

CAPREOL LONG - TERM & SUPPORTIVE HOUSING



Greater Sudbury: An Opportunity for Supportive and Social Housing

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Capreol Long-Term & Supportive Housing is applying for funding for a 44 unit assisted living HUB for the North East of our City.

Local Health Integration Network has a history of working with supportive housing. The recognition that many seniors need support to maintain their daily lives has led LHIN agencies to begin new partnerships with housing providers.

Since their creation in 2006 Ontario's 14 Local Health Integration Networks (LHIN) have assumed the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care's (MOHLTC) role funding community based support services. In addition to their role in the supportive housing sector, some LHINs have begun to fund support services for tenants living in non-profit housing. This is a new and promising frontier. Generally LHIN remains tentative about getting involved in non-supportive housing which falls outside narrow definitions of Health policy.

Non-profit housing providers are increasingly concerned about the number of their tenants with unmet support needs. The results of the absence of support has frequently reached the front page – from fires to hoarding and poor housekeeping, to terrible outcomes for vulnerable seniors unable to live alone in the absence of assistance.

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In order to address these concerns, Capreol Long-Term & Supportive Housing is creating a HUB in the North East side of our City. 44 units of supportive housing that will be able to house 86 people with cognitive and body mobility issues. Once successful, when this building is completed there will be more than 154 seniors on the same grounds.

The Board plans to bring for the HUB services to serve both the seniors as well as the Community. Spaces are planned for medical services, including Doctors as there is currently not one in the area, physiotherapists, chiropodists, etc. As well other services will also be available such as dental services, hair salons and optometrists. With the HUB services the Board is also working educational institutions to provide opportunities for medical students, nursing students and others.

The project will create 36 permanent and part time positions for our City, but that is not all. Our vision is to bring to the North East of our City a 128 bed long-term care facility that will create another 150 plus positions. We have the land that is fully serviced and zoned for this facility.

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Capreol Long-Term & Supportive Housing has been working on this project since 2007. We need the support of our City to bring this project to full operation. The cost of this project is \$10,000,000. We are planning to receive half of this from the upper level of Government and the Board will be raising the funds for the remaining.

At the present, there are many cases of senior housing providers such as Capreol served by multiple Community Care Access Centre (CCAC) case managers (responsible for referrals to support services) and various community agencies that continue to have unsupported tenants with unidentified needs. This is because access to support services is largely driven by referral instead of outreach. This model clearly does not work for seniors who lack sufficient social supports to make the connection happen.

This Council should be involved with assisted housing corporations and encourage new development to address health challenges in a comprehensive way. Instead of waiting for individuals to arrive in hospital for costly emergency procedures together we have the opportunity to deliver preventative services efficiently to our disabled populations requiring support. We have had meetings with LHIN and they are more than willing to work with us and give services to the people we are looking to serve.

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In the North East side of our City the need is very high on the radar for supportive housing, especially with seniors facing daily challenges with mental health addiction issues that are undetected, ultimately place a substantial burden on the health system. Mental Health Professionals are expecting that mental health will double in the next decade. We as housing providers look forward to working to address many challenges to our people in need in their daily chores and there are many. I understand that LHIN has started to fund outreach-based services to directly reach seniors in non-profit housing, for example Ottawa Community Housing. As President of Capreol Non-Profit Housing Corporation representing seniors on RGI and affordable housing I strongly recommend to this Council to encourage LHIN to expand their role and have the province increase funding required for this agency to continue the work they are doing with the senior's population.

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As President of the Capreol Long-Term & Supportive Housing, I started this project in hopes to bring forward these facilities in our Community for the people of the North East of the City of Greater Sudbury which has a population of 34,222.

This population covers Capreol, Ironside, First Nation-Wahnapiatae, Skead, Garson, Hanmer, Val Therese and Post Creek. Our Board consists of volunteers who are professionals in their fields, such as Doctors, Pharmacists, Registered Nurse, Business Owners, Financial Managers and Advisors and domestic engineers.

We as a Board are well aware of the goals we have been striving to meet and want to continue to work with this Council in order to achieve these goals. This Council is an integral part of Greater Sudbury. People in our City are able to connect one on one and discuss many problems that arise on a daily basis either personally or community development. This makes this Council more connected to the needs of the population.



I must stress to the Council that you are doing all of that and more.

Personally I have nothing but praise for this Council and City administration, both past and present. I have had the privilege to serve with Sudbury Manitoulin and Health Council with Ms. Paquette and during that time we also developed a document called “The Next Ten Years”. This document became an important value document when the commission was created by Mr. Harris’s Government and led by Mr. George Lund, Commissioner, to amalgamate the three hospitals into one.

The document called for an increase in hospital beds, but only 328 were built, therefore much of the problem does not lie with the City but rather with the Government, the Blue Book revolution leader Mr. M. Harris. As well, the Ministry of Health staff estimated the cost of amalgamation would be in a substantial amount in millions and not one that was presented to the public.

There is \$110,000,000 at Northern Ontario Heritage (NOHF) under Minister of Northern Development and Mines file. Perhaps some of this money should be shared by community development so that the citizens with body disabilities not ready to be institutionalized in long term facilities could be housed with supportive housing complexes at much less cost. This Council and MPP’s should be demanding to increase funding for supportive housing projects.

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I have been involved with seniors and health providers in the community for the past 33 years. I was the one that organized the first response team as an instructor with St. John Ambulance, First Aid. I had the opportunity to instruct my volunteer fire fighters on a weekly basis. Also we were the first Community in Greater Sudbury to purchase a defibrillator at the cost of \$6529.43. We as volunteers raised that money to purchase that equipment for the Community. The Royal Canadian Legion, Ontario Command, also purchased one for us with cardio vascular tape reading for the doctor on duty at the ER. As Fire Chief and Coordinator of first response I worked very closely with Community Services Agency from Reduce a Call time for land ambulance from one hour and forty five minutes (1:45) reduced to 19 minutes response time, and able to bring in air ambulance in our community which is still in service today.

As I mentioned, Capreol Long-Term & Supportive Housing is working to erect 44 units of Supportive Housing project to accommodate our frail and disabled seniors that are not ready to be admitted to long term care but need assistance daily. Our seniors need three (3) nutritious meals on a daily basis to keep them away from hospital and other expensive institutions. Our seniors need medical and other services that are readily available for them. Our seniors need all of this while remaining in the community that supports them.

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We need this administration to work with us and bring the Health Care cost down. We are aware that the cost in the hospital is about \$750 daily, we are also aware that private long term care institutions range from \$350 to \$500 daily. The Non-Profit organizations are able to give the same care to seniors, is much cheaper cost to the system and the seniors are able to stay at home in their community where they raised their families. I personally have been involved with LHIN and CCAC for many years. At any time these organizations have not turned me down. They are always able to meet with me on my time to discuss the situation that arises from time to time and come up with the solution to give a better service to the community.

In closing on behalf of the three (3) Board of Directors that I represent we would like to thank you for listening to our presentation and hope to hear from you soon.

Thank you