



News Release

*For immediate release*

**NEWLY ANNOUNCED LONG-TERM CARE BEDS WILL HELP MEET THE NEEDS OF  
FRANCOPHONE SENIORS**

AURORA, ON, November 30, 2020 – Entité 4 welcomes the newly announced long-term care projects led by Carefirst Seniors & Community Services Association and IOOF Seniors Homes Inc. which include beds prioritized for Francophone seniors as part of their newly funded long-term care beds.

“We recognize there is an ongoing need for long-term care services in French for Francophone seniors and their families,” says Board Chair Yves Lévesque. “We thank Carefirst and IOOF for their openness to partnering with Entité 4 following our *Language Matters in Long-Term Care* campaign last fall.”

The Carefirst Campus of Care York Region project, to be built in Richmond Hill, will include long-term care beds, vocational training and a community hub. The Campus of Care aims to meet not only the health and social needs of seniors residing onsite, but also community members in surrounding neighbourhoods.

“Carefirst is humbled by the Ministry’s announcement approving our proposed Campus of Care,” says Carefirst CEO Helen Leung. “Carefirst will collaborate with Entité 4 to design and plan for Francophone residents of the LTCH and indeed the broader community in an effort to provide equitable, high-quality care. This campus will be proactive and reactive to the needs of the community with a focus on services for seniors and caregivers, health promotion, and health and social care integration.”

Serving communities in the Barrie and Simcoe County areas, IOOF Seniors Homes Inc. is committed to an innovative integrated care approach that vitalizes community resources to serve the frail elderly who may have a number of chronic conditions or suffer from some degree of cognitive impairment or dementia.

“The awarding of new beds and the redevelopment of existing long-term care beds will ensure that the IOOF will continue to be a vital partner in the delivery of much needed long-term care services,” says IOOF Executive Director Garry Hopkins. “We are proud to include a cluster of French language beds in our facility and look forward to working with Entité 4 to help us build French language long-term care services.”

“Long-term care residents are among the most vulnerable members of our society. Providing linguistically appropriate care is a critical component of providing compassionate care and helps to build a sense of home for residents,” adds Estelle Duchon, Executive Director.

“Francophone seniors are often faced with a choice between long-term care services in French and being close to their families. Thanks to Carefirst and IOOF more Francophone seniors will be able to access care close to home. We look forward to supporting Carefirst



and IOOF as they continue to build their capacity to offer French language services,” concludes Mr. Lévesque.

Entité 4 is mandated by the Ministry of Health to improve access to French Language Health Services. Entité 4 facilitates community engagement and provides innovative advice on planning, organizing and integrating French Language Health Services. Entité 4 works with local, regional and provincial partners, throughout the Central, Central East and North Simcoe Muskoka regions, to build and sustain health care services for Ontario’s official language minority population.

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