

Newsfeed No. 53

November 2023



Video celebrates symbol of welcome at Randwick Hospitals Campus

This month saw the release of a video aimed at sharing the story behind ‘Gum leaves’ – a major public art project featuring prominently in the forecourt of the Prince of Wales Hospital Acute Services Building.

Created by Dr Peter Yanada McKenzie (Eora/ Anaiwan), a respected artist and Elder from the La Perouse Aboriginal Community, together with leading artist Jonathan Jones (Wiradjuri/ Kamilaroi), the artwork uses sandblasted pavers to provide a prominent and embracing welcome to all Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people.

Featuring large-scale yet intricate outlines of gum leaves etched into the pavement, the artwork mimics the bush floor with an array of leaves scattered across the forecourt, as if they have fallen from above or are left over from an ancestral ceremony.

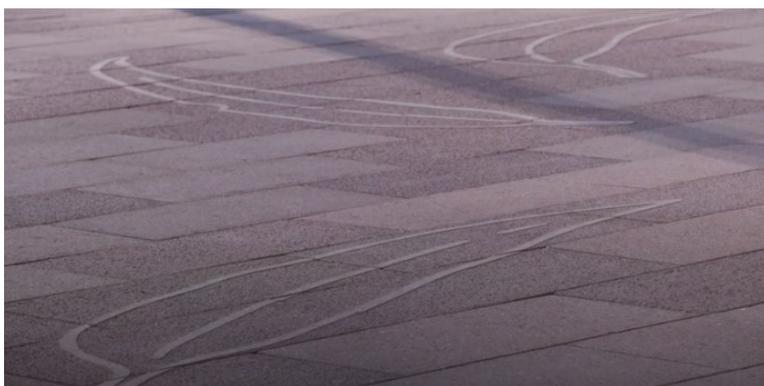
As part of a series of unique and distinct art and cultural displays at building’s main entrance, the artwork is a true reflection and celebration of continued culture on country.

Through the video, Dr Peter Yanada McKenzie, provides insight into the importance of the gum leaf to Aboriginal people.

“To be made ‘welcome’ in terms of Aboriginal cultural practice is a most important and significant act of mutual acceptance, to greet new friends and visitors to country or other significant places, such as this new icon of healing, with the assurance of goodwill.”

“As a respected Elder and cultural representative of my Aboriginal community at La Perouse, on whose land council area the Prince of Wales Hospital is situated, I believe the use of Australian native gumtree leaves, as used in our traditional and now contemporary Welcome to Country smoking ceremonies, is a magnificent symbolic gesture as a ‘welcoming device’ for hospital’s visitors,” said Dr McKenzie.

[Watch the video on YouTube](#) to hear more from both artists about the inspiration behind the artwork.



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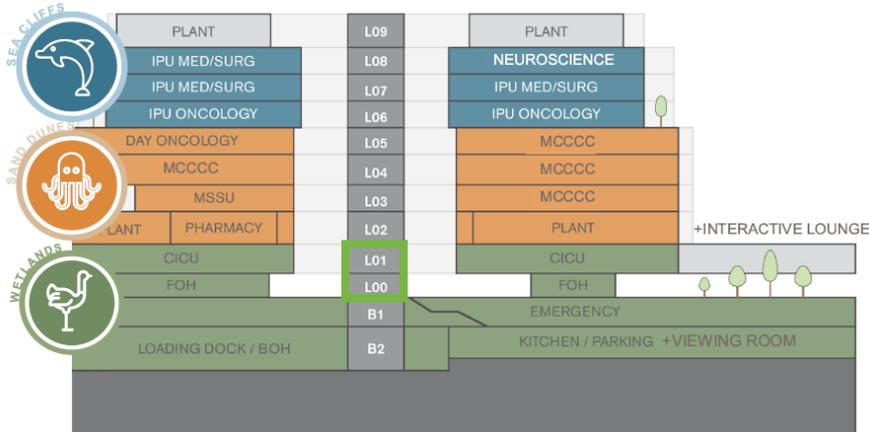
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Inside the future SCH1/MCCCC...

Concrete pours are a daily occurrence on the Sydney Children's Hospital Stage 1 and Minderoo Children's Comprehensive Cancer Centre (SCH1/MCCCC) construction site, as the 12-storey building rises from the ground.

Construction of the building's lift wells has reached Level 7, suspended concrete slabs have progressed to Level 5, and wall construction is underway on Levels B2, B1 and L00.



