

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE November 28, 2024

## **Groundbreaking Ceremony Marks New Chapter for Hospice Mississauga**

**Mississauga ON** – Hospice Mississauga celebrated a monumental milestone today, breaking ground on the city's first dedicated hospice centre. The event, held at 2176 Speakman Drive, marked the official start of construction on a facility that will be part of a larger Seniors' Campus of Care, which includes two long-term care homes operated by Partners Community Health and a future Trillium Health Partners health services building. The Centre will serve as a haven for individuals and families navigating the end-of-life journey.

Dignitaries, including Premier Doug Ford, the Honourable Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health, Mayor Carolyn Parrish, and Karli Farrow, President and CEO of Trillium Health Partners, joined Kitrina Fex, Executive Director of Hospice Mississauga, to commemorate this historic occasion alongside donors, volunteers, and community members who are making this vision possible.

"This is a historic milestone for Mississauga – the groundbreaking of our first Hospice Centre represents hope, compassion, and partnership in action," said **Kitrina Fex, Executive Director of Hospice Mississauga.** "This achievement is a testament to what we can accomplish when communities and government work together. For nearly 40 years, we have served this community, and now we are bringing a long-time dream to life. The Hospice Centre will complete the continuum of care, offering the full spectrum of hospice services under one roof for the people of Mississauga.

Mississauga is currently the largest city in Canada without a hospice residence. With this new centre, Hospice Mississauga can offer 24/7 care, respite, and an enhanced sense of community. The new facility is an ambitious project, estimated to cost approximately \$28 million, with construction expected to be completed by Fall 2026. Once operational, the centre will be staffed around the clock, providing 12 suites in a serene, homelike environment with gathering spaces and clinic rooms. It will enhance care for patients and their families while easing pressure on local health systems.

The groundbreaking ceremony also underscored the importance of the ongoing fundraising campaign, *Building Compassion*, which is gaining momentum and having raised more than 50% of the needed funds. "Every contribution makes a difference," said Fex. "Together, we can ensure no family in our community faces their end-of-life journey alone."

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Charitable Registration Number: 132155011 RR 0001



"These new hospice beds will provide patients and their families care and comfort at an incredibly difficult time," said **Premier Doug Ford**. "I'm grateful to the staff at Hospice Mississauga for providing such high-quality and compassionate care to people nearing the end of life, and I'm pleased our government is able to support this work with today's \$2.5 million investment."

"Our government is ensuring people and their families have access to the care they need in their community, close to their loved ones," said **Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health.** "Our investment to expand access to end-of-life care that recognizes the growing needs of Peel Region is another step our government is taking to deliver compassionate and specialized care for patients and their loved ones.

"Hospice Mississauga's new centre represents a profound step forward for health care in our community," said **Karli Farrow**, **President and CEO of Trillium Health Partners**. "A part of the Seniors' Campus of Care, this centre will be a place of care and comfort, where individuals and families can find support that centers on quality of life. Together, we are demonstrating the power of collaboration to build a healthier, more compassionate future for Mississauga."

"The City of Mississauga is honoured to be part of this groundbreaking for its first-ever hospice centre," said Mayor Carolyn Parrish. "This facility will offer hope, connection, and comfort to residents at a time when they need it most. I look forward to seeing its impact on our community."

For more information about Hospice Mississauga, this project or how to contribute to the fundraising campaign, please visit www.hospicemississauga.ca

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