

# Perspective™

Hamilton | 2022

LIFE SCIENCES  
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ATTRACTS  
**BIG**  
BUSINESS



OmniaBio announces intention to invest \$580 million for their Hamilton biomanufacturing facility at McMaster Innovation Park!



+ Transformational Projects  
Across The City



+ Destination for Top  
Researchers



+ Innovative Programs at  
Mohawk College





Dr. Varun Chaudhary,  
Research Lead & Chief of Ophthalmology,  
Hamilton Regional Eye Institute

The largest study ever on the leading cause of  
vision loss in Canadians is happening at St. Joe's.

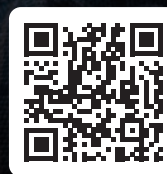
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Mayor Andrea Horwath

# Message from the Mayor

**T**here is change happening in Hamilton. From record-setting building permit values, to cranes in the downtown core, to a strong arts and culture sector, change is here. And the change is good.

As the new Mayor for this great city, I inherit an economy that is one of the strongest in Ontario and one of the most diversified in all of Canada. I am truly excited about the great level of investment interest in Hamilton and look forward to meeting more of the investment community over the coming months.

The one thing that remains quite clear, no matter who wears the chain of office, is that investment activity in Hamilton remains very strong. As of the end of October 2022, the City of Hamilton has already achieved its second-best year ever for the value of building permits issued – and there are two months yet to be recorded. Cranes in the downtown, major structures being erected in our business parks and more small business shop windows being occupied in our commercial districts are very positive signs of further economic growth.

To accommodate this growth, the City has been hard at work implementing the 2021-2025 Economic Development Action Plan, which is the blueprint for the future of Hamilton's economy. This plan is cognizant of the importance of equity, diversity and inclusion, and climate change. It focuses on skills development and building our future workforce,

ensuring the community is investing in the digital infrastructure necessary to accommodate the needs of business and the greater community, advancing investments in services that move goods and people and elevating public and private sector investments that revitalize public spaces and, in some cases, transform entire neighbourhoods.

As this plan seeks to build an economy and workforce to move the community forward, the city is also benefitting from key funding for critical transportation systems. In 2023, important work will take place that gets construction underway for the 14km Light Rail Transit line through the lower city – this is in addition to the all-day, two-way GO Transit service out of the West Harbour station and work that has commenced on the Centennial Parkway GO Transit service station.

As the city grows, critical steps are being taken now to accommodate that growth through efficient transportation systems.

Throughout this publication, you will read a number of economic success stories that are charting a new path for Hamilton's economy and gain a greater understanding of the positive changes in Hamilton.

I encourage you to reach out to Hamilton's Economic Development Team ([investinhamilton.ca](http://investinhamilton.ca)) if you would like to learn more and I hope to one day to welcome you and your investment to Canada's comeback city: The City of Hamilton.

Perspective™

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Leading global manufacturer of CNC router and knife systems, XYZ International Inc. broke ground on their new 105,000 square foot manufacturing and office space

## Demand for Business Park Land Continues to be Strong

Hamilton offers eight business parks that span the breadth of the city and provide comprehensive options for industrial, commercial and retail uses in multiple sectors.

The city is a powerhouse in advanced manufacturing, agri-food, life sciences, and transportation and logistics and is among Canada's most diversified economies, thanks to its ideal location in the midst of Canada's most populous region and its unparalleled position as a multi-modal gateway to key North American markets.

Other critical benefits: Hamilton offers a full scope of shovel-ready land development opportunities that drive immediate value for investors and tenants. It is also an affordable and much less congested option compared to municipalities in the GTA.

Hamilton's business parks are attracting global headquarters, expansions of Hamilton successes and industrial developers capitalizing on the city's value proposition, says Norm Schleeahn, director of Hamilton Economic Development.

Major developers and end users have discovered Hamilton and are investing here for the future," says Schleeahn.

"What Hamilton offers is a large cost advantage over the GTA along with the large parcels of land that are very difficult to find anywhere east of the city." Hamilton business parks offer options along the industrial waterfront, in greenfield suburban parks and within the West Hamilton Innovation District.

The Airport Employment Growth District is 555 hectares (1,300+ acres) of employment lands near the John C. Munro Hamilton International Airport. It is Canada's busiest overnight

express cargo airport and is open 24/7, 365 days a year with no curfew. The park is well situated for those companies focused on just-in-time delivery in particular and includes fully serviced land that accommodates light manufacturing and warehousing and fulfillment centre operations, including Amazon and DHL.

The 1,552-acre Red Hill Business Park at Hamilton's south end offers terrific highway access and is home to Canada's largest commercial bakery, major manufacturing employers, and international auto manufacturing distribution centres.

Sora Group, an industrial and commercial development and construction company, owns property across Ontario but its largest portfolio is in Hamilton.

It owns three buildings in the Red Hill Business Park – a distribution centre for large vehicle manufacturer

Navistar (252,000 square feet), water technology innovator Fibracast (91,000 square feet), and tire maker Continental Tire. The latter, which relocated from Caledon, took possession of its new 305,000-square-foot distribution centre in August.

Sora Group was able to complete the development in one year and beat the project timeline, says Joe Hamadi, president and CEO.

The developer also has site plan approval underway for an additional 345,000 square feet that is expected to be built next year.

Sora started developing in the area 10 years ago. Hamadi says land is affordable and offers easy connections to major highways and the U.S. border. In addition, tenants can access a great labour pool.

"It is a great experience to develop in Hamilton. Staff is approachable, management of the various





**Sierra Supply Chain Solutions chose Hamilton for the location of their new state-of-the-art cold storage and food processing facility**

departments at the City works with developers to facilitate meeting tenants' requirements and schedules, and it is a very active and helpful economic development office. We develop all across Ontario and we found that Hamilton is the place to invest," says Hamadi.

When Navistar was considering its move to Hamilton 10 years ago, the mayor, city manager and all department heads met with the company to assure its leaders that the City would meet its timeline. Navistar moved in ahead of schedule, says Hamadi.

Sierra Supply Chain Solutions officially opened its Red Hill expansion – a \$65-million, 250,000-square-foot state-of-the-art cold storage and food processing facility – in August. It features advanced energy efficiency and warehouse management systems, and value-add services to refrigerated food providers.

"I don't think there is another facility like this in Canada, let alone in Ontario," says Michael Paletta, vice-president of Penta Properties (part of Alinea Group Holdings Inc.), a landowner, developer, and owner of multiple properties in the retail and employment sector throughout the Hamilton, Niagara and the GTA.

