



PREMIER VISITS HOSPITAL – Premier Doug Ford visited Markdale on Saturday, where he toured the existing hospital and confirmed that plans for the new build are going forward as planned. Hospital staff members are shown here with MPP Minister Bill Walker, Premier Doug Ford, Dr. Brian Power, Grey Bruce Health Services CEO Lance Thurston and Mayor Paul McQueen.

Premier drops in at hospital and at Grey Gables

Premier Doug Ford toured Markdale hospital and met residents and staff at Grey Gables on Saturday.

The visit was kept low-key for security reasons, but a few local people were given notice. Premier Ford had been in Wiarton in the early morning as Wiarton Willie made his prediction of an early spring.

He arrived in Markdale at the hospital about 10:15, where retiring GBHS CEO Lance Thurston and the

Centre Grey administrator were there to give him a tour.

MPP Bill Walker stressed that people in the area have been waiting on the hospital for years since the \$13 million was raised. Confirmation was received a number of years ago under Health Minister Eric Hoskins that the build was approved.

The Premier said enthusiastically, "Let's get the shovels in the ground."

At Grey Gables, Minister Walker along with present

Grey County Warden Selwyn Hicks and past wardens including Murray Betts, Howard Greig and Rod Knott spoke to the premier about county long-term care homes.

Lynne Johnson, director of long-term care for Grey County, and home administrator Jennifer Cornell were part of the visit.

Premier Ford encouraged the county to get its application in for the new

long-term care beds which the province has announced, Mayor Paul McQueen reported.

The premier greeted other members of the staff, and chatted to residents who were playing bingo in the lounge area.

Darrin and Michelle Patey, who were quite involved in the fight to keep Grey Gables as a county-owned home, were also invited to be present.

Thanks

Paul & Gail