

# LANDSCAPING ADAPTATIONS



Built as the first LEED Silver certified hospital in Ontario, Woodstock General Hospital was constructed around a beautiful central courtyard, allowing natural light to enter patient rooms from every corner. The new facility set the tone; it set the stage for change.

*"Because of this new opportunity, everyone started to embrace change. This led to where we are now, including building our environmental advisory committee and starting to look at other ways that we can contribute to the environment. The building is a great starting place but it takes commitment to continue it." -CM*

## SUCCESSES

*"I see the correlations between a healthy building and healthy patients. Environmental stewardship in a patient-care environment makes a lot of sense. It's the logical thing to do. It's about creating that healing environment. But it takes a community effort to get the message out." -CM*



- First LEED Silver Certified Hospital in Ontario
- Diverse Voices on the guiding Environmental Advisory Committee (e.g., Management, Frontline workers, Clinicians)
- Being involved in the Municipality's plan and commitments (e.g., Oxford County pledged to 100% renewable energy by 2050 and the hospitals are involved in the bigger plan as a community)
- On-site native wildflower meadows, bioswales, rain gardens, pollinator gardens, central courtyard

## PRACTICAL ADVICE

*"In order for projects to be successful, it takes a high level of oversight. It's a multi-year process. It takes commitment from the organization." -CM*



- Clearly conveying the vision of the project so it is understood well by staff, partners, and stakeholders (How you present the idea is just as important as the idea itself)
- Understand your audience
- Don't be discouraged if it doesn't work out the first time; be persistent and patient! There are many avenues!
- Projects are often interdisciplinary: *"I hired an ecologist to work with us to help with seed selection."*

## FUTURE GOALS

*"Woodstock Hospital is committed to providing exceptional patient care, in a facility that that has been designed with energy conservation in mind. We believe creating an environmentally conscious hospital aligns with our vision to advance the health and well being of our community. Our staff have worked hard to overcome obstacles in the pursuit of environmental sustainability and have developed successful partnerships in the community. Woodstock Hospital has made momentous achievements in environmental stewardship to date, and we look forward to the new technologies and programs that will emerge in the future to help us innovate even further." (PL)*



- Creating more opportunities for biodiversity on-site
- Addition of solar panels in the rain garden project (future pay back on future projects)
- Further reductions in waste diversion

*"As a member of our Green Team and now Environmental Advisory Committee, there have been many advancements in waste reduction/recycling, energy efficiencies/ green power generation at Woodstock Hospital. For many years we did routine recycling like many organizations but with our annual Earth day celebrations and displays, education and awareness, as well as strong leadership by our Capital Projects manager and CEO, staff are much more engaged and interested in learning how they can contribute individually. A number of staff and physicians have purchased electric vehicles now that we have charging stations at work. Many staff enjoy our outdoor space both in our courtyard and also outside when walking about the hospital amongst the fields of wildflowers. With the upcoming launch of PVC recycling and organic waste disposal, nursing units will be able to have an even larger impact on waste reduction. Going green requires a multifaceted team approach that benefits all of us, including our patients and community. It is an exciting journey to be a part of." -HD*

### Team members:

Chris Marion (CM), Director of Capital Projects, Woodstock General Hospital  
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