

January 3, 2019



### **MPP Dave Smith confirms funding at Hospice Peterborough construction site visit**

**Peterborough** – Today Peterborough MPP Dave Smith visited Hospice Peterborough’s construction site to confirm the Provincial Government’s commitment and support of the community hospice palliative care sector. Locally the Ontario Government is partnering with Hospice Peterborough to help build more hospice beds, which will provide individuals and families in our community with compassionate palliative and end-of-life care closer to home. Hospice Peterborough will receive \$534,000 from the Ministry of Health to help fund furniture, fittings and equipment for the new Hospice Peterborough Care Centre.

“Everyone should have access to dignified end-of-life care that respects the wishes of the patient and their loved ones,” said MPP Dave Smith. “That’s why I am proud our government is committed to improving access to comfortable, end-of-life care in communities across the province, especially here in our riding of Peterborough-Kawartha.”

In December the Ministry of Health confirmed that they are committed to providing compassionate care for more people across the province nearing the end of their lives. The announcement confirmed the PC Government will honour plans laid out prior to the election. In addition to the \$534,000 Hospice Peterborough will receive \$1.5M in one time Hospice Implementation Funding. The timing of this funding is currently being finalized with the Central East Local Health Integration Network.

“Hospice Peterborough has continued to move forward with the project to build a Hospice Care Centre during the government’s financial review process. We have been steadfast in our commitment to our generous community and our mission to provide the best palliative care possible.” said Executive Director Linda Sunderland. “We are thrilled with this funding confirmation and are excited to announce that we will open our Care Centre doors in March. We hope the whole community will come out to visit their new hospice.”

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For further information, contact:

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#### **Quick Facts**

- Ontario is investing nearly \$33.6 million to build 193 new hospice beds across the province.
- When these beds open, the government will provide \$20.3 million each year in operational funding for nursing, personal support, and other services.
- Hospice Peterborough is building a new Care Centre to enhance its ability to provide support for people of all ages living with life threatening illness and grief.
- Support is provided from the time of diagnosis with a serious illness and extends to care for the family.
- Hospice Peterborough helps families understand how living with life threatening illness will affect them
- When the new facility opens Hospice Peterborough staff and volunteers will provide 24/7 end of life care, along with offering 25 community programs and services.
- The new facility will be 14,660 sq. ft. and contain 6 program rooms and 10 private bedrooms.