

Received LCO  
April 19, 2024

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Honourable Kelly Regan, MLA  
Chair of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts  
Legislative Committees Office  
1700 Granville Street  
One Government Place  
Halifax, Nova Scotia  
B3J 1X5

Dear MLA Regan:

Thank you for your request for further information related to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts on the Auditor General's report for West Bedford Transitional Care Centre. Your request for information was as follows:

In the Auditor General's report, Paragraph 1.81, talking about the proposed Bayer's Lake transitional care facility, which is no longer happening, it says: "The Bayer's Lake transitional care facility was originally anticipated to be a 200-bed facility." The Hogan Court stand-alone building was to be 68 beds. That's a total of 268 beds. Under the new proposal there are to be 178 total beds at one site. Can you explain the decrease in beds?

As noted in the Auditor General report, the Department of Health and Wellness originally sought government approval to proceed with the design and development of a new transitional care centre in Bayer's Lake for up to 200-beds.

As with all capital developments approved by government, further development and refinement of the functional program was undertaken which resulted in changes to the size and scale of the facility. The bed count was revised to reflect a smaller footprint (200 beds down to 120) and in December 2022, government announced 195 beds for both the Bayer's Lake Transitional Care Centre (120) and the West Bedford site (75).

These numbers were an informed estimate at the time they were announced, and further refinements were subsequently also made to the West Bedford Centre design from 75 beds to 68 to better meet the staffing and patient needs. The new West Bedford expansion announced March 22, 2024, will increase the number of available beds to 178 and replace the need for the Bayer's Lake Transitional Care Centre.



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While there remains a difference of seventeen beds from the December 2022 commitment, 350 new long-term care beds have been created in the last year, significantly increasing system capacity. Ongoing analysis and assessment of patient needs will inform if further investments are required for additional transitional care beds within the HRM.

I hope this response provides clarity, however, should further information be required please do not hesitate to reach out to Joy Knight, Senior Executive Director System Integration at the Department of Health & Wellness for more details ([Joy.Knight@novascotia.ca](mailto:Joy.Knight@novascotia.ca)).

Sincerely,



Karen Oldfield, KC  
Interim President & CEO

cc: Colin Stevenson, Chief System Integration, Department of Health & Wellness  
Joy Knight, SED, System Integration, Department of Health & Wellness



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