As the building continues to take shape, we'll give you an insight into which services and facilities each floor will be home to on construction completion in 2025... Be sure to check out previous editions for information about the lower levels!

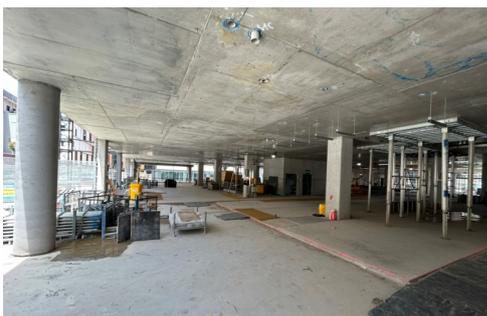
Level 00:

This will be the hospital's reception area and 'Front of House' – the first space that staff and visitors will encounter on entry to the hospital. The entrance and forecourt plaza will be a welcoming, dynamic space for visitors, combining intuitive wayfinding, admissions and check-in, retail, an indoor and outdoor Aboriginal Gathering Place, a new playground, and a dedicated pet area. The MCCCC Arrival Lounge will be located directly outside the MCCCC Public Laboratory and will be used for community and media engagement and internal education for all MCCCC staff and students. The new lobby space will be technologically enabled, with a Discovery Centre, wireless device charging stations, interactive wayfinding, a multi-purpose entertainment area for performances and movie displays, and a range of lounge and hub seating for families and large groups to meet.

Level 01:

The new Children's Intensive Care Unit (CICU) will be housed on this level, equipped with technologically enhanced spaces to optimise patient care. Patients will be cared for across two pods, including isolation rooms. The unit will boast single-patient bedrooms with carer zones, providing families with privacy and comfortable amenities while ensuring visibility for clinicians. The floor will also feature an outdoor terrace with a medical services panel to give ventilated patients access to fresh air and green space. A biomedical workroom will ensure that life-saving equipment is maintained, tested and available immediately, and a dedicated simulation space will support staff education activities. A clinical link bridge between SCH1/MCCCC and the Prince of Wales Hospital Acute Services Building (ASB) will connect the CICU with the ASB operating theatres.

L00 construction progress



L01 construction progress



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Lendlease representatives accepting the MBA award

ASB claims MBA award for excellence

The Prince of Wales Hospital Acute Services Building – the first stage of the Randwick Campus Redevelopment – has been recognised with a 2023 Master Builders Association (MBA) of NSW Excellence Award.

Project builder Lendlease won the *Excellence in Construction & Site Safety Award* for new health buildings over \$50 million, acknowledging a range of innovative solutions that enabled the successful delivery of the new building within an established health campus and alongside four live hospitals that remained fully operational during construction.

During more than four and a half years of construction activity, Lendlease worked collaboratively with campus stakeholders and the project team to construct the 13-storey building and associated link bridges connecting to existing hospital buildings. This was made possible through the engineering feat of lowering a major hospital campus access road.

While adding further complexity, the project also successfully navigated the COVID-19 pandemic, with health management of the 600-strong on-site workforce critically important, given the proximity to vulnerable hospital patients.

The award acknowledges the project's complexity throughout all stages of construction, and the delivery team's strong commitment to consultation with stakeholders across the campus. Learn more [here](#).

Construction of future IPUs complete

The additional inpatient unit (IPU) space which has been under construction on Level 6 of the Acute Services Building (ASB) throughout the year was officially handed over to South Eastern Sydney Local Health District in mid-November, enabling Prince of Wales Hospital to commence the hospital operational commissioning phase.

With the helpful support of the Loading Dock 7 team, a range of new furniture and equipment is now being delivered for installation within the Level 6 IPUs and the adjacent Education, Training and Research space.

At the same time, the hospital's digital health team has been busy fitting out the spaces with computers, phones and meeting room screens. It won't be long before the area is ready to welcome staff groups for orientation sessions, enabling teams to check that everything is working as it should and prepare their areas in readiness for the transition of services in early 2024.

Commissioning will be a combined effort, with the corporate services team supporting the process through coordination of cleaning, along with stocking of supplies such as handtowels, gloves, toilet rolls and beverage bay items.

The hospital's General Surgery and Specialist Surgery teams are looking forward to the move into the ASB and have developed comprehensive education, training and orientation plans to ensure their staff are ready for the transition into their new workplace on completion of commissioning.