Sierra's leaders say land availability, transportation networks and a skilled workforce in Hamilton has set the company up for growth.

"Hamilton is a great location," says Paletta. "It's 45 minutes to Toronto, 45 minutes to an hour to Buffalo, three to four hours to Detroit, so it's a great place from which to serve the GTA, eastern Ontario and the eastern United States. And Hamilton is still more affordable than Toronto, Mississauga or Brampton."

In the Flamborough Business Park, two Fortune 500 companies call

the 95-acre iConnect development home: medical device giant Stryker Canada and global aerospace and defense technology innovator L3 Harris. iConnect is a unique mixed-use development that features more than 100 retailers and up to 1.5 million square feet of industrial and office space.

Construction is now well underway on a new facility for XYZ International Inc., a leading global manufacturer of CNC router and knife systems. The company is consolidating several facilities in Oakville into one state-of-the-art 105,000-squarefoot manufacturing and office space.

"It's about 50 per cent bigger than what they have and will allow them to grow," says Steve Malovic, chief operating officer of Krpan Group.

"It will give them new efficiency on the production side. This is a

custom building that is designed for their needs. Not a lot of developers do that, but we do."

At full buildout, iConnect will be home to 6,000 to 7,000 jobs and it's already halfway there, says Malovic.

But with the roads, bridges, utilities and water retention infrastructure in place, all the employment lands are shovel ready, says Malovic.

"We work very well with the City. They are very supportive of what we are doing here. So we can turn around site plans in a relatively short time span. That means from concept to occupancy can happen in about 18 months."

That kind of responsiveness – and willingness to build to suit – protects local jobs, says Malovic.

"We don't want these companies going elsewhere. We want them to stay in Ontario and in Hamilton.



# Synapse Consortium: A Gateway to Canada's Life Science Innovation

Hamilton is emerging as a driver of Canada's life sciences sector. An innovative hub home to dynamic private companies, research hospitals, and leading academic and research institutions, Hamilton's life sciences cluster is ready for exponential growth. Hamilton's world-class capabilities in research and discovery, clinical trials, health care education and life science commercialization have captured global attention. Within the last decade, Hamilton has seen a significant increase in new company formations, capital investment, and attraction of specialized talent. The creation of the Synapse Life Science Consortium in 2016 marked an inflection point for Hamilton, when its anchor organizations came together to work as one to strategically promote, advance and facilitate life sciences innovation and investment in the region. Together, Synapse's partner organizations employ 35,000 people. Hamilton has created the conditions for strategic collaborations to catalyze and accelerate commercialization efforts by innovative life science companies. This environment has attracted global multinationals such as medical device giant Stryker and nurtured home-grown successes such as Fusion Pharmaceuticals. Hamilton's life science cluster is supporting scaling companies to develop the next generation of innovative health technology. That vision is what drives the members of the Synapse Consortium.

In 2021, more than 200 life science organizations in Hamilton collectively contributed \$5.7 billion to the economy. Hamilton boasts more than 6,700 professional scientists, researchers and clinicians, and over

50 research institutes and centres, who collectively conducted \$460 million on innovative research. Collaborative, diverse, and open-for business, the city possesses a critical mass of life science infrastructure, assets, and expertise required for companies seeking to compete in Canada and around the globe. "Hamilton is quickly gaining an international reputation as a life sciences leader", says Norm Schleeahn, Director, Economic Development at the City of Hamilton. "From a talented workforce to rich research capacities to strong partnerships between academia and industry, life sciences continues to be a large economic driver for the City of Hamilton and major contributor in building a stronger, more technologically advanced economy." From talent to funding, and from lab space to commercialization support, all the necessary ingredients can be found in Hamilton. Companies are seizing the opportunity to be part of a growing and dynamic "goldilocks-sized" city competing on a global scale – small enough to be nimble in supporting operations and growth, and yet not too large to be lost amongst the noise. Will yours be involved?

The Synapse Consortium represents Canada's leading health research and education cluster. A strategic broker to the ecosystem, Synapse facilitates initiatives that support the commercialization of health innovation and attract investment to the Hamilton, Ontario region.

To learn more visit  
[www.synapseconsortium.com](http://www.synapseconsortium.com)  
or contact us at  
[info@synapseconsortium.com](mailto:info@synapseconsortium.com)





## Collaboration is key for new Research VP

**A** renowned burn surgeon and researcher left Toronto for Hamilton to establish a new burn research centre and serve as vice-president of research at Hamilton Health Sciences.

Dr. Marc Jeschke, who is leading research into using stem cells and “printed” skin to treat burn patients, is also medical director of the burn unit at Hamilton General Hospital. It is one of just two burn centres in Ontario.

“There is an intimacy and an ability to collaborate and work together and support each other that just doesn’t exist at bigger hospitals and universities,” he says. “That really appealed to me. And I’ve been so warmly welcomed since I arrived. I’ve had so many offers to collaborate. It’s exciting.”

Jeschke started researching stem cell-based skin regeneration technology about 15 years ago. As a clinical investigator, he has secured over \$22 million in funding to support research and clinical trials throughout his career.

### Building bridges across all research areas

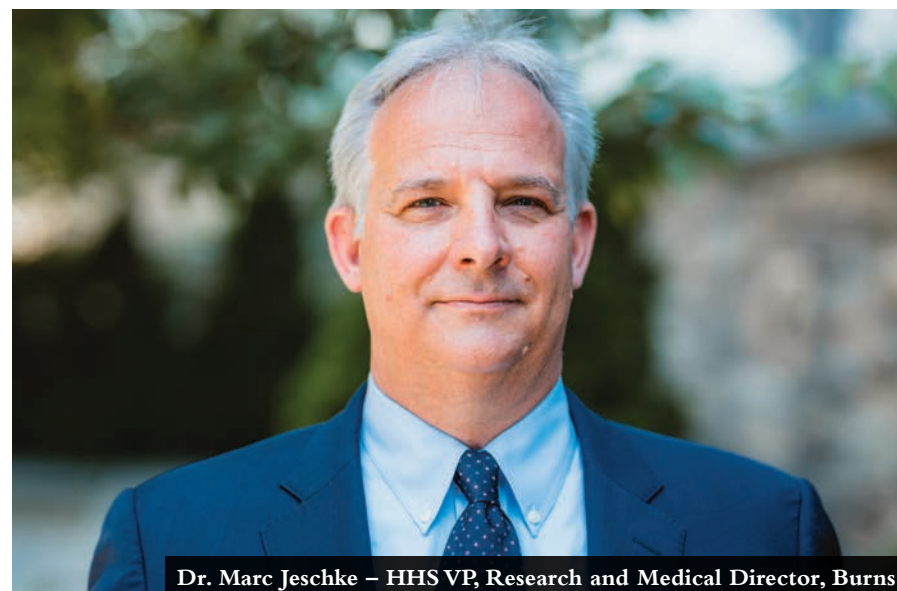
Jeschke began his role at HHS in July. He is a professor of surgery at

McMaster University and in Hamilton, he has the opportunity to establish a new burn research program within the Thrombosis and Atherosclerosis Research Institute (TaARI) of McMaster and HHS.

