

MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE PUBLICATION

Eating Disorders of York Region's Riverwalk Wellness Centres

Aurora – Today, the Eating Disorders of York Region (EDOYR), whose multiple locations across the Region are known as Riverwalk Wellness Centres, announced that it has received a \$240,100 grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation to develop new arts programs in collaboration with Addiction Services for York Region (ASYR). The new programs will be offered in multiple ASYR and EDOYR locations across the Region to provide recovery support for eating disorders and addictions.

"This grant will facilitate an important dimension of support for people in York Region affected by eating disorders," said Newmarket-Aurora MPP Frank Klees. "By incorporating arts therapy programming, Riverwalk Wellness Centres will not only be providing creative therapies to help people cope and overcome eating disorders, but will also raise awareness of addiction that is affecting many families in our community."

Eating Disorders of York Region, as lead organization on this collaborative of the four-year long grant, will establish a collaborative arts therapy program that will strengthen the psychological and emotional well-being of individuals with addictions, eating disorders and mental health challenges. Experimentation with a wide range of artistic media will be encouraged including music, writing, poetry, visual art, art installations, movement, and various other art forms. Art will be shared with the community through multiple events, including concerts, open house exhibitions, on-line art gallery and shows across York Region.

The recovery journey can begin with a single step. Contacting either agency for more information about the new programs or existing programs is a step in the right direction.

For more information on this initiative, please visit www.edoyr.com or call (905) 886-6632.

A leading grant-maker in Canada, the OTF strengthens the capacity of the voluntary sector through investments in community-based initiatives. An agency of the Government of Ontario, OTF builds healthy and vibrant communities. For more information – www.otf.ca

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