

The Flesherton Advance

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Construction on hospital may start this fall

(by Kimberley Black)

An accelerated timeline is making plans turn into reality for the new hospital in Markdale, construction is being pushed to start this fall.

At its virtual meeting on July 15, Grey Highlands Council approved the draft Site Plan and Site Plan Approval, allowing Mayor Paul McQueen and the Clerk to sign the final agreement once the Reference Plans from the County of Grey are cited.

This is a "really exciting time... something we all

need to be proud of: it's been a long time coming," said Mayor Paul McQueen.

Much effort and lobbying over about 15 years have followed the successful multi-million dollar fundraising effort of the surrounding community, hospital foundation and the Municipality.

The Reference Plan includes any land transfers, easements and specific details about the location of the hospital. Mayor McQueen told Council that the County of Grey dealt with the land transfers at its

last meeting.

Earlier this month, Mayor McQueen and staff met with the CAO of Grey Bruce Health Services Gary Sims and County planning representatives.

Sims told the group of his plans to get the Site Plan Approval process completed and then bidding for a contractor can begin as soon as possible.

Mayor McQueen said that GBHS hopes to have a contractor in place by August so that construction can begin this fall.

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