

**HEALTH-CARE INVESTMENTS
IN PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE**

The current Portage District General Hospital is an 88-bed site that opened in 1956 and has since undergone a number of additions and renovations. A study commissioned by the Portage District General Hospital Foundation and Southern Health–Santé Sud in 2019 determined the current site had a number of deficiencies, and it would be more cost-efficient to replace the site than to renovate it.

Manitoba's Clinical and Preventive Services Plan will guide improvements to access, quality and patient outcomes for all Manitobans. Developed with the extensive input of health-care professionals, communities, and members of the public, the plan represents the first time that clinical providers have contributed to a provincial plan that will meet the unique needs of all Manitoba communities. An important component of this work is collaborative and meaningful engagement with Indigenous leaders, communities and health experts across Manitoba, to ensure the province builds an equitable and culturally safe health system that is accessible, and responds to the needs and priorities of all Manitobans

The plan uses resources in more innovative and modernized ways, using a network of hubs that are staffed and equipped to meet the needs of Manitoba patients. Because of these investments, Manitobans will:

- wait less, with improved access to specialized services, mental health supports and care for chronic illnesses;
- travel less, with virtual appointments to many health-care providers;
- know where to go for care, with reliable access to high-quality care closer to home; and
- have quick and reliable access to life-saving care in an emergency.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, several initiatives included in the plan were accelerated in order to support better care for Manitobans through expanded virtual care, secure online portals for test results and immunization information, and a provincial approach to increasing surgical and critical care capacity.