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## MEDIA RELEASE

*For Immediate Release*

*For more information  
contact:*

**Todd Stepanuik**  
President & CEO  
519 245-5295, #5592

or visit our website:  
[www.mhalliance.on.ca](http://www.mhalliance.on.ca)

## ***SMGH RECEIVES FACELIFT***

**(Strathroy, ON)** – Over the past several months, Strathroy Middlesex General Hospital (SMGH) has undergone a major change in its external appearance. Nicholson Sheffield Architects Inc. was responsible for the new façade design while K&L Construction (Ontario) Ltd. and Ontario Panelization installed the new cladding. The project is finally complete after approximately 12 months. During the installation, a new vapour permeable air barrier was installed to prevent exterior moisture from entering the existing brick façade. The new cladding materials were mounted on a structural grid system which supports three new exterior cladding materials: aluminum composite wall panel system, porcelain ceramic panel system and a clay tile wall panel system. The installation of this new cladding will prevent further damage to the exterior brick of the 1962 and 1972 building, provide an additional water seal and improve energy efficiency, while providing a brand new look to the exterior of SMGH.

“This was a necessary project for SMGH to undertake in order to maintain the integrity of the structure,” said Todd Stepanuik, President & CEO, Middlesex Hospital Alliance. We are extremely pleased with our new look and improved energy efficiency realized with the installation of the cladding.”

The \$2.4M project was funded by the provincial Health Infrastructure Renewal Funding (HIRF) allocation by the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care. HIRF funding is provided through the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care to assist healthcare facilities with capital projects that extend the useful life, or result in an improvement in the quality or functionality of the hospital facilities.

### About MHA:

The Middlesex Hospital Alliance (MHA) is comprised of two fully-accredited partner sites: Four Counties Health Services and Strathroy Middlesex General Hospital.

**Four Counties Health Services site**

1824 Concession Drive  
Newbury ON N0L 1Z0  
519 693-4441

**Strathroy Middlesex General Hospital site**

395 Carrie Street  
Strathroy ON N7G 3J4  
519 245-1550

[www.mhalliance.on.ca](http://www.mhalliance.on.ca)

A progressive, team-oriented and technologically adept organization of excellence, the MHA is creating a more integrated and seamless approach to treatment by embracing and seeking out partnerships, through collaboration and investing in people. This coordinated approach helps to ensure that a high level of service is provided while reducing costs and continually enhancing quality.

Providing core acute primary and secondary hospital care, the MHA has also been recognized for establishing two notable Centres of Achievement (Orthopaedics and Diabetes Education Centre) that generate local and regional referrals.