

SELINA SUTHERLAND HOSPITAL

WORK COMMENCES ON THE NEW SELINA SUTHERLAND SURGICAL HOSPITAL

The vision of a new locally owned independent surgical hospital in Masterton has taken a significant step forward. Representatives from local iwi – Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa and Rangitāne o Wairarapa – led a meaningful site blessing on 23 April, acknowledging both the cultural significance of the land and the shared commitment to delivering a facility that will enhance healthcare access.



All neighbouring boundaries have now been secured, and local firm PCL Contracting started earthworks on site on 18 May. Their work includes construction of a retaining wall along the northern boundary, site levelling, and applying suitable substrate to support the building platforms, internal roadways, and service yard areas.



This phase marks an exciting and highly visible step forward, transforming the vision into tangible on-site progress.

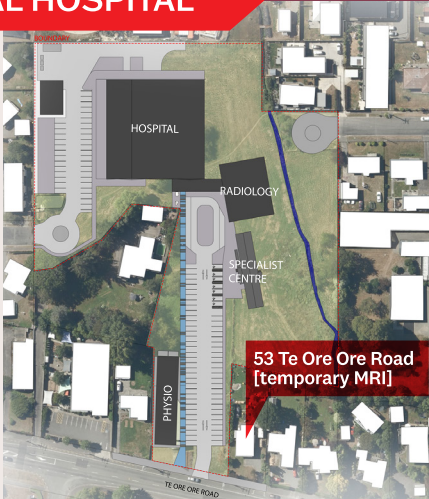
Masterton’s Mayor, Bex Johnson, welcomed the development, saying she is “very excited to see construction begin on a new surgical hospital in Masterton.” She noted that as the region continues to grow, access to high-quality healthcare infrastructure is increasingly important.

“This facility will provide more beds, increased theatre time, and surgical services not previously available locally,” she said.

Mayor Johnson also highlighted the wider benefits for the district, adding, “This hospital will attract new residents to Masterton, as well as specialist healthcare workers and their families. It is incredibly exciting for Masterton, and the wider region, to have this development in the pipeline.”

MRI Update

Pacific Radiology has committed to establishing an MRI service in Masterton, in collaboration with the new independent surgical hospital. The MRI service aims to be up and running by late September this year. A house next to the new hospital site will be adapted for their use, until they can move into the new hospital radiology suite, which is scheduled to open in July 2028.



Locally Owned

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A local MRI service will be an enormous benefit to anyone needing an MRI as they will avoid the inconvenience and cost of a trip to the Hutt, Wellington or Palmerston North.

Thanks to the forward-thinking vision of local clinicians, planners and investors who initiated the project, we are well on track towards enhancing healthcare services in the Wairarapa to help meet the needs of our growing population. By attracting new specialists and services and

eventually vacating the twelve beds and associated theatre time currently leased from the public hospital, the development will also add much-needed capacity within the public system.

Working collaboratively with other health providers, Selina Sutherland Independent Hospital will deliver high-quality, patient-centred surgical care closer to home for Wairarapa residents. While there is still some way to go before completion, the project has made a bold and promising start.

Clinical Service Developments

New services, more surgeons, and faster appointments means Selina Sutherland Hospital can already scale up their activity in advance of the move to the new hospital. The team is always striving to work in more efficient and patient-centered ways, adding capacity on the existing site.

A key goal of the new development is to expand access to specialist care to assist patients to receive timely, high quality treatment close to home.

Alongside the existing well established Orthopaedic Service led by Dr Konrad Schwanecke & Dr Nicholas deGiorgio-Miller we are pleased to grow the ophthalmology (eye) service and welcome Endoscopy, General Surgery, Gynaecology & Urology services.

The Endoscopy and General Surgery Unit will be led by Dr Sarah Rennie, Dr John Wyeth and Dr Andrew Cleary, delivering specialised diagnostic and

procedural care for the Wairarapa community.

Urology services will be provided by Mr Scott McCowan, alongside gynaecology services led by Dr Anene Chukwujama and Dr Tina Ngorora. All newly announced clinicians also work within the public health system, helping to strengthen and support regional services across both public and private care settings.

In addition, the ophthalmology team continues to grow, with the addition of Dr Jinny Yoon. Dr Yoon trained in New Zealand, then undertook a neuro-ophthalmology fellowship at the world-renowned Singapore National Eye Centre.



CONTACT DETAILS

Selina Sutherland Hospital, Blair St, Masterton
P.O.Box 747, Masterton 5840 | (06)377-0277
reception@selinasutherland.co.nz | www.selinasutherland.co.nz