Our local hospitals are at risk

Local hospitals have been subjected to repeated closures of emergency departments, birthing and maternity services, and intensive care units.



There have been more than 100 local hospital emergency closures in Ontario since January 2022. Niagara is in this list.

The Douglas Memorial Hospital lost its emergency department in 2012. It was replaced by an "Urgent Care Centre". But on June 1, 2023, the Niagara Health System reduced the hours of the Urgent Care Centre, closing it at night time.

Niagara Health plans to close the hospital and the urgent care entirely in 2028. As their deficit grows, they may choose to close earlier... unless we stop them.

Present Fort Erie Site Services:

- Urgent care 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. seven days a week
- Complex care and beds
- X-ray and Ultrasound
- Laboratory
- Scheduled Ambulatory and Outpatient Clinics
 - o COPD Rehabiliation
 - o Asthma Clinic
 - Methadone Clinic
 - \circ $\,$ Hepatitis C Care $\,$

Previous governments were not perfect but they eventually listened & stopped the NHS from totally closing the Fort Erie hospital. That was our work! Local communities organized petitions, met with the Health Minister, brought busloads of people to the Legislature and the Minister of Health took action and stopped the closures. Together, we ensured that **Niagara Health could not close our Fort Erie and Port Colborne hospitals and that the Welland hospital remained open as a full service hospital.**

The Ford government is different. They have claimed that the closure of our hospitals' services is not their responsibility. That is patently untrue. We have to take action to put pressure on the government to finally take action to stop the closures of our most vital local services <u>now</u>.

They are driving our public hospital system into the ground & privatizing it. We <u>must</u> stop them.

Local hospitals are integral to our health care.

Ontario's provincial government has not made any plan to help small, rural and local community hospitals and stop the closures. We are losing services that every community needs.

Stop the cuts, closures & privatization of our local hospitals.

- Sign up to help spread the word
- Sign up for the huge protest May 30, at Queen's Park to stop the cuts, closures and privatization of our hospitals.

Reserve your seat on the Niagara's May 30 bus \$ 10.00 Email: <u>niagarahealthcoalition@yahoo.ca</u> Phone/Text: 905-932-1646

Check out our facebook pages: Niagara Health Coalition Save the Welland Hospital Fort Erie Health Care SOS