Pictured: General and Specialist Surgery staff learn new ways of working in the IPU



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COUNTDOWN IS ON

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UNSW's Eastern Extension to focus on education and research

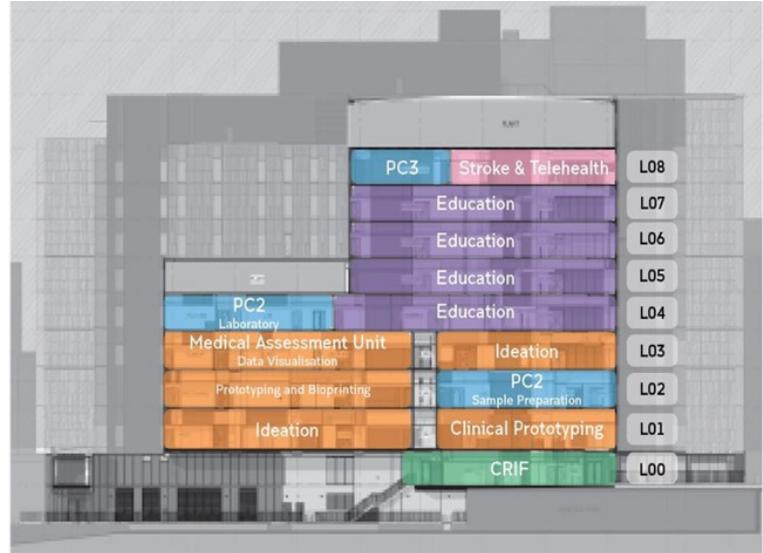
The soon-to-open UNSW integrated spaces aim to advance patient care through a seamless integration between the university and the Acute Services Building.

As part of a major partnership between South Eastern Sydney Local Health District (SESLHD) and UNSW, 10 storeys of dedicated education and research spaces will bring together researchers, clinicians and health experts.

UNSW will have four floors dedicated to clinical education, three laboratories, space for biomedical engineering activity and a Dementia Care pilot facility, called the Clinical Research Innovation Facility (CRIF), on L00.

In new teaching and clinical education spaces, healthcare students will learn with each other and from clinicians in flexible spaces directly connected to clinical care areas.

Together with their interprofessional healthcare teams, students will gain an appreciation of patient experiences and the challenges of delivering healthcare in adjacent clinical areas, before being able to move across the hall into dedicated learning spaces to reflect, reinforce and study.



Clinical education spaces will be located alongside haematology, oncology, sub-acute aged care, aged care and orthogeriatrics, surgery, respiratory, spinal and clinical neurosciences departments. Through links to a range of clinical departments, students will learn about different patient issues and ways to deliver care.

By working together, UNSW and SESLHD will enhance health service delivery by embedding monitoring, analysis and research alongside the acute clinical environment.

This will lead to developing new models of care and better health outcomes for the community.



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CCI awarded silver level certification

The Children's Cancer Institute (CCI) has been participating in the Laboratory Efficiency Assessment Framework (LEAF) program – an internationally recognised accreditation for sustainable laboratory operations.

The framework outlines several initiatives to complete, resulting in levels of sustainability certification from bronze to gold. Of more than 50 participating laboratories across UNSW, CCI was one of just nine labs to receive a silver level certification, with glowing feedback for current initiatives and metrics.

Next year, the CCI team will be working towards a gold level certification. While the program focusses largely on lab sustainability, the gold level calls for engagement with the broader workforce on key sustainability initiatives across the organisation – from use of office spaces to travel habits.

There is currently only one other lab in Australasia to have achieved gold level certification, so the race is on for CCI to be in the top 10 – staff are encouraged to keep an eye out for a range of new sustainability initiatives to get involved in during 2024!

The LEAF program objectives directly contribute to Sydney Children's Hospital Stage 1 and Minderoo Children's Comprehensive Cancer Centre sustainability initiatives and toward net zero in delivery goal, and will provide a solid foundation as the CCI team prepares to move their labs to the new site in December 2025.



Bird's eye view!

Check out these views of the SCH1/MCCCC construction site from the cabin of *Jupiter*, the first of the project tower cranes to arrive on site.

Towering 74 metres above the site (and 120 metres above sea level), *Jupiter* has a reach of 65 metres and can lift and move up to 20 tonne of materials – that's equivalent to 4,444 cats!

The project's second tower crane, named *Andy*, is a whopping 81 metres high and, despite a shorter reach of 55 metres, has the same lifting capacity.

Did you know? Crane operators navigate more than 100 ladder rungs (vertical steps) to reach their office for the day! Although, there's also a lift option...



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Out and about with the redevelopment project teams...

