



**Banner day** – Government and health care representatives joined together to celebrate the approval of hospital redevelopment projects in Hamilton. From left are: Mary Dow, St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton Board Chair, Kevin Smith, President & CEO, St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton, the Honourable David Caplan, Minister of Public Infrastructure Renewal, Jennifer Mossop, MPP Stoney Creek, the Honourable Dr. Marie Bountrogianni, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs and Minister Responsible for Democratic Renewal and MPP Hamilton Mountain, Murray Martin, President & CEO, Hamilton Health Sciences, Judy Marsales, MPP Hamilton-West, Larry DiIanni, Mayor of Hamilton, and Robert Jones, Hamilton Health Sciences Board Chair.

## Province gives green light for expansion and redevelopment at Hamilton Health Sciences



On November 4, 2005, the Government of Ontario announced its support for the expansion and redevelopment projects at Hamilton Health Sciences and St. Joseph's Healthcare.

Several major projects will be undertaken at Hamilton Health Sciences between 2006 and 2009 including:

- Construction at the Henderson to expand inpatient and outpatient services and provide acute care support for the cancer centre. This project is expected to begin in 2006.
- A major redevelopment of the McMaster University Medical Centre to consolidate tertiary pediatric services, separate and expand intensive care facilities for adults and children, renovate the Emergency Room area, construct a new ambulatory surgical centre and provide additional capacity of up to 22 child and adolescent mental health beds. Work on these projects is slated to begin in 2006.
- Construction at the General to provide for consolidation of the Acquired Brain Injury/Rehabilitation program, providing additional capacity of up to 44 beds and allowing the hospital to provide more efficient ambulatory programs. Work is planned to commence in 2008.

St. Joseph's Healthcare received approval for the construction of a new specialized longer-term mental health facility, scheduled to begin in 2009.

These investments will ensure patients get the modern, effective health care they need and deserve.

Some aspects of this undertaking have been approved as alternative financing and procurement (AFP) projects, which means that the private sector will take on the task of designing and building as well as the financial risks of ensuring that the project comes in on time and on budget. Hospitals will remain publicly owned, controlled and accountable.

"The government's decision to use the AFP approach to financing means we will be able to offer state-of-the-art programs and services for our patients in great new facilities much sooner than would be possible using the traditional government financing approach," said Murray Martin, President & CEO of Hamilton Health Sciences. "In the meantime, it will be business as usual as we continue to provide our patients with the very best of care and we will continue to work hard to offer residents of Hamilton and the region a better and healthier future."