Covenant unveils plans for its new wellness community

The Covenant family is pleased to unveil its bold vision for a new wellness community in southeast Edmonton.

Operating under the project name “Covenant wellness community”, this health and wellness hub will be the first of its kind in Alberta. As a key partner within Alberta’s integrated health system, Covenant is committed to transforming health care for our patients, residents and communities.

The Covenant wellness community (CWC) will be a community-based health and wellness hub that will serve Albertans for generations. This concept will provide a cost-effective means to address Grey Nuns capacity pressures, the needs of the southeast community and the growing needs of Alberta’s senior population.

The wellness community will include:

- A community health centre
- Multigenerational housing
- Integrated seniors’ continuing care centre
- Surgical services or expansion space (to be determined as needs are identified)
- Commercial buildings (to be determined as needs are identified)

“When people walk through our doors, they will find a one-stop shop for holistic, person-centred care and service,” says Patrick Dumelie, Covenant, CEO. “Our wellness community will welcome people from all demographics and walks of life, with a special focus on inclusion and accessibility for all.”

The CWC will drive a paradigm shift in health care delivery, from dependence on hospital settings to appropriate, community-based care that meets the complex needs of those served. At its heart, it’s about empowering people and families to live well in their community.

“Increasing health care capacity is a key focus of our government and today is a great step in expanding Grey Nuns, helping seniors, and new ways of delivering care in Edmonton.” – Premier Jason Kenney

Covenant purchased Southeast Campus in 2017 with a bold vision to address healthcare gaps through community-based services. At its heart, the vision has not changed; however,
the pandemic was an opportunity to fine tune the vision to align with evolving community needs and provincial priorities.

“The Covenant wellness community is a step toward a healthier Alberta and a more sustainable health system that meets the needs of our growing population,” says Alberta Minister of Health Jason Copping.

“Revolutionary seniors’ care is a key focus for the Covenant wellness community,” says Dumelie. “Our integrated seniors’ care centre will be purpose-built to provide innovative, compassionate care that meets seniors’ evolving needs and allows them to age in place. We will use cutting-edge technologies and best practices in seniors care to ensure our residents receive the world-class care they deserve.”

Using a public/private partnership model, the Covenant family is pleased to partner with Rohit Group of Companies to develop the Covenant wellness community. Using this funding model will allow Covenant to enhance our integrated health system and stimulate economic recovery in Alberta without the need to rely on tax dollars.

Using health care delivery as an anchor and catalyst, the project will spur community development – bringing together financially sustainable, complementary uses that generate maximum benefit to Alberta.

“For decades, Covenant has collaborated with partners and local organizations to bridge healthcare gaps and explore creative models of care,” says Ed Stelmach, Covenant Board of Governors Chair. “We're proud to leverage our culture of innovation to build a vibrant community of health and healing that delivers timely, comprehensive care to southeast Edmonton.”

Covenant Health is one of Canada’s largest Catholic health care organizations with more than 15,000 physicians, employees and volunteers serving in 12 communities across Alberta. A major provider in Alberta's integrated health system, Covenant Health works with Alberta Health Services and community partners to positively influence the health of Albertans through a broad range of programs and services. CovenantHealth.ca