As vice-president of research, Jeschke is prioritizing building bridges and amplifying the identity of research at HHS and its impact in the medical world. He’ll focus on supporting existing research strengths and exploring new ones.

“HHS is continuously in the top five research institutes in Canada. We want to further that reputation.”

Originally from Germany, Jeschke comes to Hamilton via a 12-year leadership post at the Ross Tilley Burn Centre at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre. Under his guidance, it became a leading surgical and burn care institution in North America. Jeschke has also held surgical, faculty and research positions at American hospitals. His academic activities include more than 450 peer-reviewed articles, books, and chapters on burn care. He has been continuously funded by national granting agencies from Canada and the USA for the past 20 years.



**Dr. Marc Jeschke – HHS VP, Research and Medical Director, Burns**

A testament to his leadership and the exciting science happening in his lab, 17 of the 20 staff and researchers in Jeschke’s burn lab also made the shift from Sunnybrook Hospital to come to HHS.

### Hamilton’s unique research community

He meets regularly with his counterparts at St. Joseph’s Healthcare Hamilton and McMaster University.

“We talk about city-wide initiatives and how we can work as a team,” says Jeschke. “It’s very productive to have these conversations. You don’t find this in larger cities. This is unique, in my opinion, to Hamilton.”

### Exciting science to help burn patients

Jeschke’s research in using stem cells and 3D-printed skin to treat burns has the potential to significantly improve survival and greatly reduce the recovery time, pain and scarring from burns. It also has potential in treating other types of wounds.

Patients with serious burns are usually the sickest people in a hospital, he says.



“They really are trying to die on you every day. There is a very fine balance between survival and dying.”

His lab is also focused on burn treatment for older adults.

“The survival rate for older burn patients is very, very low. We are one of the first labs to look into this.”

Preclinical trials on using stem cells have shown promising results and Jeschke has received Health Canada approval to move to clinical trials.

He expects to undertake clinical trials on 3D-printed skin treatments in the next year or two.



## Improving in-hospital patient care using data analytics

A clinical research team from St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton has launched a new start-up, Llif Healthcare, and has raised more than \$530,000 in investment funding to expand their healthcare solution designed to help physicians improve care delivery and the patient experience.

The move towards digital health systems across Canadian hospitals has created opportunities for software-based innovations leading to better healthcare delivery and outcomes for patients, quality improvement, and increased access to research studies.

In December 2017, St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton launched its new digital health information system – called Dovetale – an implementation of the software designed by Epic used in many of the world's leading hospitals. As an early adopter, St. Joe's has been working with digital partners such as Llif Healthcare to develop innovative tools that leverage the analytic power of Epic.

Llif Healthcare is a Hamilton-based digital health technology start-up, co-founded by St. Joe's emergency physician, Dr. Shawn Mondoux, as well as Dr. David Hamilton and Charlie Farkas. The company is bringing its MD Dashboard to



**Dr. Shawn Mondoux is a staff emergency physician at St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton and co-founder of Llif Healthcare.**

market and will soon launch in the Niagara Health System and Joseph Brant Hospital after successfully piloting the system in the Emergency Department at St. Joe's.

Llif Healthcare's MD Dashboard is a secure, cloud-based platform that displays practice data for physicians and entire departments. By anonymously analyzing practice data, clinicians and hospital administrators can extract the learnings they need to improve patient care, plan better clinical workflows, and provide clinicians with the practice analytics they seek.

"This was developed in-house with St. Joe's Digital Solutions team and launched during COVID-19 – a great collaboration between St. Joe's, Llif Healthcare, and McMaster University," said Dr. Mondoux.

Currently, the MD Dashboard at St. Joe's Emergency Department reports on 12 metrics for clinical use. One of the most useful metrics collected by the platform is how often patients return to the Emergency Department within 72 hours of discharge.

"We are also looking to expand the service to other areas of the hospital with personalized metrics," added Dr. Mondoux.

St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton has a well-established history of supporting innovation in healthcare delivery and optimization. By fostering collaborations between life science partners, The Research Institute of St. Joe's Hamilton has led many locally developed innovations to make national and even global impacts. This includes the McMaster Molecular Medium, used for mass COVID-19 testing, and the 3 Wishes Project, which supports patients and families in the ICU.

"Getting objective, data-driven feedback about our practice is invaluable for the individual provider and by extension the care we provide to our patients," said Dr. Greg Rutledge, Chief of Emergency Medicine at St. Joe's. "As an individual physician, one can anonymously compare your utilization rates next to your peers, which will allow for better use of scarce resources and ensure that patients are getting the appropriate investigations."

Owing to their successful implementation at St. Joe's Hamilton and upcoming launch at Niagara Health, Llif Healthcare has recently received

a \$50,000 grant from the Ontario Bioscience Innovation Organization under its Early Adopter Health Network. This funding is supporting the platform's latest expansion to Joseph Brant Hospital in Burlington, Ontario.

In addition, Llif Healthcare received nearly \$400,000 from the McMaster Seed Fund to expand its operations by providing further opportunities for development, client acquisition, and strategic thinking as it welcomes new users from across the Canadian healthcare landscape.

"In most industries, employees receive valuable feedback on their work and physicians should be no different. Allowing the physician to be self-reflective about their practice with objective data will only serve to make them better physicians and enhance the care we provide at St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton," said Dr. Rutledge.



## Hamilton Attracts New Business launching Incredible Incentives

“The City of Hamilton offers 12 different grant and financial loan programs to support the revitalization of strategic urban commercial districts by minimizing financial barriers to, and stimulating new private sector investment in, under-utilized commercial residential and mixed-use properties.

