

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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## \$130,000 Ontario Government Grant Gives Community Teaching Kitchen a New Look

**West Lorne, ON –** On Wednesday, local MPP Rob Flack met with the team at West Elgin Community Health Centre to hear more about the \$130, 000 Capital grant from the provincial government's Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) that was used to renovate the teaching kitchen. The project will improve the accessibility and functionality of the teaching kitchen for community members for years to come.

"The investment of \$130,000 from the provincial government's Ontario Trillium Foundation will have a lasting impact, making this teaching kitchen more accessible for a greater number of people," said Rob Flack, MPP for Elgin—Middlesex—London. "I would like to commend the West Elgin Community Health Centre staff for their important role in this community."

The teaching kitchen was renovated to improve accessibility including a wheelchair accessible door, sink, and lowered counters. It was also renovated to replace worn cabinets, countertops, and improve equipment.

The West Elgin Community Health Centre provides health and social services that are accountable, accessible, efficient, and governed by the community. We are part of a strong network of community health centres (CHCs) across Ontario committed to building healthy communities.

We believe that housing, education, food and the environment all play a role in health and wellbeing. We also believe that language, literacy and poverty should not get in the way of receiving great care. By working with individuals, families and groups and addressing these determinants of health, we increase individual and group capacity for building healthy communities.

"Whether it's helping people learn new things, connect with their community, or simply have fun, organizations like West Elgin Community Health Centre deliver experiences that make a difference," said Stan Cho, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Gaming. "That's why grant support through the Ontario Trillium Foundation is so important. This funding will help ensure they remain at the heart of the community for decades to come."

The Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) is an agency of the Ontario government with a mission to build healthy and vibrant communities across the province. Last year, OTF invested more than \$110M into 1,044 community projects and multi-sector partnerships. Projects aim to enhance economic well-being, foster more active lifestyles, support child and youth development, provide spaces for people to come together and connect, and create a more sustainable environment. Visit <u>otf.ca</u> to learn more.

## Organization Contact for Media Inquiries:

Andy Kroeker, Executive Director West Elgin Community Health Centre 519-768-1715 x2206 akroeker@wechc.on.ca