

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT & CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



The pursuit of excellence drives
everything we do and that is reflected
in our vision

The past year was transformational. Shifting healthcare priorities and increasing demand for service challenged us all to realign and better respond to our patients and community. Runnymede Healthcare Centre had to break with tradition, be bold and innovative. The status quo could not persist. The lure of becoming a Centre of Excellence for Aging and Wellness was the future we strived for and is the outcome we have all come to expect.

We share a vision with the Government of Ontario to build a connected, sustainable public healthcare system that will improve access to care and is centred on the needs of the patient. At the core of this new model are the Ontario Health Teams, groups of health care providers that will work together to offer a defined patient population end-to-end healthcare, and support services in a connected healthcare system.

Every day in Ontario, our aging and growing population places increased demands on the healthcare system. To offer the very best in patient care, we must proactively pursue change. The time for innovative solutions is now, and Runnymede is rising to the challenge.

I am delighted to share that Runnymede is a key partner in the newly formed North Toronto Ontario Health Team, a collaboration of a broad range of healthcare providers, being spearheaded by Humber River Hospital (HRH). HRH is a leader in acute care and North America's first fully digital hospital. Runnymede offers unparalleled rehabilitative and complex continuing care. Together with our health team partners, we are working to ensure our community receives the care they need, when they need it.

This year we launched a new Active Rehabilitation Program that improves the flow of patients through the healthcare system. This intensive short-term program moves patients out of acute care hospitals and into rehabilitation beds at Runnymede, where they receive the care they need to get back home to their lives sooner.

Our Active Rehabilitation Program reduces wait times and helps to reduce the burden of hallway medicine.

The rising demand for long-term care (LTC) beds is one of the defining challenges facing healthcare today. Toronto's aging population has the highest wait times in the province. Runnymede is building a new 200-bed LTC home on our hospital campus to address this critical issue so that seniors can receive the care they desperately need and continue to age in their community. Our LTC home will also be the first in Canada to offer culturally relevant care to Maltese-Canadians.

Runnymede is always reaching higher and pushing ourselves further to meet the needs of our community and the healthcare system while delivering on our promise of excellence, accountability and innovation.

The pursuit of excellence drives everything we do and that was reflected in our recent accreditation survey results. For the second time in a row, we achieved a perfect score. Runnymede was awarded a four-year Accreditation with Exemplary Standing by Accreditation Canada, the organization that sets the benchmarks for quality and safety in healthcare. Exemplary Standing is the highest designation awarded and demonstrates our commitment to quality, safety, and patient-centred care.

Our remarkable achievements wouldn't be possible without the hard work and dedication of our Senior Leadership Team, passionate staff, volunteers, and donors. I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to all of you for your generous commitment to our vision.

CONNIE DEJAK
President & Chief Executive Officer