“Hamilton has been a leader in creating targeting municipal incentives that have delivered tremendous results for our city,” says Judy Lam, manager, commercial districts and small business.

“Our approach has served as a model for other communities looking to incentivize desirable revitalization.”

Redeveloped properties means Hamilton is growing its property assessment and municipal tax base, but also increasing the desirability and vibrancy of its commercial districts and surrounding areas with new residents, employees, and customers.

Among the primary incentive programs is the Revitalizing

Hamilton Tax Increment Grant (RHTIG). The standard incentive provides a grant to the applicant to cover the increase in municipal taxes that is reduced by 25 per cent a year over four years. A new enhanced grant stays at 100 per cent for the whole four years if a project satisfies environmental sustainability requirements or will create affordable rental housing.

Since RHTIG began in 2004, \$11.7 million has been granted to 41 projects with a total construction value of more than \$328 million. In other words, for every dollar invested, the city has leveraged \$26 in private investment. The redevelopments assisted through the grant programs have also resulted in a tax increase of \$10.1 million. This increase will be realized annually.

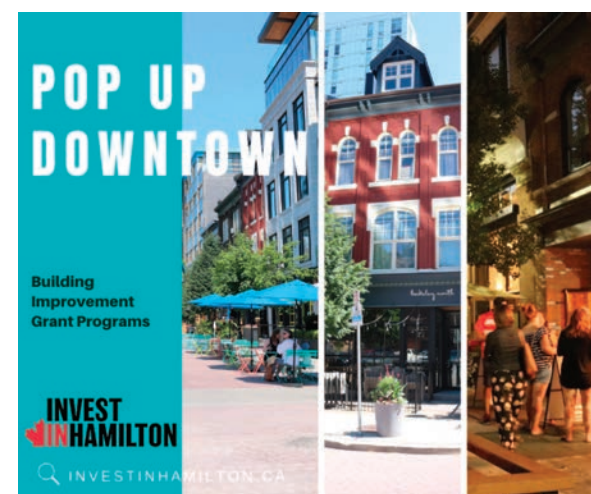
Another crucial incentive program is the Commercial Vacancy Assistance. This pilot program is aimed at minimizing commercial vacancies arising during or in the immediate recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The program provides grants (\$5,000 for leases between three to six months and \$10,000 for leases six months or longer) for permanent interior improvements that support the establishment of a new permanent or pop-up commercial business in a currently vacant street-level or below grade commercial space.

Finally, the Start-up and Office Tenant Attraction (SOTA) program provides 0% interest loans to property owners or tenants undertaking eligible leasehold improvements to office spaces. In addition, start-up businesses are further supported with the potential for a portion of their loan to be forgiven. SOTA is reducing office vacancy rates in eligible commercial areas and attracting new and expanding businesses to Hamilton.

So far, the program has committed to 10 loans totalling \$1.5 million. That has resulted in a construction value of \$7.8 million and total new or expanded office space of 99,329 square feet.

More information available at [investinhamilton.ca](http://investinhamilton.ca).





## Forge & Foster is Bringing Hamilton's Potential to Realty

**F**orge & Foster is a Hamilton-based commercial real estate investment management company that acquires properties with significant value-add opportunities and brings a new perspective to realize potential.

In west Hamilton, its live-work-play district ANNEX is located next to McMaster Innovation Park and close to downtown Hamilton. It is ready for tenants in biotech, medical, hospitality, advanced manufacturing, and beyond.

"The real estate here had great bones," says Dane Kerstens, partner and chief financial officer at Forge & Foster.

"We're committed to creating places where people want to be, not just for a day but for their careers. It's a much more vibrant, active area now."

At Hamilton's West Harbour, Forge & Foster has partnered with Aeon Studio Group and TAS to explore the development of the Bayfront Studio District, a 14-acre mixed use film and creative arts district.

In February, the district's centrepiece Aeon Bayfront Studios opened its 80,000-square-foot studio, a key hub in Hamilton's film cluster, which is the third-largest in Canada.

Nearby, Forge & Foster has space available at a landmark brick and beam building at 231 Bay St. N. Built in 1915, it is just steps away from the West Harbour GO station. There's also space nearby at 29 Harriet St., a historic building that Forge & Foster is reviving. The location is ideal for businesses looking for a professional office space, flex space, or a work area.

"As a workplace, these locations have the right combination of character and amenities to attract top talent from all over the GTA, including those who commute from places like Oakville or Burlington," says Kerstens.

On Lewis Dr. in Stoney Creek, Forge & Foster has space available with prime exposure to the QEW. It is ideal for commercial recreation, entertainment, a medical clinic, studio space, and more.

And in Hamilton's Victorian small town of Dundas, Forge & Foster is restoring the historic Dundas Millworks as a creative district. Established in 1850, this sprawling brick and beam building is now home to a growing collective of creative makers, shared working space, and it plays host to a number of prominent film and television projects.



29 Harriet St. in Hamilton



ANNEX, Hamilton

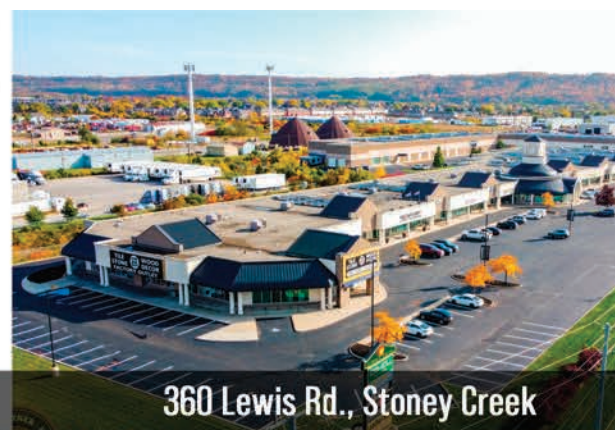
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## Hamilton hit an all-time record for building permit values at over \$2.1-billion

The Hamilton economy continues to grow in new and exciting ways—adding to its reputation as one of the most diversified economies in Canada. In 2021, the City of Hamilton hit an all-time corporate record for building permit values at over \$2.1-billion and 2022, as of October, already proves to be the second best on record at over \$1.6-billion.

“End users and large developers alike have discovered Hamilton and are investing here for the future.”

