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COMMUNIQUÉ DE PRESSE DE CAH

Centres d'Accueil Héritage announces plans to expand affordable and supportive housing options for Francophone seniors in the Greater Toronto Area.

Toronto, September 28, 2021 - Heritage Welcome Centres (HHC) launched a campaign at its Annual General Meeting (AGM) to gather the resources and conditions necessary for the acquisition or development of affordable supportive housing for Francophone seniors in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA).

With a theme of "Thank You" to all those who helped keep its residents and clients safe during the VICTOR-19 pandemic, CAH shared with its community the results of a recent study on the need for French language affordable supportive housing. This study affirmed the urgent need for CAH to expand its services to help more people in need in the community and confirmed its organizational capacity to do so.

"As we gathered to thank our frontline workers, residents, clients and their

caregivers, we delivered a clear message to our entire community: CAH is taking the next steps to create more housing and service options for French-speaking seniors." Inspired by the joy of our residents, the vision of our founders 40 years ago, and the demonstrable improvement in health and wellness outcomes associated with our unique model, the time is right to use our expertise and expand our housing options in the GTA.

"We have long recognized a need to increase affordable housing options tailored to the changing needs of Francophone seniors in the GTA," said Colette Raphael, Chair of the Board of Directors. "The pandemic has not only exacerbated these needs, but has also highlighted that the CAH model of supportive housing offers a unique, safe and caring environment where Francophone seniors feel at home."

"Our study confirms what we already suspected: that the francophone population is growing faster than elsewhere in Ontario and that the needs of this aging population are becoming more complex at all levels of health determinants such as housing," adds Barbara Ceccarelli, Executive Director.

We would like to acknowledge the hard work of all our partners, staff, residents and their families who have supported us throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

As we begin this new phase in our history, we look forward to working with all potential partners to identify the model that will best meet the needs of francophone seniors today and in the future.

The only organization dedicated entirely to the well-being of Francophone seniors in Toronto, CAH's mission is to provide seniors and their caregivers with French language services and programs that promote their quality of life, support their independence and encourage them to participate in the Francophone community.

For more information, please contact
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