



NHH Master Plan – Frequently Asked Questions

Northumberland Hills Hospital (NHH) is on a journey to create a new Master Plan.

Launched in May 2025, NHH's collaborative master planning process entitled, ***Growing Care for the Future***, will combine input from a broad range of sources, including community consultation.

1) What is a master plan and why does NHH need one?

Mandated by Ontario's Ministry of Health, hospital master planning looks at the current state and functionality of services and facilities in comparison with anticipated needs.

While a strategic plan guides near-term priorities, a master plan looks much farther in the future to provide a long-term redevelopment **roadmap** for **future growth** over the next 20 to 30 years, and beyond.

Our Master Plan will:

- build on the current strengths of NHH;
- consider the new opportunities and needs identified during visioning exercises and community consultation;
- address current and anticipated government direction regarding hospital service sustainability;
- position NHH for the necessary Ministry approval and support to advance future growth;
- define NHH's role as a strong medium-sized hospital within the system;
- identify how NHH can be an environmental steward by creating a sustainably accountable organization;
- leverage innovation and technology to better enable care for generations to come; and
- inform NHH's next strategic plan.

2) Who will be involved in the Master Planning process?

Ideally, everyone with an interest in NHH.

For the first portion of this work (May through October 2025), work has focused on internal interest holders. Our Master Planning Steering Committee, co-chaired by NHH's President and CEO and Board Chair, and comprising NHH staff, physicians, patients, caregivers, and volunteers, have gathered insights, conducted internal evaluations, and hosted focus group sessions exploring future needs and possibilities. This work has been supported by experts in planning, architecture, and health system data.

The next phase of consultation will look beyond NHH, inviting community partners and members of the public—through a mix of 1:1 conversations, generative discussions, public forums, and an online and in-hospital survey—to ask questions and share input into the vision for the future of NHH.

3) How long will the Master Planning process take?

Launched in May 2025, the **NHH Master Plan - *Growing Care for the Future***, is expected to take approximately 12 months to complete. It will conclude in May 2026 with a formal submission to the Ministry of Health and Ontario Health regarding the proposed long-term program and facility requirements of NHH.

4) Why is community input important?

The communities we serve are partners in this long-term planning process.

By co-designing our next Master Plan with our community, we will produce a plan we can all be proud of.

Our aim is a Master Plan thoughtfully designed to meet the needs of future generations and carry forward the time, effort and investment that those before us put into the hospital we enjoy today.

Thank you, in advance, for your interest and your input.

5) When will the needs identified take shape?

Constructing new healthcare spaces is a complex process with multiple stages of planning and approvals that may take many years to complete. The plans and ideas we will generate in this stage of our master planning process are conceptual – they will evolve as we collaborate with partners and government. Updates will be shared, as this work moves forward.