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Landscape areas adjacent to a hospital should comprise of an easy to navigate, accessible and attractive space that engages the senses in a high quality experience. Hospital patients, personnel and visitors should also have access to a "healing garden", where they can pause for a moment and relax their mind by focusing on surroundings that stimulate calmness and provoke sense of safety.



When designing for hospital grounds, Pawel works in close collaboration with a variety of people, including hospital personnel; various consultants; patients; community groups and specialized contractors to achieve the best possible design solution.

The site-specific programming for all features selected for the hospital grounds needs to respond to the unique type of medical services that are being offered at each facility. In some units (i.e. mental health) the design features must be considered very carefully to ensure the safety and welfare of all patients and personnel.

At the **Children's and Women's Hospital** in Vancouver (above), carefully selected components of the landscape, provide opportunities for kids to create and discover. The playground and the adjacent recreational lawn, located within the attractive swaths of planting that offers a variety of fragrances, textures, and seasonal colour; provide children and adults with opportunities to play in organized or spontaneous sports and games. Meandering paths and boardwalks connect these spaces, while providing seating opportunities and playfully linking to the surrounding facilities.

The Healing Garden in the **Delta** Hospital was focused on creating a usable exterior courtyard for both patients and visitors as part of the new hospital entry extension. The hospital courtyard design was based on providing a therapeutic place for relaxation, meeting and visual interest for the surrounding rooms and facilities enclosing the space. It provides both, a great outside amenity space and unique visual backdrop to the new hospital entrance area. Although patient safety and movement was the primary concern in the design of the courtyard, all efforts were made to provide a variety of unique spaces through the use of different surface materials, landscape structures, water features, and plant material.

