

MEDIA RELEASE

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\$75,000 OTF Grant Improves Accessibility for Clients

Cambridge, ON – On Friday, local MPP Brian Riddell met with the team at The Bridges, to hear more about the \$75,000 Resilient Communities Fund grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) that was used to renovate and add fixtures to all the washrooms at the shelter to improve accessibility and adherence to public health protocols.

"I am pleased to see Cambridge Shelter Corporation (CSC) receive this much-needed funding from the Trillium Foundation for necessary repairs to its facilities," said Brian Riddell, MPP for Cambridge. "CSC provides critical supports to many people in our community and the upkeep of its facility is a crucial component of delivering those programs and services."

CSC was able to fully renovate its main floor bathrooms with durable stainless-steel fixtures and wall guarding. Since the building was constructed, the walls have been patched numerous times. The stainless-steel guarding will prevent further damage to the walls. CSC has also replaced older, broken toilets and sinks with stainless-steel toilets and sinks.

"The impact of this Ontario Trillium Grant cannot be overstated," said Wayne Paddick, Executive Director of Cambridge Shelter Corporation. "This grant allowed needed renovations to be made. More than 1000 discrete individuals access our shelter every year, with the washrooms in almost constant use throughout the day. Thanks to this grant from OTF, bathrooms at The Bridges are more durable and will be able to withstand damage due to the high volume of use."

The Cambridge Shelter Corporation operates an emergency shelter and supportive housing facility for individuals experiencing homelessness. CSC also manages the Kinsmen isolation centre for the Region of Waterloo for individuals in the homeless community who require a safe space to heal from illness. To learn about all services provided by CSC, please visit the website at <u>www.cambridgesheltercorp.ca</u>.

The Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF), an agency of the Government of Ontario, and one of Canada's leading granting foundations, celebrates 40 years of grant-making in Ontario and making a lasting impact in communities. Last year, OTF invested over \$110M into 1,022 community projects and partnerships. Visit otf.ca to learn more.

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