



News Release

For Immediate Release

June 26, 2019

Edmonton, AB

Canterbury Foundation Breaks Ground on a new Building to Meet the Dementia Care Needs of Edmonton Seniors

Edmonton - They say age is just a number. More and more people are embracing life and living longer. Seventy year old people are no longer looking to move into a senior's residence. Instead they are living independently in their own homes. In many cases they don't start looking for more advanced care until well into their 90's when they have more complex needs.

It's why the Canterbury Foundation, a not-for-profit senior's residence nestled in the community of Laurier Heights in Edmonton, is about to break ground on their Renovation and Expansion project which includes a brand new 5 story addition with 50 larger, more modern suites. As part of this exciting expansion project, Canterbury's current dementia care program will expand from 20 to 53 much needed spaces. Canterbury will fully renovate its 45 year old facility and will incorporate the only end-of-life-care residential hospice in Edmonton. The project's \$31.5 million dollar capital cost will be raised through a community fundraising campaign.

"It is the 90+ year old who is coming to Canterbury," says Wendy King, the Executive Director of Canterbury Foundation. "There are several residents who are living with a form of dementia. We need a space where they feel comfortable and at home, yet in a more controlled environment. Our goal is to develop and expand our dementia program to make a difference in residents' lives and the lives of their families so we can deliver the promise of home."

Edmonton media are invited to the sod-turning ceremony of the Canterbury Foundation Renovation and Expansion Project, Thursday, June 27 at 10:00 a.m. at 8403 – 142 Street.

In attendance will be MLA Lori Sigurdson of Edmonton Riverview, MP of Edmonton Centre, Randy Boissonnault, as well as Wendy King, Executive Director of Canterbury Foundation alongside the Board, residents and families.



For over 45 years, Canterbury Foundation has provided high quality supportive living for seniors. It is uniquely positioned to meet the growing need for seniors' services in Edmonton. It is Canterbury's vision to provide a Promise of Home: where seniors live with dignity in a loving faith-based community that is open to anyone.

Expansion plans include:

- A residential hospice/complex care unit with 16 beds plus a guest room for family members. A multidisciplinary team of care providers and specialized programming will meet the needs of residents as well as provide support and comfort to their family members.
- Using up-to-date architectural design, Canterbury will build 53 living spaces for those with dementia including secure walking paths.
- A 5 story addition incorporating 50 larger, more modern suites.
- Canterbury's service outreach program will redevelop common area spaces to enable seniors living in their own homes, to participate in the programs offered to Canterbury residents. Canterbury will expand programming capacity to serve seniors in west Edmonton in their own homes.
- Upgrading the physical design of existing suites and rooms to accommodate seniors' mobility needs and care needs, more Canterbury residents will "age in community" rather than being forced to move as their care needs increase.

Over Canterbury's 45 years, hundreds of Laurier Heights residents and families have been able to stay in their community as they age thanks to Canterbury Foundation.

"If we want to be here for the community of Laurier Heights and the rest of Edmonton, we need to do these renovations," says Wendy King. "Without them we will not be able to provide the needed programs for future residents. Many people who live here come from the local community or their family is from the local community and they come here because of how we make them feel. They feel welcomed and cared about. We want to be able to say at the end of the day that we did this with the community. That we did this together. And that the community embraces our residents."

For more information about Canterbury Foundation and how you can support the project go to www.canterburyfoundation.com

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Canterbury Foundation is a not-for-profit charitable organization in Edmonton that operates three senior's retirement home options on one site; an independent living complex, a supportive living facility and a secure setting for seniors with cognitive impairment. Canterbury Foundation is located in a quiet community surrounded by mature trees in the desirable Laurier Heights area of west Edmonton. The Foundation has provided quality seniors housing, supportive & healthcare services and recreational programming for more than 40 years.