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The renovated courtyard area now features seven distinct “rooms” that can accommodate various activities. The volunteers, made up of professional landscapers and dozens of Humber College landscaping students, worked on the makeover over 12 days last fall as part of a new HGTV show.

The hospital wanted the space to promote a sense of healing and comfort for patients and their families, as well as visitors and staff. It also had to be multifunctional, able to accommodate both patient activities and hospital events.

To make those needs a reality, designers Haig Seferian and Jodi Liptrot of Seferian Design Group Limited came up with a plan to transform the outdoor courtyard into seven distinct “rooms” of functional outdoor space to accommodate and reflect hospital and patient needs.

“We wanted to incorporate many levels of activity, anything from quiet, reflective individual time, to something more active like throwing a basketball around near the back wall. That’s why we created the rooms,” says Liptrot.

The sports room provides a basketball net and streamlined concrete space, replacing what was a smaller, uneven basketball court. The games room has bistro tables for checkers, chess or card games, and is bordered by a garden with a seat wall for extra seating. The wildlife room improves an existing squirrel habitat with added bird feeders. The oasis garden, located in the completely refurbished pavilion, is outfitted with comfortable Muskoka chairs that let visitors take in the tranquil woodland setting.

Because of its proximity to special gas tanks used by the hospital,