**95,000 square foot expansion from Stoney Creek’s Janco Steel further enhances Hamilton’s manufacturing excellence**



**OmniaBio plans a \$580 million 2-phased investment for Hamilton**

From food and beverage production, to life sciences breakthroughs to major manufacturing expansions, Hamilton in 2022 has welcomed a series of varied and important investments.

In March, Venetian Meats, a long-standing staple of Hamilton’s economy opened their new food manufacturing facility and retail outlet. This 38,000 square foot expansion allows Venetian to manufacture more of its cured meats, cheeses and preserves to serve a growing clientele across Canada and the United States.

The first, modern-day, on-farm dairy processor in Hamilton is also currently under development. Summitholm Holsteins, a family-owned and operated dairy farm, has become one of the most successful dairy operations in Canada and was named one of the Top 1% of Canada’s Best Managed Dairy Herds for 2021. This new development will create a processing plant to bottle and distribute their own glass-bottled milk directly to customers, as well as cheese, cream, butter and yogurt. This is bolstered by the strength of the agriculture sector here in Hamilton, which employs 2,875 people and is home to 679 farms.

Hamilton made international life sciences news in October as it welcomed

the first phase of the \$580-million, two-phased investment from OmniaBio— that aims to make its 400,000 square foot biomanufacturing facility for cell and gene therapy the largest in Canada. This will greatly advance medical research and treatments across the nation. Taken together, the life sciences sector includes a more than CAD \$4-billion spend in the Hamilton region. To put that in perspective, that’s the equivalent of the total GDP that the video game industry contributes to the entire Canadian economy annually.

Playing to Hamilton’s traditional strengths in manufacturing, Hamilton also saw in 2022 major investments from AXYZ International Inc. (a 105,000 square foot new build) and Janco Steel (95,000 square foot expansion) the manufacturing landscape grew stronger over the year. Hamilton’s manufacturing sector plays a key role in Ontario’s economy — generating over \$21-billion in sales in 2021, which has grown at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 7.2% since 2016.





**Long-standing business, Venetian Meats, recently moved into a 38,000 square foot expanded facility**

The City's Economic Development Action Plan includes a stretch target of bringing 7 million square feet (the equivalent of 85 Canadian football fields!) of industrial and commercial development onstream between 2021 and 2025.

"There was 2.8 million square feet of non-residential developments completed in 2021 and that was responsible for creating or retaining 3,350 jobs. So we are well on our way to achieving a very ambitious goal," says Schleeahn.

Adding to the economic diversification story, the creative industries— particularly film— played a large role in Hamilton's economic success.

The stats from 2021 and 2022 continue to prove productions love to film and invest here. In fact, the 2022 KPIs (as of the end of Q3) already surpass 2021's record breaking numbers. From January 1, 2022 to September 30, 2022 the City issued 943 permits for 168 productions that

brought in an estimated direct spend of \$66+ million. TV series from a wide variety of platforms such as Netflix, Apple, Hulu, CBC and Amazon continue to film here in addition to significant feature films such as Firestarter, Rosie, The Longing and Hello Stranger.

Productions have access to diverse locations because the city features a dense downtown, heritage streets and architecture, small towns, industrial sites, suburbs, farmland, a waterfront and plenty of natural areas. The city has earned a reputation as one of the best places to film in Ontario.

Hamilton is already Canada's third-largest film cluster, home to more than 9,000 creative and technical workers and 900 film-related businesses, and has a reputation for being welcoming and accommodating to film shoots, right from City Hall to business improvement areas and local residents.



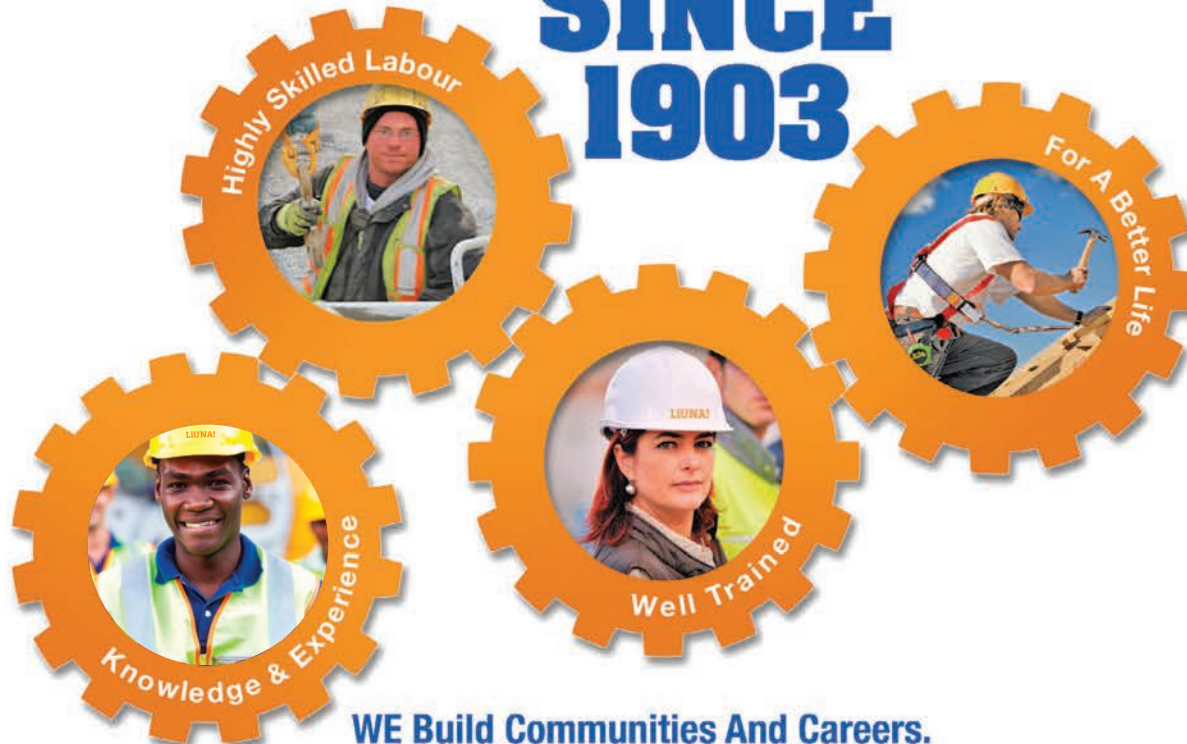
**Film continues to be an important part of Hamilton's economy**

That welcoming attitude was highlighted by the Hamilton Film Office's nomination for the Location Managers Guild International (LMGI)

Award for Outstanding Film Commission for the second season of Netflix's Umbrella Academy.



