

Medical Centre Timeline

- June 25th, 2019 Council adopts the 2019-2022 Strategic Plan which includes an action item to “Facilitate discussion with potential service providers for the expansion of medical and well-being services.” During the development of the Strategic Plan, which included public input via a public open-house and survey, there was overwhelming support from the community for the expansion of medical and wellness services and an expressed need for a medical centre in East Ferris. The demand for these services was further expressed by citizens when responding to the survey developed for the Community Safety & Well-Being Plan and the annual surveys used to gauge progress on our Strategic Plan initiatives.
- June 9th, 2020 Council passes Resolution 2020-148 directing staff to engage in discussion with Dégagné Carpentry to examine whether there is an opportunity to partner with Dégagné Carpentry for the development of a medical centre in East Ferris at the former Lucky 13 site in Astorville.
- June 23rd, 2020 Council passes Resolution 2020-160 approving the formation of a steering committee comprised of a lead consultant to be hired by the CAO, CAO Jason Trottier, Manager of Planning & Economic Development Greg Kirton, Dr. John Séguin, Marcel Dégagné, and two members of Council (Councillors Trahan and Kelly).
- June 2020 CAO Jason Trottier hires Brian Bertrand of Bertrand Wheeler Architecture to assist with the development of preliminary drawings and determine the functional program for a potential new medical centre.
- December 10th, 2020 Business case on the primary health care needs for East Ferris is created with support from the LHIN, Powassan and Area Family Health Team, and Dr. Seguin. The purpose of the paper was to secure funding for operating and capital for a new medical centre. At the time, there was no funding available from the Ministry of Health. More recently, the Municipality has reached out to the Ministry of Health to request funding for the new centre and we are awaiting a response.
- February 5th, 2021 Municipality releases an “Expression of Interest for Leasing of Commercial Space in Medical Centre.” The goal was to gauge the demand for leasing space to determine the feasibility of proceeding with the development of a medical centre. The Expression of Interest closed in March 2021. Three submissions were received: a physician, a chiropractor, and a pharmacy.
- April 27th, 2021 Council passed Resolution 2021-131 authorizing the CAO to prepare a Letter of Intent to Dégagné & Lefebvre Building Group for the development of a medical centre.

- May 11th, 2021 Council passes Resolution 2021-144 authorizing staff to inform Degagne Carpentry that the Municipality will be purchasing the medical centre versus leasing should the build move forward. This decision needed to be made to line up various processes and planning decisions for both the municipality and the prospective developer.
- July to Present Staff have received commitments from Dr. Seguin, who will move his practice from his home to the new medical centre, as well as a chiropractor clinic and pharmacy. At this time, leases are being drafted and staff will be negotiating the final leases and bringing them to Council in the near future. Discussions with the Powassan and Area Family Health Team are progressing to determine any needs they may have for space within the medical centre as Dr. Seguin currently has a partnership with the PAAFHT.
- August 11th, 2021 Staff have secured financing for 100% of the cost of developing the new medical centre. Council will decide on whether to proceed with entering into an agreement with Royal Bank of Canada for financing the medical centre and entering into a contract with Degagne & Lefebvre Building Group for the construction of the medical centre.
- By August 13th, 2021 Municipality will submit an application to the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund's (NOHFC) Enhance Your Community Stream Program for 50% funding (up to a maximum of \$2 million).
- It should be noted that throughout the medical centre planning process, staff have engaged with various funding agencies to seek funding for a medical centre, but there is a lack of government programs to support this type of project.