

### 2.3 Building Orientation

The dominant urban ordering principle in Vancouver is the grid system, and a majority of our city's urban development is defined by, and respectful of, this grid. However the development history of the hospital was established at the outset at a 45° angle to this grid and subsequent building development has continued with this alignment. Only the Research Precinct in the NW corner of the Hospital site conforms to the city grid system and runs parallel to 28th Avenue.

It is inevitable that phased development of the site is required to allow Hospital operations to continue while future phases are under construction. As a result, new buildings inserted into the centre of the site must respect the existing framework of buildings that run with the 45° angle. As the development of the site occurs, the progressive

“peeling away” of existing buildings allows certain buildings in the later stages to fall back onto the original street grid and reinforce the alignment with adjoining streets.

For this reason, the existing buildings dictate the sequence for the development of the Master Plan. Using the existing Children's and Women's Acute Care Hospital to transition services out of the former Shaughnessy Hospital, the staged demolition can proceed smoothly (see development phasing pp. 18-21). The final phase of the Master Plan will be to remove the original Acute Care building, whose programs will have all been relocated to the new facilities.

The orientation of the new Acute Care Centre is responding to phasing challenges and in looking at the Master Plan phased developments in can be better understood in regards to its concept for growth on across the site.

In the Master Plan development there is one section of the building that rotates at its hinge 45° and aligns back to the city's main grid system. This is done for two main reasons: one, to align and address the future Willow Street access, which provides a direct route to the Women's Hospital entrance and two, to leave undisturbed the green space adjacent to the Child and Youth Mental Health building. Orientating the last mid-rise section to a north-south axis keeps the open space between the Women's Hospital and Child and Youth Mental Health building semi-private, creating a quite and comfortable space that connects visually to the elevated green space of the Hospital and the Child Day Care Centre. The gesture also pays homage to the established urban grid.

At this point the building extends towards the Wellness Walkway so that there is a point at which the user of the Wellness Walkway can chose to exit the circuit and enter the building through the Women's Hospital. The green space at the end of the hinged segment is minimal as the adjacent St. Vincent's site designated an area along the property line as green space, thus creating a comfortable landscaped area that flanks the Wellness Walkway which runs alongside the property edge.