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## Training the Workforce – Direct paths to industry

Mohawk College is a destination for learners of all types – from those coming directly from high school to mid-career professionals looking to earn a promotion or to pivot to another field.

Programming excellence across a spectrum of credentials that includes diplomas, advanced diplomas, graduate certificates, degrees and microcredentials is driven by a focus on choice for learners and responsiveness to industry needs.

“Our philosophy is to meet learners where they are. In a world where education is a lifelong pursuit, Mohawk College is investing in optimizing learner choice through offering the greatest range of modalities possible,” says college president Ron J. McKerlie.

“We will continue to develop more career-ready degrees over the coming years. Differentiators for Mohawk College are our focus on interdisciplinary degrees that combine fields of expertise into unique offerings and our ability to deliver critical experiential learning opportunities.”

Across its range of credentials, Mohawk College is developing online, hybrid programming and a high-flex modality that allows students to choose between in-person or online learning at their own pace on any given day.

The college offers a number of innovative, one-of-a-kind programs.

That includes Mohawk’s novel Bachelor of Digital Health degree that has grown out of the College’s established leadership in applied research in digital health, a new online Trades Management degree that allows apprentices and journeypersons to complete a degree in just two years, and a Transportation Management advanced diploma that is the only one of its kind in Canada.



**Mohawk College Centre for Aviation Technology. (Left to right) Denis Ranque, student; Shawn Hoyle, Aviation Professor; George Miltenburg, Associate Dean, School of Engineering Technology and Aviation**

Next September, Mohawk College will launch a Bachelor of Analytics and Data Management (Honours) degree that will combine business, programming, analytics, math and statistics, and storytelling to create a new generation of data experts. Mohawk College will also launch an advanced diploma in Game Design that will cover design, technical and artistic skills, along with ethics, psychology, and equity, diversity, and inclusion.

Mohawk College also offers eight-month graduate certificates in sectors of rapid employment growth such as business analytics, human resources, and supply chain for those looking to make a career change or seek promotions.

An example is Mohawk’s fully remote Library Technician graduate certificate – the only one of its kind in the country.

Another fast-emerging strength for Mohawk College is microcredentials, which are short, targeted and focused courses in highly specific areas.

Developed in partnership with industry, they set graduates apart and appeal to employees looking to advance into leadership roles, pivot into new areas of expertise or learn cutting-edge technology.

In a range of programs across Mohawk College – health sciences, skilled trades, business, engineering technology and community services – graduates are experiencing employment rates in the high 90s and even 100 per cent. In many cases, students are employed before they finish their studies.

Mohawk College’s Aviation programs can’t graduate enough students, for instance, even after doubling enrolment in the new Centre for Aviation Technology at Hamilton International Airport (YHM).

Built in conjunction with KF Aerospace’s expansion of its Hamilton maintenance, repair and operations, the state-of-the-art facility is

home for the college’s programs in maintenance, structures and avionics.

Finally, the new Centre for Professional Advancement within the School of Health and Community Services is an incredible demonstration of Mohawk College’s ability to rapidly meet emerging and future employer needs.

It has delivered dozens of customized, accelerated and focused on-the-job training partnerships to help hospitals locally, provincially and nationally cope with ongoing staff shortages and care backlogs amid pandemic recovery.

To learn more about Mohawk College’s programs visit [www.mohawknewsdesk.ca](http://www.mohawknewsdesk.ca).



ArcelorMittal Dofasco

# Smarter steels for people and planet

ArcelorMittal Dofasco is on a path to achieving net zero by 2050. The first major step is to change the way we make steel, to reduce our GHG emissions by approximately 60% by 2028. It's the equivalent of removing 725,000 internal combustion engine cars off the road. Net Zero – it's happening here, in Hamilton!

Learn more at  
[dofasco.arcelormittal.com](https://dofasco.arcelormittal.com)



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Towards carbon neutral steel





## ArcelorMittal Dofasco is transforming steelmaking in Hamilton

Nearly \$2 billion investment will significantly reduce carbon emissions by 2028

ArcelorMittal Dofasco has officially launched a nearly \$2 billion transformation to be the first integrated steel mill in North America, and among the first in the world, to eliminate coal-based ironmaking from its operations.

Cokemaking operations and coke-fed blast furnaces that now reduce iron ore to liquid will be replaced by state-of-the-art electric arc furnaces (EAFs) that are fed with direct reduced iron (DRI) produced on-site. It all adds up to reducing carbon emissions by approximately 3 million tonnes. That is the equivalent of taking 725,000 internal combustion engine cars off the road or planting 138 million trees.

The massive decarbonization effort is supported by \$400 million from the federal government and \$500 million from the province. Public-private partnerships are critical to climate change response.

“For our future, there is no better example of clean Canadian innovation pointing the way forward,” said Prime Minister Justin Trudeau during a ceremonial ground-breaking in October.

“ArcelorMittal Dofasco is the world’s first major steelmaker to move to cleaner steel. That is a huge competitive advantage in a world where customers are demanding that steel be as clean as possible. Decarbonization is not only the right thing to do, it’s the smart and competitive thing to do.”

The project also delivers several other environmental benefits with the elimination of cokemaking and coal-based ironmaking. It is an incredibly complex initiative affecting massive and interconnected facilities, with a work schedule that is expected to include more than 11,000 items.

Dofasco is a key producer of complex grades of steel for automotive, construction and manufacturing, energy, packaging and tubular applications. As it ramps up new processes, it must continue to meet product qualifications for customers – an enormously technical and complex task.

“Being a high value-added supplier of steel is the defining aspect of Dofasco, so it is critical that we defend that position in the marketplace,” said Rob Marzetti, program manager of the decarbonization initiative.

“At the same time, demand is growing for green steel and Dofasco will be well-positioned to grow that market share with this transition to low-carbon production.”

ArcelorMittal has committed to reduce the carbon intensity of the steel it produces worldwide by 25 per cent by 2030 and to be net zero by 2050.

The decarbonization initiative is the latest in a 110-year history of innovation at the company, says Ron Bedard, CEO of the Hamilton plant.

“I am beyond proud of the employees at ArcelorMittal Dofasco who design, manufacture, and deliver smarter steels for people and planet. The foundation for this project can be found in the contributions that more than 50,000 proud, hard-working Dofasco employees have made over the past 110 years and continue to make today.”

