for your passion and care towards the hospital as a cherished resource for our communities.
- The municipalities, in consultation with HHS and the Foundation, have expanded public consultation to help inform the HHS Board of Directors in its decision about this request.

Survey

- The survey was available digitally, and in hard copy at Town of Lincoln facilities.
- Staff members also distributed to our local seniors' homes to facilitate inclusive participation. And we understand that this happened across all three municipalities.
- We thank everyone who completed the survey, and those who provided comments on our Speak Up Lincoln page. Your voices are being heard, and every one will be shared with the project team.
- At the same time, a scientific poll was conducted to further inform this decision.

Participation in Public Engagement Tools

Total survey
responses: 459

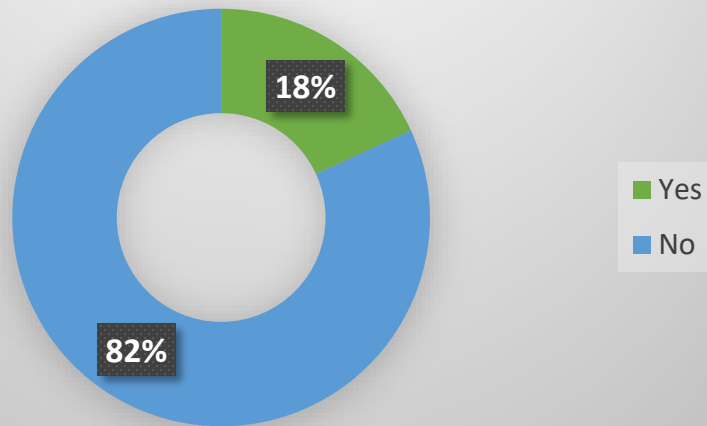
Questions
(Speak Up
Lincoln): 64

Digital survey
responses: 380

Paper survey
responses: 79

Survey Results

Are you in favour of changing the current name of West Lincoln Memorial Hospital to West Niagara Memorial Hospital?



Respondents' communities of residence:

Lincoln: 390

Other: 69

- Grimsby: 41
- West Lincoln: 25
- Dunnville: 1
- Pelham: 1
- Stoney Creek: 1

Next Steps

- **May 9:** Town of Grimsby Council Meeting
- **May 21:** Township of West Lincoln Council Meeting
- **Late May:** HHS expected to make a decision about the proposed new name for the hospital.
- Should the proposed new name be approved, it would be effective upon the opening of the new hospital in **mid-2025**.

Thank You

Questions?