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## MEDIA RELEASE

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### ***Three renovations update Strathroy hospital***

“Despite the noise from the renovations inside the walls of Strathroy Middlesex General Hospital, there haven’t been any patient complaints,” Nancy Maltby-Webster, Chief Operating Officer for the Middlesex Hospital Alliance says.

Strathroy Middlesex General Hospital (SMGH) is undergoing three separate renovation projects; with one complete and the other two well underway.

The completed job involved renovations to the Communication Centre on the first floor of the hospital, which was accomplished last October. A similar renovation project for the Communication Centre for Two South Surgical/Obstetrical/Rehab Unit began in early June this year and is expected to be completed by the end of July.

The Ontario Government is providing funding through the South West LHIN in the amount of \$125,000 from the Health Infrastructure Renewal Fund (HIRF) for this project. Alex Sullo, Director of Environmental Services and manager for the project, says, “The project is well along and is currently on time and on budget.”

The renovation will facilitate patient flow and provide an improved and ergonomic work space for medical and non-medical staff. The renovation also meets the new standards for confidentiality and patient communication. The two Communication Centres were originally built in the late 1950s. “Renovations in these two areas in the SMGH tower are overdue,” Cheryl Waters, MHA Board Chair says. “We simply couldn’t accommodate today’s communication and record-keeping equipment requirements in a set-up from that era.”

The third renovation involves significant changes to the Central Surgical Reprocessing (CSR) located on the basement level at Strathroy hospital. In 2006, the hospital introduced a Hip & Knee Replacement Program that has proven to be very successful. “In operating this program, our CSR capacity reached the straining point to the extent that a significant renovation and expansion is required,” Maltby-Webster, says. It is expected that this work will be completed by early August 2010. The renovation will also ensure that the CSR meets current provincial standards.

Says Chair Waters, “The aim of these renovations is to provide space appropriate to enabling our staff and systems to better serve our patients.”