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**County of Essex Council**

Submitted For Review

**Erie Shores HealthCare**



# Overview

- Situation
- Background
- State of Affairs
- Our Request

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# SITUATION

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# Care Happens Here

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Together with Erie Shores HealthCare (ESHC), the Erie Shores Health Foundation (ESHF) has initiated the "Care Happens Here" campaign to fundraise \$15 million in capital equipment for the redevelopment of our diagnostic imaging department and to expand surgical services.

Capital equipment investments are always procured via private fundraising. Since our launch in April 2023, generous community benefactors have pledged over \$3 million to our fundraising efforts.



# Care Close To Home

The campaign presents a remarkable opportunity as Erie Shores HealthCare reintroduces its "Care Close to Home" philosophy and experiences consistent growth.

- Improving accessibility for patients and their families
- Serving as a fundamental cornerstone for the progression of healthcare throughout Essex County.

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# BACKGROUND



# Healthcare Delivery

Throughout the past few years, ESHC has established itself as a significant stakeholder in the implementation of healthcare delivery, and it has had a positive impact on the Windsor-Essex County region.

## Windsor-Essex County Area Influence

### System Partnership

ESHC was instrumental in establishing a system partnership with Essex-Windsor EMS and Windsor Regional Hospital to extend its coverage to an additional 75,000 residents, encompassing Leamington, Kingsville, Essex, Amherstburg, Lakeshore, south Tecumseh, and more.

### Pandemic Response

Leading a comprehensive response to the pandemic, with a specific focus on assisting the agricultural sector and ensuring mobile connectivity in critical areas and communities.

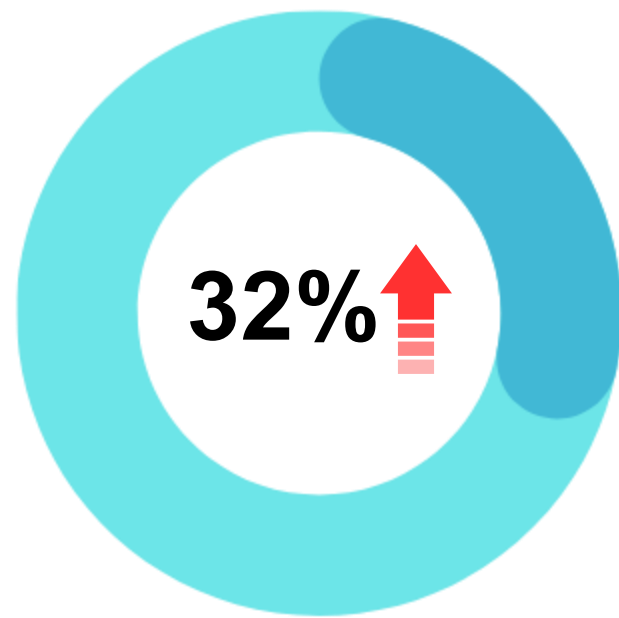
### Fiscal Balance

Upholding fiscal judiciousness and stability, including two consecutive balanced budgets.

