



**Mackenzie Richmond Hill Hospital**  
10 Trench Street, Richmond Hill ON L4C 4Z3  
905-883-1212

**Cortellucci Vaughan Hospital**  
3200 Major Mackenzie Drive West, Vaughan ON L6A 4Z3  
905-417-2000

February 1, 2022

Rhonda L. Lenton, PhD  
President & Vice-Chancellor York University  
4700 Keele Street  
Toronto, Ontario  
M3J 1P3

Dear Dr. Lenton,

On behalf of Mackenzie Health, I am pleased to support York University's proposal to build the York School of Medicine in the City of Vaughan as part of The Vaughan Healthcare Precinct Plan.

At Mackenzie Health our mission is to relentlessly improve care to create healthier communities. Across our two hospitals – Cortellucci Vaughan Hospital and Mackenzie Richmond Hill Hospital – we have 682 beds, in addition to 112 beds at our Reactivation Care Centre location and 170 beds at our long-term care home. We also provide a number of clinical and social service programs at our six community-based locations. We serve a population of more than half a million people across Vaughan, Richmond Hill and King – which are high growth communities. York Region's population is expected to grow by 35 per cent by 2041 – a faster rate of growth compared to all of Ontario. We expect to see a corresponding increase in demand for primary care and health services in our community.

We have joined forces with York University, the City of Vaughan and York Region to continue our innovative community-focused health collaboration. Our partnership aims to enhance health services, training of highly qualified personnel, research and innovation and health outcomes for York Region residents and beyond.

We have a shared vision with York University in building an integrated health care system centred on the needs of patients closer to home. A school of medicine co-located in the health care precinct in Vaughan and adjacent to Cortellucci Vaughan Hospital will offer medical students early exposure to sophisticated technology and hands-on training in state-of-the-art, modern facilities. Mackenzie Health will be able to offer clinical placements and experiential learning opportunities in nursing, clinical psychology, social work, kinesiology and more. Learners will have access to our clinical teaching laboratory which is used by physicians, nurses and other allied health professionals to receive instructional and hands-on training in new clinical and technical skills. In addition, learners will have access to two simulation laboratories which are available at Cortellucci Vaughan Hospital and used for mock procedures and skills training sessions such as rehearsing team responses to a cardiac arrest or how to intubate a newborn.

Mackenzie Health can offer exposure to a team-based learning environment early in the learners' medical education journey and, as Canada's first smart hospital, Cortellucci Vaughan Hospital is uniquely positioned to provide robust experience with various health technologies. Our collaborative partnership will explore opportunities around health informatics, analytics and data visualization along with the use

of health technology to continue to build an integrated health care system centred on the needs of patients.

There is also tremendous value in establishing partnerships that integrate the health care system with community partners such as long-term care, home care, rehabilitation, public health and primary care – an opportunity available through the Western York Region Ontario Health Team. The Western York Region Ontario Health Team’s first area of focus is on developing integrated care programming for medically and socially complex seniors with cognitive, physical and/or functional limitations and mental health and addictions. A school of medicine in our community will allow us to help train the next generation of health care providers to better understand and address these holistic needs leading to better health of communities. As co-chairs of the Western York Region Ontario Health Team, Bryan Keshen, who is also President and CEO of Reena, and I support the opportunity to explore the possibilities for integrated learning and training experiences for medical students with the full spectrum of health care providers in the local western York Region community as part of the Ontario Health Team framework.

At Mackenzie Health we believe investments that bring more health care workers to our community and optimize the provision of health care services are necessary and will help meet the future demand, maintain a high standard for quality of care and mitigate cost escalation for the health care system. The collaborative partnership between Mackenzie Health, York University, the City of Vaughan and York Region will improve the health and well-being of individuals, communities and populations in York Region and beyond. We are committed to an integrated and preventive health care approach that supports the unique health care needs of the growing and aging population in the communities we serve.

Together with York University we have an excellent opportunity to train the primary care physicians of tomorrow to increase much-needed access to primary care for our community, leading to better outcomes for patients and greater efficacy and value in the delivery of health care in the province.

Sincerely,



Altaf Stationwala  
President and CEO