

ERINOAKKIDS

Centre for Treatment and Development

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Redevelopment Project Update

Take a peek behind the scenes



Artist's concept of the Halton site, looking south toward the new Oakville hospital.

After publicly announcing the locations of our three new sites in Brampton, Oakville, and Mississauga last fall, we have entered a more quiet phase of ErinoakKids' redevelopment project.

In October an RFP was released; now the three teams shortlisted to bid on the project are developing proposed designs for the new facilities.

Infrastructure Ontario (IO) and ErinoakKids are meeting with each team regularly to receive their ideas and provide feedback. As well, planning design compliance consultants from Parkin Architects will be with us for the duration of the project to ensure the new facilities meet outlined specifications.

Once the RFP closes in April, IO and ErinoakKids will evaluate the submissions and select the team whose design most closely meets our vision for the

new facilities. The successful team will be announced in the fall, and groundbreaking and construction will then begin.

Although we will not move to the new sites until early 2017, much needs to be done to ensure a seamless transition for clients and their families, staff and others. Over the next three years, an ErinoakKids Operational Steering Committee, supported by several planning groups, will oversee plans for a successful transfer of services and move of staff and volunteers to our new facilities.

Also underway is our \$20-million *In My Dreams* campaign to equip our new facilities and support programs and services that are not funded by government. We are pleased by the response so far. To learn about and join the campaign, please visit erinoakkids.ca.

Bridget Fewtrell • President & CEO

Earlier this year, we implemented a new structure in Autism Services, and its positive impact is already being experienced!



Autism Services has transitioned from a programmatic to a more integrated approach. This change allows us to serve clients and families more seamlessly while aligning to the broader ErinoakKids structure. As a result, the newly appointed Autism Services Clinical Operations Managers, Clinical Services Supervisors, Psychology Lead, and Transformation and Integration Lead now work alongside the larger management team and staff to foster integration, eliminate service silos, and build strong interprofessional teams.

One of the most exciting changes in the Autism Services program has been the creation of a comprehensive care path for clients. These care paths outline the journey that each child takes through ErinoakKids. As children transition through service streams, Senior Autism Consultants and their teams will now support each child for duration of their time at ErinoakKids. We have been thrilled by the positive response of our clients' families to this change.

Bridget Fewtrell

Karissa has come a long way in 13 years!

A week after Karissa Campbell was born six weeks premature, she experienced a massive brain hemorrhage. Her parents were shocked to learn she only had a 40 per cent chance of survival.

But Karissa, now 13, is a fighter and made it through those first few terrible weeks and months. At age one she was diagnosed with cerebral palsy and doctors warned her parents that she would experience multiple challenges growing up. It was a blow, but not unexpected. Her doctors referred Karissa to ErinoakKids at the age of two.

Since then, Karissa has come a long way. Over the course of her journey at ErinoakKids, she has received a wide array of services, all designed to help her achieve as much as possible. She's had occupational therapy, physiotherapy, speech and language services orthotics, Assistive Devices Resource Services, and has visited the seating clinic multiple times over the years to be fitted for wheelchairs.

Additional support from an ErinoakKids social worker and service navigator helped Karissa's mother, Andrea Schindhelm, to get through some very rough times.

"I am raising Karissa and her brother and sister on my own while also managing a part-time job," Andrea explains.

"The ErinoakKids staff members are so dedicated, helpful and patient and they understand exactly what we are going through. They are like family!"



Research supports healthcare improvements

ErinoakKids participates in research together with regional provincial and national partner organizations, including McMaster University, Western University, the University of Washington and many others. We are currently involved in six multi-agency studies, related to cerebral palsy, neuromuscular disorders and health systems research.

Increasing our involvement in research is part of the ErinoakKids Strategic Plan. We want to share our expertise and contribute to improvements in health care. To facilitate this endeavour, we have recruited a Research Assistant to organize and implement projects, recruit participants, collect data and liaise with research organizations.

Not only will our research activity lead to improvements in service for clients, it has enabled us to obtain new equipment as part of study participation.

Community Champions Event Guide now available online!

We think fundraising should be FUN, and our Community Champions agree! Many ErinoakKids supporters organize events to raise funds for us. We have made it easier with the creation of the Community Champions Event Guide, available at Erinoakkids.ca. In the guide, you will find information on:

- How to organize a fundraising event
- Event ideas, themes and helpful tips
- Information on tax receipts, licenses and insurance guidelines
- Details on your donations in action

The guide will help with any kind of event, whether it's a garage sale, marathon, walk-a-thon, or anything else! You can also create your own personal fundraising pages that will make it easy to communicate event details and collect donations online.

Submit your event proposal through our website, and a Fundraising team member will reach out to help you with next steps!

So much of what we do for our kids is possible because of our Community Champions.

Upcoming Events

April 27: EOK 5K fundraiser (see erinoakkids.ca for details)

June 2: ErinoakKids' Players present *Snow White*

June 25: Annual General Meeting

Save the date

October 24: 2014 Pride & Joy Awards