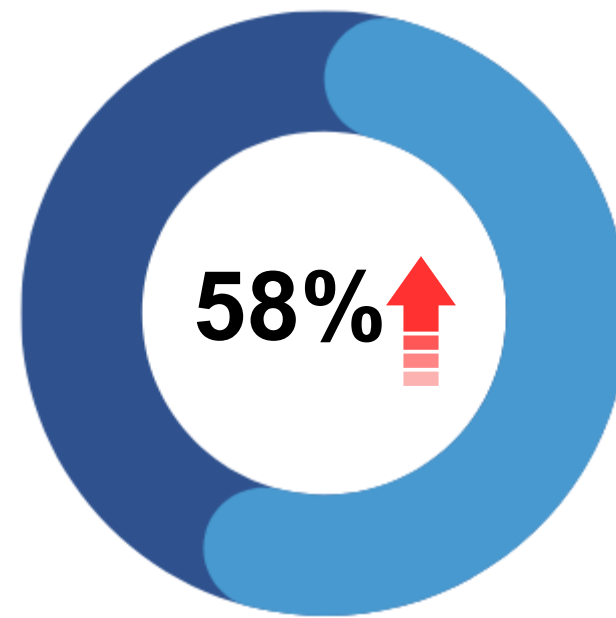


# Statistical Growth

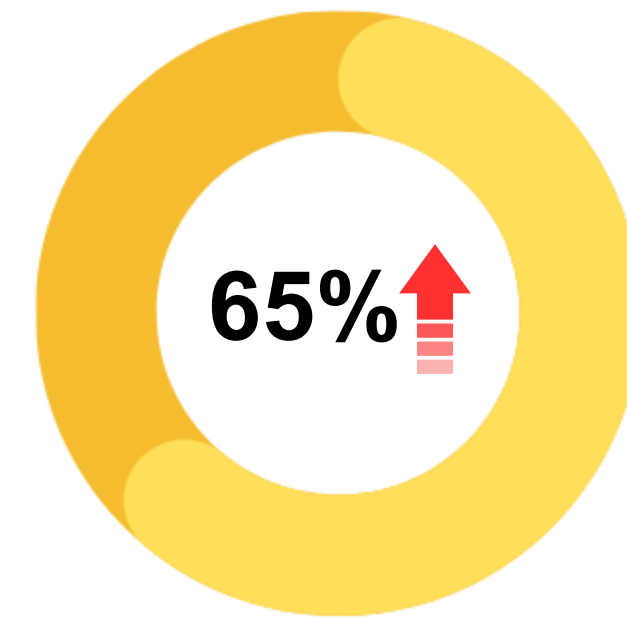
As a result of its evolution from a modest rural community hospital to its present state, ESHC has experienced phenomenal growth in the following areas:



**ER Visits**



**Hospital Admissions**



**Employees**



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# Exceptional Performance

Its extraordinary growth further bolsters ESHC's exceptional performance, as evidenced by its ranking among the top 10 hospitals in emergency room performance, low Alternative Level of Care (ALC) rates, and patient lengths of stay below the provincial average.

# Recognition

The accomplishments of ESHC have not eluded acknowledgment. The Ministry of Health and Ontario Health have provided the organization with substantial and unprecedented support, which is highlighted by our two most recent investments:

- \$1 million in MRI annual operational funding
- \$7.2 million in permanent operational funding for:
  - 2 additional Level 2 ICU beds
  - 12 additional acute care beds

**This endorsement acknowledges the vital role that ESHC plays in the healthcare delivery across WE.**

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# Improvements

We listened to our communities....over the course of the past two years, the following enhancements have been implemented:

- 24-hour Program Expansions (Lab, Respiratory, Pharmacy, and Diagnostic Imaging)
- Surgical Services Program Expansion
- Chemotherapy Program
- Mobile.Medical.Support. (M.M.S.) Unit
- Vascular Program
- Research Office
- Pelee Island Nursing Station



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STATE OF  
AFFAIRS



# Diagnostic Imaging

The care of inpatients, emergency room patients, and outpatients throughout Windsor-Essex is aided by all services offered by ESHC's Diagnostic Imaging (DI) department. They include:

