

# Humber River Hospital reaching new heights in health care

Canada's first digital hospital, a 1.8 million square-foot facility, to open in October

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Anna Eliopoulos, chair of the hospital's women's wellness committee, believes the care provided at Humber River Hospital is next to none. - Photo/COURTESY

Anna Eliopoulos is convinced she has a friend for life in Humber River Hospital.

"Humber River has been an integral part of my family," says Eliopoulos, chair of the hospital's women's wellness committee and a long-time volunteer and donor.

"You want the hospital to be the best it can be for your community. It's your safety net. It's your go-to hospital."

Anna knows how important it is to be treated close to family, herself a former patient.

"I was there five days and I had the confidence in the hospital," she says. "The care of the doctor and nurses was second to none."

"I just want the hospital to have the ability to showcase the excellent care staff and physicians provide," says the founder and president of Peter and Paul's Baskets and Gifts.

That showcase is on the horizon as Humber River Hospital's good work and community footprint continues to grow with the opening in October of Canada's first digital hospital, a 14-storey, 1.8 million square foot facility, visible just north of Hwy. 401 and Keele Street.

Creating an optimal health care experience for women is at the heart of the new Humber River Hospital's Breast Health Centre being constructed there. A big part of that experience comes from the Sensory Suite, designed to distract a woman from the discomfort and anxiety of having a mammogram.

Humber River will be one of only five other hospitals in Canada to utilize the Sensory Suite technology, with the goal of enhancing care for women on so many levels.

In the Suite, patients have the option of choosing from different scenes using an iPad – seaside, garden or waterfall with gentle complimentary sound – to create an ambience specific to their interests and comfort levels that will last for the duration of the testing.

With the Sensory Suite, Humber River will be empowering patients to play a leadership role in their own care delivery.

For doctors like Chief of Diagnostic Imaging, Dr. Russell Blumer, the new hospital campus is a big boost for all medical professionals.