

## Construction starting on new medical centre

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Construction is scheduled to start within the next two weeks on a new health care facility in downtown Burlington.

The Burlington Health Care Centre will be located one block east of Brant Street at the intersection of Caroline and John streets.

The eight-storey building will feature retail on the ground floor and seven floors of medical office space totalling 90,000 square feet.

The project also includes an eight-storey parking garage with 233 spaces, as well as a 17-storey building with ground-level retail and 16 floors of 144 one- and two-bedroom residential units.

The three connected buildings will take up the entire block bounded by John, Elizabeth, Caroline and Maria streets.

Medica one Integrative Health Care and Carriage Gate Group are behind the development.

Nick Carnicelli, president of Carriage Gate Group, said the project will bring 200 jobs to the downtown core. He said the development is significant for the city.

“We believe this will be a landmark complex in the downtown core,” said Carnicelli at a ceremony marking the start of construction on Tuesday. “In fact, this project will be the first office development in the downtown since the late 1980s.”

The medical facility will offer many different services, such as family doctors, specialists, pharmacy, X-ray/ultrasound, blood lab, cardiac diagnostics, nuclear imaging, travel medicine, hearing lab, weight loss and diabetes management, optometrist, dermatologist, dentist, naturopathic doctors, bracing and orthotics, laser eye clinic, pain clinic, chiropractor, physiotherapy, anti-aging clinic and a walk-in clinic.

“I think they (doctors) will be thrilled, the staff will be thrilled and ultimately the patients will have a great facility to get all the services they need for their medical well-being,” said Chris Cassolato, vice president of operations and business development at Medica one.

Mayor Rick Goldring was also at Tuesday’s event, saying the project is triple win for the city as it brings more jobs, residential spaces and parking to the downtown core.

“For this term of council, the Strategic Plan of the City of Burlington is focused on excellence in government, prosperity and vibrant neighbourhoods,” he said. “This project is very clearly connected to vibrant neighbourhoods, as well as prosperity.”

Construction will take place through 2013 and 2014, with an anticipated 2015 opening, Michelle Kline, director of marketing for Medica one, told the Post.

She said the medical offices will feature a combination of new and existing medical professionals affiliated with Medica one.

“I think it is going to benefit the downtown because it is creating so many jobs, not just in the medical field but in the retail field, too” she said. “It’s adding to the parking downtown. I can’t disclose it right now, but it is also going to bring in some really nice retail outfitters to the downtown area.”

Kline directs interested patients to Medica one’s website [www.registerforadoctor.com](http://www.registerforadoctor.com) .



President of Carriage Gate Group Nick Carnicelli on Tuesday with an artist's rendering of the new medical, parking and residential complex.

Artist's rendering of development.

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The new Burlington Health Care Centre will be built at the corner of Caroline and John streets, shown here on Tuesday, May 14.

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Dr. Fatima Merali, Dr. Vikas Pandith, Dr. Ali Hadi, Dr. Mirjana Garic, Mayor Rick Goldring, Dr. Pascual Candia, President of Carriage Gate Group Nick Carnicelli and Medica one Vice President of Operations and Business Development Chris Cassolato at Tuesday's ceremony marking the start of construction of the Burlington Health Care Centre.