On-site construction work will begin in January with the demolition of a decommissioned coke plant to make room for the new DRI plant.

Construction will become visible in 2024 as the DRI structure begins to take shape, then construction of the EAF will follow.

When all construction is complete in 2026, a 12 to 18-month transition phase will begin in which both the existing and the new steelmaking streams will be active. Existing operations will then be wound down by 2028.



Prime Minister Justin Trudeau speaks at the company’s ceremonial groundbreaking event in October, 2022. Behind from left are ArcelorMittal Dofasco employees, Nathan Dykstra, Amit Patel and Sean Crawford. The Government of Canada is investing \$400 million into the project, which will significantly reduce GHG emissions from the plant.



In February, 2022 Ontario Premier Doug Ford announced the Government of Ontario’s \$500 million in support for ArcelorMittal Dofasco’s transformational investment. Behind the Premier are, from left, ArcelorMittal Dofasco president and CEO Ron Bedard, Ontario Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade Vic Fedeli and ArcelorMittal North America CEO John Brett

In addition to engineering and design for the massive construction project, and a retraining program for employees that is expected to log 160,000 collective hours, ArcelorMittal

Dofasco is undertaking research for future use of clean technologies and fuels such as hydrogen, biocarbon, and technologies like carbon capture utilization and storage.





A new \$6.5 million park at the West Harbour now open to the public

## Transformational Projects will establish a Vision for Hamilton's housing, job & lifestyle future

A number of key transformational projects are underway in Hamilton. They include a light-rail transit corridor, a new film district, large-scale downtown residential projects, and the buildout of McMaster Innovation Park.

Here, we profile the redevelopment at the waterfront and the Downtown Entertainment Precinct.

### West Harbour

The \$140-million transformation of Hamilton's West Harbour is a game-changer for the city thanks to significant investment in new parks and public spaces and private-sector development.

"This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to realize the full potential of

our beautiful West Harbour waterfront as a multi-use community that will be open for all Hamiltonians to enjoy," says Chris Phillips, manager of the City's Municipal Land Development Office.

"Where once these lands were closed off to the public and used only for industrial commerce, the new West Harbour will be where everyone will want to live, work, play or visit."

The focal point of the public realm, the recently opened \$6.5-million Copps Pier at Pier 8, and a kilometre long waterside boardwalk opening soon.

The next phase is investment in restaurants, retail and commercial spaces and more than 1,600 residential units on Pier 8. That includes a proposal for a 45-storey signature residential tower.

Waterfront Shores, a consortium of developers, architects and designers, was awarded the right to develop the project after an extensive competitive bid process.

The redevelopment of the West Harbour, including new public amenities

and developments on piers 6 and 7, will integrate into its historic North End neighbourhood, tie into the revitalization of James Street North, and connect to the city's downtown, says Phillips. And it is well-served by the nearby West Harbour GO station.

"Whether you want to live there or invest, the connectivity of this site is unparalleled. The waterfront will truly be the front porch of the city of Hamilton."

### Downtown Entertainment Precinct

A historic private-sector investment in Hamilton's downtown entertainment venues and a surrounding district will set the stage for the attraction of world-class events and a vibrant core.

The Downtown Entertainment Precinct master agreement is a 49-year deal between the City of Hamilton and the Hamilton Urban Precinct Entertainment Group (HUPEG), a



With an emphasis on pedestrian access, the Copps Pier is a welcome new feature at the West Harbour





Hamilton's First Ontario Centre will see \$100 million in upgrades over the next two years

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consortium of regional stakeholders. HUPEG will take responsibility for the operations and maintenance of FirstOntario Centre, FirstOntario Concert Hall and Hamilton Convention Centre. The City will retain ownership of the lands and facilities.

HUPEG is vowing to invest upwards of \$100 million into an extensive renovation of the FirstOntario Centre that will transform it into a premium sports and entertainment venue.

HUPEG's plan also includes more than \$12.5 million in upgrades to the Convention Centre and FirstOntario Concert Hall, and a \$2 million contribution to the Art Gallery of Hamilton.

The precinct will also include \$500 million worth of investment in residential towers and retail, hospitality and commercial developments.

The city is already attracting large, high-profile sporting, music and cultural events, as well as major conferences and conventions and this success builds on itself.

"The momentum is definitely with us and investment in our downtown venues is a critical step forward," says Ryan McHugh, manager of tourism and events.

"Many people want to live in, or visit, a vibrant city, where there are many entertainment options to choose from. Hamilton is becoming that place."



The West Harbour project will see \$140 million invested in public spaces, parks, and private investments



## Top researchers drawn to collaboration and support in Hamilton

Hamilton Health Sciences welcoming researchers from around the world

Hamilton Health Sciences (HHS) is attracting clinical and research talent from across Ontario and around the world. The multi-site health care system is a global leader in cardiac and stroke care, cancer care, palliative care, pediatrics and more.

### Top 5 research hospital

Dr. Luciana Catanese came to HHS in 2016 because of its track record in medical advancements and its position as one of the top research hospitals in Canada. She says she was also intrigued by the cross-disciplinary research underway at HHS and McMaster University and the opportunities to advance her career as a clinician scientist.

“There is a collegial, supportive atmosphere that I really enjoy,” she says.

Catanese is a stroke neurologist and director of the neurovascular unit at Hamilton General Hospital, the physician lead for hyperacute stroke services at Hamilton Health Sciences, and director of the stroke fellowship program. She is also an assistant professor of medicine at McMaster.

### State-of-the-art stroke care and research

HHS serves as a regional stroke centre for south-central Ontario, a region of about 2.2 million people. It is the busiest in the province, with about 1115 yearly admissions to the stroke unit.

“We are recognized nationally and internationally for the state-of-the-art care we provide and for our clinical trials research program. We are attracting new

faculty recruits and trainees from around the world,” says Catanese.

Originally from Argentina, she completed her residency at Boston University School of Medicine and then her fellowship training in vascular neurology at Harvard Medical School.

Her research includes leading a national study into the impact of the pandemic on stroke epidemiology and care. She is also on the executive committee of an international study exploring the expansion of indicators for clot-busting medications, and leading a study on the use of new brain imaging software in patients with acute stroke.