Check out what some of our team members have been up to recently, expanding their knowledge and spreading the word about the Randwick Campus Redevelopment projects.



The children's hospital redevelopment projects at Randwick and Westmead were recently acknowledged with an award at the 2023 Health Infrastructure Change Conference.

The team was awarded the inaugural HI Change Network Choice Award for their presentation 'Collaboration at the heart of hospital design.'

The presentation outlined consultation with staff and hospital users, the benefit of prototype spaces, collaboration with Aboriginal community members, and the impact of the Network's Arts, Play and Discovery program.

The team was grateful for the opportunity to present work on the project so far and to learn from other hospitals across the state.

Workers on the SCH1/MCCCC site were reminded of the life-saving importance of hard hats when *Operation Melonhead* activities were hosted during National Safe Work Month.

The initiative aimed to raise awareness of the risks of falling objects and the importance of personal protective equipment by dropping commonly used construction objects and tools from a height of 10 metres in a carefully controlled environment.

Falling through a tube and into a contained box, various objects were dropped onto a hard hat and a watermelon to show the marked difference in damage caused, highlighting the importance of:

- securing or containing loose objects adequately
- ensuring control measures are implemented (barricaded exclusion zones and drop zones)
- removing all loose and redundant tools when not in use
- always wearing hard hats and PPE.



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Out and about with the redevelopment project teams...

It was all smiles at Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick's annual Party Day!



Members of the Sydney Children's Hospital Stage 1 and Minderoo Children's Comprehensive Cancer Centre project team had the privilege of being part of the hospital's annual Party Day event in late October – embracing the 'games' theme by donning Scrabble letters, complemented by construction hats!

The team got in on the photo booth action, welcomed patients and their families into the redevelopment pop-up space for some colouring fun, and toured some of the wards to check out the amazing game-themed displays and activities hosted by hospital staff and services.



Learn more about RCR

Keen to know what's being delivered as part of the Randwick Campus Redevelopment?



Check out our [interactive map](#) for the latest information on construction activities across campus, or to learn more about each of the Randwick Campus Redevelopment projects and their key components.

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Faces of the Precinct: Professor Robert Gilchrist

What is your role at the Randwick Health & Innovation Precinct (RHIP)?

I am a professor and research scientist conducting discovery and translational research in reproductive biology and reproductive medicine.

I am a [National Health and Medical Research Council](#) (NHMRC) Investigator Fellow and Research Lead of the discipline of Women's Health, in UNSW's [Faculty of Medicine & Health](#).

I am head of the Oocyte Biology Research Unit, which is a laboratory research program based in the Wallace Wurth building on the Kensington campus. There I lead a group of academics and professional scientists, students and visiting fellows, conducting research on oocyte and ovarian biology as it pertains to fertility.

I also have a clinical role in the [Fertility & Research Centre](#), based in the [Royal Hospital for Women](#), Randwick. There I established a new clinical treatment called [oocyte in vitro maturation](#) (IVM). This is a low intervention infertility treatment for women with polycystic ovary syndrome and for fertility preservation for women and girls diagnosed with cancer. Based on my research and that of others, we are the first clinic in Australia to offer a new approach to IVM.

What attracted you to this type of work?

Being a research academic is a privilege. I have the pleasure of leading a research program where we are continuously challenged by new science and new clinical directions. This gives me the opportunity to train young scientists and doctors for future discovery and/or clinical research roles.

I also get to travel the world to meet interesting people and to present my research outcomes. Most importantly, the outcomes of my research program impact the lives of couples trying to achieve their dream of having a family.



What excites you most about the Precinct?

World-class clinical services require two sets of interactions:

- ✓ Public health service providers interacting with clinical academics who are across the most recent developments in clinical practice, and;
- ✓ Clinical academics that collaborate with biomedical scientists who are at the coalface of the latest approaches to treating disease.

The Precinct provides the right niche for this to happen.

What do the next six months look like?

My group will continue to develop new insights into the basic mechanisms regulating oocyte quality, which forms the basic foundation of a woman's fertility potential.

Meanwhile, I will continue, at a global level, to lead the clinical application of IVM through an international consortium of clinics, doctors and scientists, aiming to provide know-how, training and education about the modern approach to IVM.

What's your favourite quote?

"Choose a job you love, and you will never have to work a day in your life." - Confucius.

Learn more about RHIP's partners, purpose and impact at rhip.org.au, and if you haven't already, follow RHIP on [LinkedIn](#), [Twitter](#), and [YouTube](#) to keep up to date with what's happening across the Precinct.

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