

Ontario Funding Four New Hospice Beds in Brantford*Province Investing Additional \$420,000 at Stedman Community Hospice***NEWS**

August 16, 2016

Ontario is increasing its annual investment in Stedman Community Hospice by \$420,000 to support the opening of four new palliative care beds.

Brantford's Stedman Community Hospice currently has six beds supported through provincial funding and Ontario's new investment will help fund the operation of four new beds that were recently built with support from the community and St. Joseph's Lifecare Foundation. These four new beds will help Stedman Community Hospice serve up to 100 more clients and their families each year.

This investment supports Ontario's commitment to strengthen access to palliative care across the province. In the 2016 Budget, Ontario invested an additional \$75 million over three years to provide patients with more options and access to community-based palliative and end-of-life care. This includes a \$13.9 million increase in funding for existing hospice beds across the province and funding to support the commitment to expand hospice care to include up to 20 new hospices across Ontario.

This funding for hospices will help ensure high-quality palliative and end-of-life care remains in the community for future generations. This investment will enhance compassionate end-of-life support that relieves suffering and improves the quality of living and dying.

Investing in palliative care is part of the government's plan to build a better Ontario through its [Patients First: Action Plan for Health Care](#), which provides patients with faster access to the right care; better home and community care; the information they need to live healthy; and a health care system that is sustainable for generations to come. It is also part of Ontario's [Patients First: Roadmap to Strengthen Home and Community Care](#), which is the government's plan to improve and expand home and community care over the next three years.

QUOTES

"Hospices provide Ontarians and their families with high quality compassionate palliative care. This new funding will support the critical role that Stedman Community Hospice plays within the community, and is an important part of our commitment to expand hospice palliative care across the province."

— Dr. Eric Hoskins, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care

"Hospices are special places that provide compassionate care to patients and families at a challenging time in their lives. They are a critical part of Ontario's plan to ensure access to high quality hospice palliative care. "

— John Fraser, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care

"This announcement confirms what both the province and the Brantford and area community have known for some time. Hospice is a very real and essential part of health care. We are grateful to the province and all our donors and fundraisers for providing us with compassionate palliative and end-of life care. A special thank you to the staff and army of volunteers for their angel-like loving service."

— Dave Levac, Member of Provincial Parliament for Brant

“We applaud the government for acknowledging the importance of hospice care by adding more beds throughout the province, including Brantford and area. In partnership with the ministry and with funding from our foundation, we can now provide the compassionate care we all deserve to more patients and families who turn to us for support during such a critical time in their lives.”
— Derrick Bernardo, President of St. Joseph’s Lifecare Centre which includes Stedman Community Hospice

“Stedman Community Hospice and Hankinson House are beloved in this community. The Residential Hospice Program provides a comfortable, home-like alternative that allows families to share the final days or hours with their loved one. This funding of four additional palliative care beds means more people will experience life’s last journey in a place of dignity, support and love.”
— Michael Shea, Board Chair, Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant Local Health Integration Network

QUICK FACTS

- As part of the 2016 Budget, Ontario announced an additional investment of \$75 million in hospice and palliative care over the next three years. This additional spending will be on top of the \$80 million already invested in hospice and palliative care, bringing the total investment to \$155 million from April 2016 to April 2019.
- Ontario is providing funding increases for facilities that provide hospice care across the province. The province’s support for the new hospice beds in Brantford is part of its commitment to support up to 20 additional hospices.
- Ontario recently released the [Palliative and End-of-Life Care Provincial Roundtable Report](#), which compiled feedback from province-wide consultations led by John Fraser, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care. The report will help Ontario develop a comprehensive strategy on palliative and end-of-life care, which will focus on supporting families and caregivers, and ensuring access to co-ordinated quality care where patients want it.
- Ontario recently launched the Ontario Palliative Care Network, a partnership among Cancer Care Ontario, Ontario’s Local Health Integration Networks, Health Quality Ontario and other partners, including members from diverse care settings and caregivers, clinical representatives and associations.

LEARN MORE

- [Palliative and End-of-Life Care Provincial Roundtable Report](#)
- [Patients First: Action Plan for Health Care](#)
- [Ontario’s Roadmap to Strengthen Home and Community Care](#)
- [Hospice Palliative Care Ontario](#)
- [Stedman Community Hospice](#)

For public inquiries call ServiceOntario, INFOline at 1-866-532-3161 (Toll-free in Ontario only)

Media Contacts:
Shae Greenfield, Minister’s Office, 416-325-5230
David Jensen, Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care
416-314-6197

ontario.ca/health-news
Disponible en français