

Homelessness and Addiction Recovery Treatment Hub in Whitby

WHITBY — The Ontario government is expanding access to high-quality mental health and addictions care with the launch of a new Homelessness and Addiction Recovery Treatment (HART) Hub in Whitby. This is part of the province's almost \$550 million investment to open 28 HART Hubs across Ontario to protect the safety of children and families, while improving access to recovery and treatment services for people facing housing instability, mental health and substance use challenges.

"We are building a stronger, more connected system of mental health and addictions care that better reflects the needs of communities and focuses on lasting recovery," said Vijay Thanigasalam, Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions. "The opening of this new HART Hub will ensure that people struggling with mental health and addictions challenges in Durham Region can access support services that prioritize their path to recovery and strengthen community safety." HART Hubs connect people to a range of comprehensive treatment and recovery services such as primary care, mental health services, addictions care, social services and employment support.

The Whitby HART Hub will deliver services in collaboration with partners including the Durham Community Health Centre (DCHC). The Durham Community Health Centre (DCHC) will serve as the lead agency for the Whitby HART Hub, working in collaboration with partner organizations to deliver services. The Hub brings together a collaborative network of clinical, social service and care providers working to deliver

services tailored to local needs, including:

- Mental Health and addiction support
- Primary Care
- System navigation to help people find and connect to the services and supports they need
- Health promotion
- Peer support
- Case management
- Transitional housing
- Through Your Health: A Plan for Connected and Convenient Care and building on the Roadmap to Wellness, the province is taking action to connect individuals to integrated mental health and addictions services, where and when they need it.

The Whitby HART Hub delivers services in partnership with Durham Community Health Centre, the Regional Municipality of Durham, GraceWins Peer Support, Victim Services of Durham Region and Lakeridge Health. Services are being offered through an interim partner location at the Durham Community Health Centre (DCHC) Oshawa site to support clients while the permanent Whitby HART Hub site is planned to open in 2026-27.

The second HART Hub in Durham Region located in Oshawa in collaboration with the Canadian Mental Health Association Durham is expected to open in spring 2026, ensuring residents can access treatment and supports closer to home. In 2026-27, expanded services will include mobile services offering basic-needs and primary care services, addictions outreach and group programming, 24/7 supportive recovery beds, supportive housing and mental health consultation services.

As of April 1, 2025, nine Consumption and Treatment Services sites successfully transitioned to HART Hubs,

delivering expanded recovery and treatment services to ensure timely, high-quality care for vulnerable individuals while keeping communities safe.

HART Hubs will also add close to 900 supportive housing units across the province. This is over 300 more than originally planned, helping people transition to stable, long-term housing.

In March 2025, the government announced an investment of almost \$550 million to open a total of 28 HART Hubs across the province, nine more HART Hubs than initially planned.

This includes two Indigenous Hubs in Kenora and Sault Ste. Marie/Blind River/Sagamok Anishnawbek, delivering culturally relevant care in partnership with Indigenous service organizations.

With a focus on treatment and recovery, HART Hubs will not offer safer supply, supervised drug consumption or needle exchange programs.

Through the Roadmap to Wellness, Ontario is investing \$3.8 billion over 10 years to close gaps in mental health and addictions care and build a world-class system. This investment is helping create new services and expand programs across the province. As part of Budget 2025, Ontario is investing \$303 million over the next three years to support community-led and delivered mental health programs.

"The Whitby Homelessness and Addiction Recovery Treatment Hub will be a cornerstone of support for those struggling with mental health and addiction challenges," said Lorne Coe, MPP for Whitby. "By focusing on treatment and recovery, this Hub will help residents regain control of their lives while ensuring our community remains

supported. This new HART hub reflects our government's long standing commitment to providing meaningful resources and compassionate care to those who need it most."

- Lorne Coe
Member of Provincial Parliament, Whitby

"Through the ongoing expansion of our HART Hub network, our government is expanding access to mental health and addiction services across Ontario and here in Durham Region. The new HART Hub in Whitby, in partnership with the Durham Community Health Centre (DCHC), will make it easier to access services to navigate life's challenges."

- Todd McCarthy
Member of Provincial Parliament, Durham

"The launch of the Whitby HART Hub marks an important step in expanding recovery oriented, wraparound supports for individuals facing homelessness and addiction. Our partnership with the Durham Community Health Centre is ensuring that these essential services are available to residents as quickly and effectively as possible."

- Peter Bethlenfalvy
Member of Provincial Parliament, Pickering-Uxbridge

"The launch of this HART Hub is an important step forward in how we support residents experiencing homelessness and addiction. Through our partnership with Durham Community Health Centre and our many community partners, we are bringing coordinated, wraparound supports to people who need them most. This collaborative approach paired with Durham Region's commitment to supportive housing, will deliver better outcomes and help our communities thrive."

- John Henry
Regional Chair and Chief Executive Officer, Regional Municipality of Durham

"Addressing homelessness, mental health and addiction requires a strong network of supports. The new HART Hub in Whitby will help connect Durham residents to the treatment and recovery services they need to rebuild their lives. Initiatives like this recognize that lasting solutions come from healthcare providers, community organizations, and government working together. We are grateful to the Province of Ontario, Durham Community Health Centre, and the Region of Durham for bringing this critical resource to our community."

- Elizabeth Roy

Mayor of Whitby

"The HART Hub model represents a meaningful shift in how we respond to addiction, homelessness and complex mental health challenges in our communities," said Oshawa Mayor Dan Carter. "By bringing together health care, addictions treatment, housing supports and social services under one coordinated system, HART Hubs offer wrap-around, recovery-focused care guided by compassion and delivered with dignity to support people on their path to long-term recovery."

- Dan Carter
Mayor of Oshawa

"The Whitby HART Hub represents a transformative step toward coordinated, community-based care for individuals experiencing homelessness, mental health and substance use challenges. Through the support of the Ontario Ministry of Health, the Region of Durham, and our community partners, we are advancing an integrated model that expands access to care, restores dignity and delivers better outcomes for our community."

- Francis Garwe
CEO, Durham Community Health Centre



THE FLYER EXPERTS
FOR DURHAM
FAST ✓ EASY ✓ AFFORDABLE ✓
CALL NOW FOR
14¢ FLYER DISTRIBUTION
905-432-2657

"MOVING SALE"

ALL FRAMED ART 70% OFF



Take advantage of this unbelievable sale now



"MOVING SALE"

Tuesday - Friday 10am to 6pm, Saturday 10am to 5pm, Closed Sunday & Monday

922 Simcoe Street N., Oshawa | (905) 433-0928
www.kaysplaceartandgifts.com | ilovecollectables@hotmail.com