### Resources and relationships to do the best possible job

After spending most of her career in Toronto, Dr. Nora Cullen joined HHS in March 2020, taking on the role of chief of physical medicine and rehabilitation (PM & R) at HHS and St Joseph’s Healthcare. She is also a professor of medicine and division director for PM & R in the Department of Medicine at McMaster University.

“People have been very generous in welcoming me and engaging with me and offering me advice and support. I feel that I have everything at my disposal to do the best possible job,” she says.

Cullen is prioritizing developing a research program within her division.

“Often times there are good intentions to do research but it can fall through the cracks,” says Cullen. “But here, I work closely with a research associate who is really leading the charge on grant proposals, data collection, statistical analysis and ethics proposals.”



Dr. Nora Cullen joined Hamilton Health Sciences from Toronto



Stroke researcher Dr. Luciana Catanese sees immense opportunity at HHS

### Rehabilitation research and care improves quality of life

Rehabilitation research can go a long way to improving physical function and quality of life of patients.

Prior to her arrival at HHS, she was chief of staff and chair of the medical advisory committee at West Park Healthcare Centre for 10 years. She also worked as a scientist at the Toronto Rehabilitation Institute.

Cullen’s work is about enhancing the quality of life for people with disabilities based on current best evidence. Clinically, she has worked with brain-injured adults to maximize their functional recovery.

Since 2006, Cullen has spent vacation time in Nepal with her not-for-profit, NepalAbility, which promotes quality of life for those with disabilities. That work earned her a Humanism in Medicine Award from the University of Toronto in 2019.

Cullen and Catanese are excited about the level of investment in the life sciences sector in Hamilton. As the city becomes more well-known as a destination for researchers interested in collaboration and innovation, they look forward to making new discoveries for patient health at Hamilton Health Sciences.



## Beyond Silence App Launches to Help Healthcare Workers

Healthcare workers have been at the front-line of the COVID response; they have experienced many workload pressures including short staffing, high demands, redeployment, and unpredictable caseloads. Many are experiencing burnout and struggling to meet high standards of clinical care. The crisis in the healthcare system is front-page news and solutions are needed to prevent long-lasting damage to the mental health of our frontline providers, and to the overall healthcare system.

Sandra Moll and her team at McMaster University recently received funding from the Public Health Agency of Canada to scale up implementation and evaluation of Beyond Silence, a new mental health app designed to promote early intervention and peer support for frontline healthcare workers. The Beyond Silence app is designed to be a confidential “mental health coach in your pocket” for healthcare workers where they can access information and local resources, track wellness, set goals for change, and reach out for confidential help from a trained peer support provider, either by phone or text. Content in the app (in both French and English)

is customized for healthcare providers, addressing key issues such as self-care, moral injury, burnout, compassion fatigue, stress management, and mindfulness. In partnership with Homewood Health (who specialize in mental health and addictions services), over 50 people representing a range of healthcare roles, have been trained to provide peer support via the app to frontline workers in participating healthcare organizations across Canada.

“When we were building the app, we knew we had to include peer support because of evidence for the value of connecting with someone who understands the unique challenges of frontline healthcare work, and knowing you are not alone” said Sandra Moll, occupational therapist and principal investigator of the project. This project provides an opportunity to reduce barriers to reaching out for support, by providing app users with an anonymous connection by phone or text, to their choice of peer at a time and place that works for them.

The Beyond Silence team launched version 2.0 of this innovative app in



Back row (L to R): Jon de Araujo\*, Nikhil Sonpal\*, Sheila Addanki+, Melissa Parker, Maria Bargeman+  
Front row (L to R): Jeremy Pick\*, Lindsay Crocco+, Sandra Moll+, Lisa Wolfe+  
\* tech developers; + McMaster research team

November, 2022 in partnership with several diverse healthcare organizations across Canada. They will be evaluating how the app is used by workers and explore strategies to optimize implementation and impact in the participating organizations. Beyond Silence has the potential to move beyond

stigma and silence to address the urgent and critical need for accessible mental health services and supports for front-line healthcare workers.

For more information contact the Beyond Silence team at [beysilen@mcmaster.ca](mailto:beysilen@mcmaster.ca), or view the website: [www.beyondsilence.ca](http://www.beyondsilence.ca)

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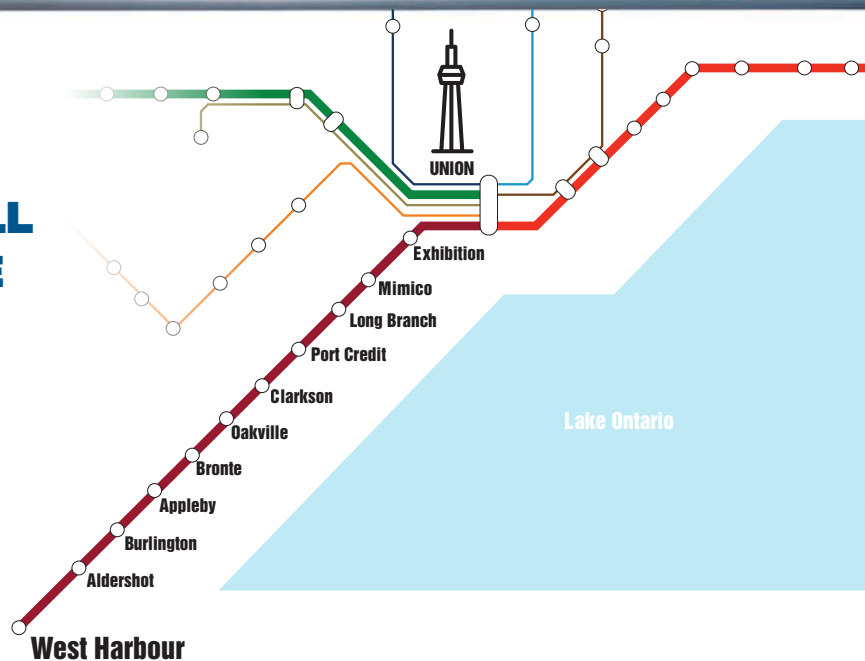
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# TOP 5 RESEARCH HOSPITAL IN CANADA

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- Connected to a research network of more than 1,600 sites in **102 countries** on 6 continents
- An incubator for innovation, AI and entrepreneurs



[hamiltonhealthsciences.ca/research](https://hamiltonhealthsciences.ca/research)



HHS stroke researcher Dr. Luciana Catanese is changing how we look at our brains and studying more uses of clot-busting drugs.