



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**December 8, 2009**

## **PRHC Parking Update**

### ***New Lot Set to Open, Convenient Pay and Display Machines, Rate Increases***

Peterborough, ON: As the new patient and visitor parking lot nears completion, PRHC would like to take the opportunity to inform the public of a number of changes.

#### Parking lots for patients & visitors

Parking for patients and visitors will be close, convenient and safe when the new parking lot opens the week of December 14. There will be almost 400 new parking spaces available to patients and visitors.

Once opened, patients and visitors will be directed to park in one of two main lots – the current lot, and a new adjacent lot to the west. All patients and visitors will now access the parking lots via Hospital Drive. There is still a small visitor lot accessible via Alexander Avenue for those visiting Palliative Care or Mental Health Services.

Please note, not all of the construction will be completed this year. Additional construction will occur next year to complete the ring road around the hospital, as well as some modifications to the main entrance turn-around. Finally, we will be also putting a second layer of asphalt on the new parking lot in the spring.

#### Handicapped spaces

Ample handicapped spaces are concentrated in the lot closest to the hospital. There are metered handicapped spaces at the Emergency, North and South entrances.

#### Metres for patients & visitors

There are conveniently located metered parking available for shorter-term parking with a maximum three-hour time limit.

#### 15-minute spaces

PRHC has 13 free drop-off and pick-up spaces with a strict 15-minute time limit located near the main entrance.

#### Safety

In the interest of increased safety and security, a surveillance booth has been added as part of the new patient and visitor parking lot. The booth will be staffed by security personnel 24 hours a day, seven days a week. There are currently four emergency stations located in the general staff lot and more to be installed in the new lots. Video surveillance will be in effect.

### Patients and Visitors New Pay-On-Foot System

An automated pay for parking system will launch as the new patient and visitor parking lot opens. The Pay-On-Foot system will be a familiar one to members of the public, and will see visitors to the hospital take a ticket upon entry to the parking lot, and pay by cash or credit card at one of three pay station locations including inside the Main entrance, South entrance and Emergency Departments.

Commissionaires and volunteers will be on site during the transition to the new payment system to provide any needed assistance and help ensure that patients and visitors are aware of the new method for payment.

### Rates

The rates are increasing. Revenue from parking goes to support patient care. Government funds 85% of operating expenses to run our hospital and provide patient care. It has an explicit expectation that hospitals raise funds from such things as parking, preferred or private room rates and cafeteria revenue to fund the remaining 15%. PRHC monitors the rates at other non-GTA, similar-sized, community hospitals to ensure that our rate is in-line with what other facilities in our LHIN are charging. This increase is the first for visitors since April 2006.

### **Rates will be as follows:**

#### **Patients & Visitors (effective the week of December 14)**

- ✓ \$4 per half hour to a maximum of \$8 with no in and out privileges
- ✓ \$10 for a daily pass with unlimited in and out privileges until midnight of the day issued
- ✓ \$4.00 per ½ hour at metres
- ✓ \$35 for a weekly pass
- ✓ \$90 for a monthly pass

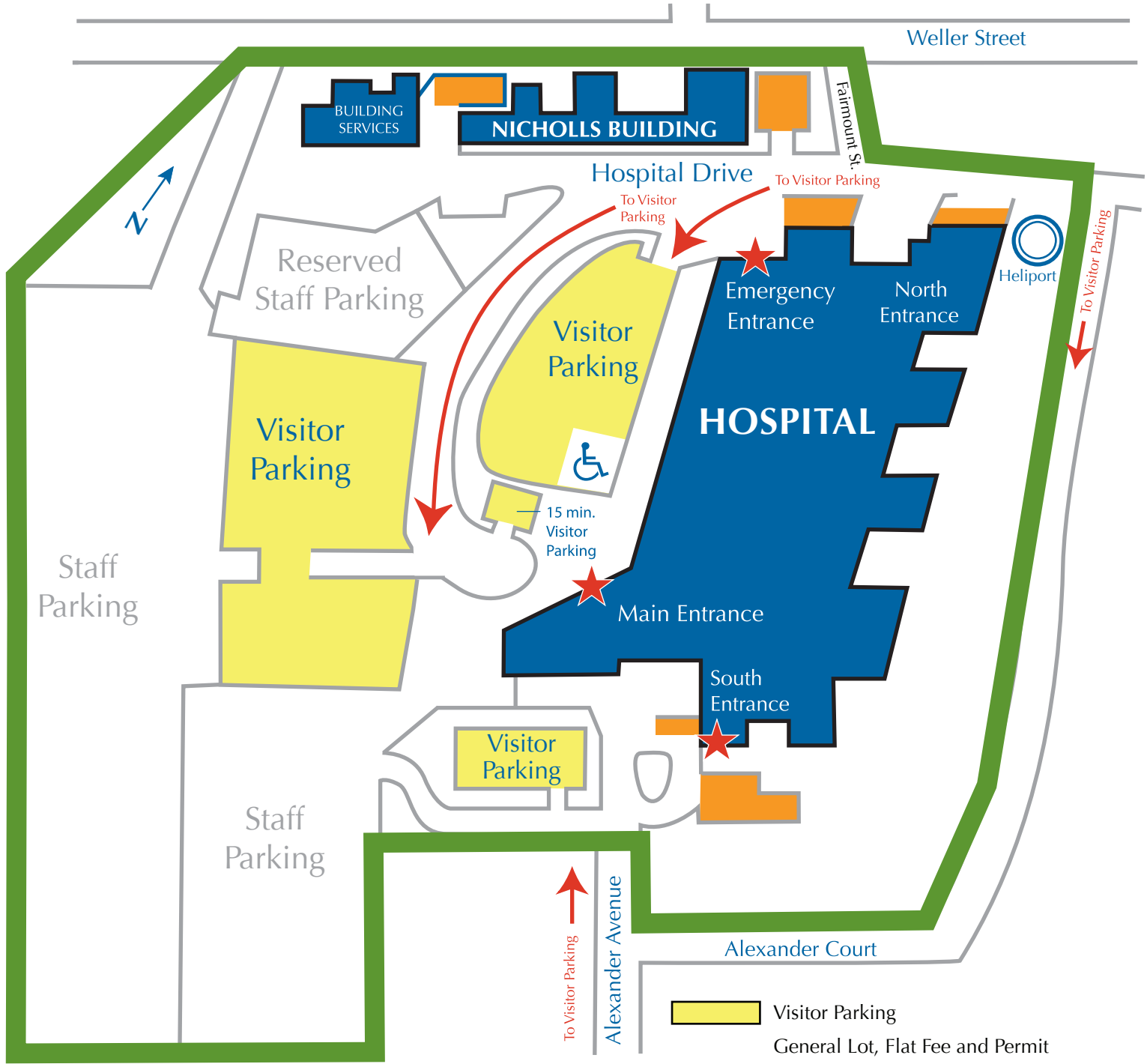
How much is parking increasing?

In the main visitor lots at PRHC, the cost has been \$6 - flat rate - for a 24-hour day with in and out privileges. Parking passes were \$20 per week and \$60 per month. The cost of short-term parking at the metres was \$3 per hour for a maximum of three hours.


**Please see attached map outlining parking lots and important way finding features.**

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No smoking anywhere on hospital property (includes parking lots).

 Visitor Parking  
General Lot, Flat Fee and Permit

 Visitor Parking Metered

 Pay Station Locations