



## CAH MANAGEMENT PRESS RELEASE

Toronto, January 20, 2021

### PRESS RELEASE FROM THE MANAGEMENT OF CAH

Hello and Happy New Year to all!

As we bid farewell to the year 2020, we cannot say that the New Year has brought us the changes we were hoping for. The COVID 19 virus is still with us and is spreading in our communities with vigour. We are all still living under severe restrictions with a great burden of worry and isolation.

Winter, which promises to be very different from what we are used to, has brought us a precious gift: the vaccine, finally arrived and ready to be used! I want to reassure you that we are in the process of doing all the follow-ups so that our clients and employees are among the priorities of this vaccination campaign.

The vaccine alone will not change things right away, but it is clear that this is the first step towards normalization, while protecting the lives of the most vulnerable people around us.

I would also like to thank and congratulate all of our staff for making sure that our clients have a special and joyful time during the vacations. The Christmas dinner was organized for our clients in small groups for a week. Many special vacation meals were also delivered to our clients throughout the city.

I would also like to thank all of our friends who generously donated during the vacations to our vacation fundraiser to finance Christmas vouchers for our clients. The funds also allow us to help clients deal with unexpected expenses and more difficult times throughout the year. They help us subsidize our services for clients in need.

As we move forward, and as we enter a new period of restrictions and look forward to the vaccine, we are all very grateful for the closeness and support of our community.

The pandemic has revealed the vulnerability of the systems put in place to support the aging population in our communities. The horrors of long-term care homes and the frightening news that now comes to us from our hospitals, filled and overwhelmed by the number of very sick people requiring intensive care, bode very badly for the times to come if nothing is done to rethink our systems and make them more resilient.

We need to rethink our long-term care system and ensure that our voice is heard. We also need to have the courage to think outside the box and be creative and innovative.

As the population ages, the needs for care and services become more complex. We must therefore be able to offer global and diversified solutions.

We look forward to continuing this conversation with our clients, caregivers, staff and members. Today, being a member of the AHC is very significant. It is a way to demonstrate your support for our mandate and our ambitions for services and programs. Being a member means committing to the idea and co-design of the future of aging in French in the Greater Toronto Area.

This month we are launching our campaign to recruit new CAH members and renew the affiliation of existing members. In the current circumstances, more than ever, we want to be ambitious and we ask you to join us and take a stand. An engaged community is a sign of good health, and at this time, we should all be committed to building our future and ensuring that it reflects our needs and wishes.

We intend to engage you throughout the year and create opportunities to connect and exchange ideas. Everyone's voice is important to ensure that we are moving in the right direction.

Together, let us break the isolation that surrounds seniors in our community and build a truly inclusive, interactive and stronger community.

Join CAH, become a member or renew your membership.

We still have a long way to go!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Barbara Ceccarelli', written over a thin horizontal line.

Barbara Ceccarelli,  
CAH Executive Director