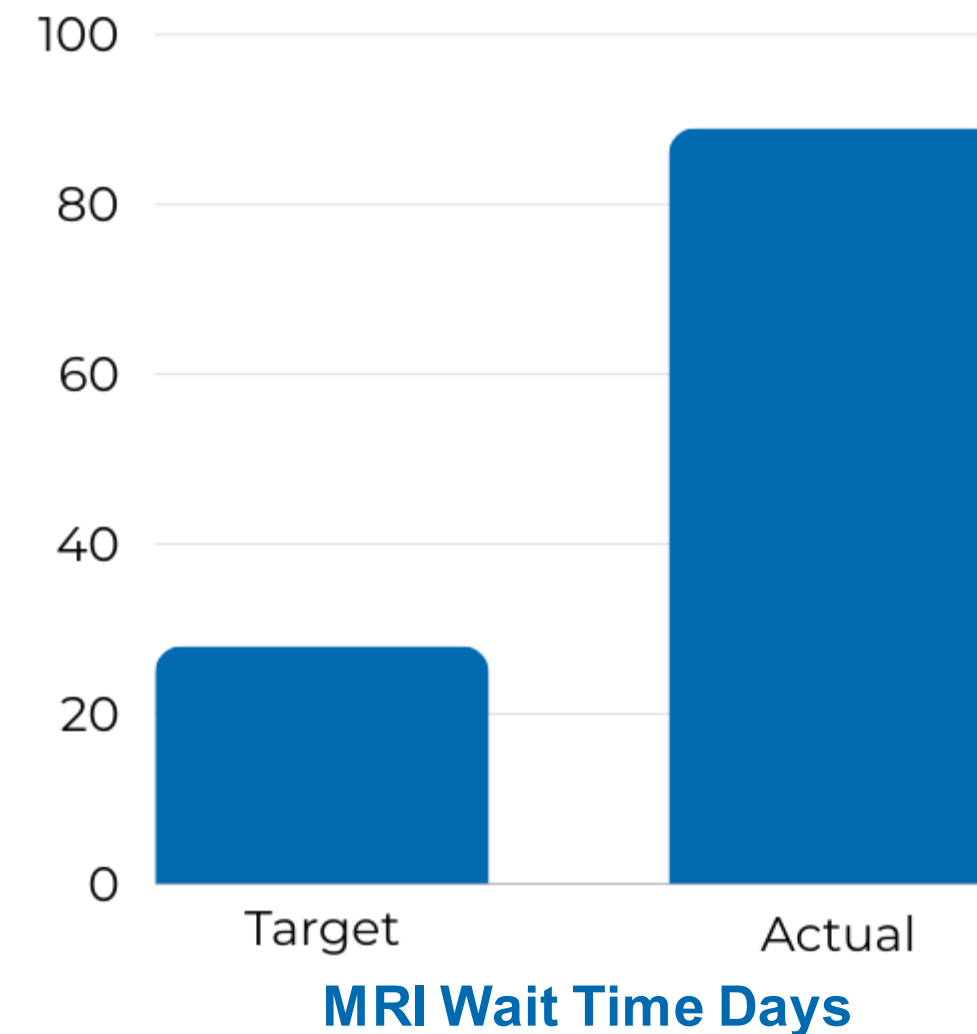
- X-Ray
- Fluoroscopy
- Computed Tomography (CT)
- Mammography
- Ultrasound
- Nuclear Medicine
- Bone Mineral Density
- MRI \*coming 2024\*

# DI Wait Times

The Diagnostic Imaging program has observed a 24% increase in imaging volumes over the last five years, with CT scans (also known as CAT scans) exhibiting the most significant growth at 152%.

There are currently 15,380 patients waiting for an MRI in Erie St. Clair. Locally, less urgent cases are waiting 89 days for a test, 61 days above the provincial target.

Mammograms, which are booked through the Ontario Breast Screening Program, currently have a wait list of 550 patients waiting for screening at Erie Shores.



# Surgical Expansion

For the purpose of accommodating growing volumes and types of procedures, the Surgical Program has been expanded, which includes the addition of equipment, instrumentation, and training. ESHC currently performs surgeries and procedures in the following areas:

- Orthopedics
- General Surgery
- Endoscopy
- Gynecology
- Plastics
- Dentistry
- \*more specialties coming in 2024\*





# Collaboration



To reduce wait times, improve access, and provide care care in close proximity to patients' homes, ESHC is actively exploring strategic collaborations with new surgical specialties to take advantage of operating room time.

**Each new surgical service may necessitate capital and infrastructure investments of up to \$3 million.**

# Diagnostic Imaging

The current equipment is end-of-life. It is difficult to maintain due to equipment downtime and a scarcity of parts, some of which date back to 1998.

Upgraded equipment enables advanced digital and artificial intelligence (AI) diagnostic capabilities, allowing for new types of imaging for cancer patients.

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# OUR REQUEST

# Request



Essex County Council has generously committed support to healthcare, and ESHC's request would see the continuation of that current financial commitment, already included in the County Levy. The timing of our request comes as the Hospice commitment is ending.

ESHC asks Essex County Council to receive this presentation as information and direct Administration to include ESHC's request for capital support in the 2024 Budget for consideration.

## Options:

1. That Essex County Council approve a 200k annual budgeted contribution to Erie Shores HealthCare, beginning in 2024/2025 and ending in 2034/2035, with the funds directed to ESHC for capital and infrastructure investments as part of the hospital's 'Care Happens Here' campaign.
2. That Essex County Council approve a 200k annual budgeted contribution to Erie Shores HealthCare, beginning in 2024/2025 and ending in 2034/2035, with the funds directed to ESHC for capital and infrastructure investments as part of the hospital's 'Care Happens Here' campaign, with 2% annual increase to the contribution accounting for inflationary pressures in capital acquisition.

# Reporting



Annually, ESHC requests an invitation to make a presentation to Essex County Council, either in person or through a briefing document, on performance outcomes, the allocation of contributed monies, and the impacts of the contributions on healthcare in Essex County.

# Questions?