

# Nipissing Point of View

SPRING 2022



**Vic Fedeli MPP**



## 160 New Long-Term Care Beds

North Bay will soon be home to 160 new long-term care beds at The Villages Community Care Group at Canadore College. They are part of the Ontario government's \$6.4 billion commitment to build more than 30,000 new beds, and to upgrade a further 28,000 beds.

"In collaboration with our partners, we will develop a unique environment, creating a multigenerational campus that leads to healthier living for all ages. Residents will have access to a range of client-centred health care options and facilities including a fully functioning pharmacy and a health care provider on site," said George Burton, President of Canadore College.

Canadore College President George Burton and Nipissing MPP Victor Fedeli take media questions after the announcement of a 160 long-term care bed project.



## \$1.3 Million Investment for East Ferris Medical Centre



NOHFC's Laurie Marcell and Peter Chirico join East Ferris Mayor Pauline Rochefort and Nipissing MPP Victor Fedeli at the East Ferris Medical Centre funding announcement.

Additional services will include a dietitian, nurse practitioner, and a social worker, helping to make it a complete health and wellness hub offering a range of services for the area.

"Maintaining and improving health services right here in our community is a priority for East Ferris," said Pauline Rochefort, Mayor of East Ferris. "This funding will significantly reduce the financial impact that the project would otherwise have on our taxpayers and the municipality."

The Ontario government is providing more than \$1.3 million through the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation to help the Municipality of East Ferris with the construction of their Medical Centre. This funding will contribute to a stronger Ontario by creating jobs, supporting community health infrastructure, and improving quality of life in northern communities.

The new East Ferris Medical Centre will house two physicians, a chiropractor, and a pharmacy.

## CASSELLHOLME BREAKS GROUND

The sod turning and excavators in the ground was a great day for the long-awaited redevelopment of Cassellholme! The current building, constructed in 1961, will be replaced with a state-of-the-art, 264-bed facility. Some of the exciting new features include:

- **larger bedrooms**
- **more space for community, treatment, and recreational activities**
- **new Indigenous spaces and special needs units**
- **enhanced infectious disease protocols**
- **more ways for residents, visitors, and the community to interact safely and comfortably**

Phase I of this multi-phase project started with the demolition of the walkway between Cassellholme and Castle Arms One. This will allow an interior courtyard to be converted into parking.

There are now 292 new and 460 upgraded long-term care beds in development, under construction, or completed in Nipissing, including the following projects:

- 240 new (upgraded) beds and 24 additional at Cassellholme
- 160 new beds at the Villages Community Care Group (Canadore)
- 96 new beds at FAIM (Trout Creek)
- 148 new (upgraded) beds and 12 additional at Northern Heights (former Waters Edge)
- 72 new (upgraded) beds at the new Algonquin Nursing Home (Mattawa)

The Ontario government presented a plan to fix long-term care and to ensure seniors get the quality of care and quality of life they need and deserve both now and in the future. The plan is built on three pillars: staffing and care; accountability, enforcement, and transparency; and building modern, safe, comfortable homes for seniors.

Nipissing MPP Victor Fedeli, Nipissing First Nation Chief Scott McLeod, and Cassellholme Chair Chris Mayne turn the sod at the construction site of the new 264-bed long-term care development.



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# \$5 Million for Anishinabek Educational Institute to Train More Health Care Workers

The Ontario government is providing over \$5 million in financial support to the Anishinabek Educational Institute to increase enrolment in its nursing and personal support worker programs. Funding will support the Institute to provide culturally responsive education and training pathways for learners to prepare for careers as registered practical nurses or PSWs.

“The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated the need for healthcare professionals everywhere; however, the need for Indigenous health professionals has always been present within Anishinabek First Nations,” said Regional Deputy Grand Council Chief James Marsden. “Lack of access to adequate training and funding resources has detrimentally impacted our citizen’s ability to enrol and study in



Pat Cliche, James Marsden, Regional Deputy Grand Council Chief, and Nipissing MPP Victor Fedeli announce more training for healthcare workers.

healthcare professional programs. We hope this funding will enable and encourage First Nation students to pursue and succeed in healthcare careers. The Anishinabek Educational Institute prides itself in going above and beyond to support our students in this step of their lifelong journey.”



Nipissing MPP Victor Fedeli, Associate Minister of Health and Addictions, and Canadore College President George Burton (not pictured) announce a 53-bed addictions treatment facility.

# \$6.8 Million to Expand Mental Health and Addiction Services

The Ontario government is investing \$6.84 million through the new Addictions Recovery Fund to immediately enhance access to bed-based addictions treatment supports in Nipissing. Through Canadore College of Applied Arts and Technology’s new North Bay Addictions Centre of Excellence, this funding will provide access to a total of 53 new addictions treatment beds, including nine new withdrawal management services beds, 24 new addictions treatment beds, and 20 new supportive treatment beds. These new beds will help hundreds of Ontarians in Nipissing and the surrounding region access specialized addictions treatment, including access to culturally-sensitive supports for Indigenous clients.

“The establishment of the Addictions and Mental Health Treatment Centre of Excellence adds a much needed resource to the North,” said George Burton, President and CEO of Canadore College. As this new mental health and addictions centre integrates with existing service providers, our students will benefit from experiential learning opportunities led by an interprofessional faculty team.

# \$5 Million for Direct Care for Long-Term Care Residents

As part of its plan to fix long-term care, the Ontario government will provide up to \$673 million this year to long-term care homes across the province to increase staffing levels, leading to more direct care for residents. This includes \$5.5 million for long-term care homes in Nipissing. This is part of the province’s commitment to ensure long-term care residents receive—on average—four hours of direct care per day.

- These funds will increase care for residents at:
- Cassellholme, in North Bay, will receive up to \$2,093,136 for additional staffing this year to increase the hours of direct care for residents
  - Eastholme – Home for the Aged, in Powassan, will receive up to \$1,116,336
  - Northern Heights (Waters Edge Care Community), in North Bay, will receive up to \$889,572
  - Nipissing Manor Nursing Care Centre, in Corbeil, will receive up to \$767,472
  - Algonquin Nursing Home, in Mattawa, will receive up to \$636,660

“This funding will allow homes in our community to hire and retain more staff so they can provide more care to residents, every day,” said MPP Vic Fedeli. “This is part of the government’s plan to hire thousands of new staff over the next four years to ensure those living in long-term care get the high-quality care they need and deserve.”



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# \$10 a Day Childcare for Ontario

Ontario and Canada have signed a \$13.2 billion agreement that will lower fees for families and deliver an average of \$10 a day child care.

Highlights of Ontario’s better deal include:

- A federal investment of \$13.2 billion with the province having secured more certainty around out-year funding. The deal includes an additional year of funding of at least \$2.9 billion.
- The flexibility to allocate federal funding in a way that will allow the province to deliver an average of \$10 a day child care, including by spending the initial \$10.2 billion over four years instead of five.
- Enhanced protection against funding shortfalls through a mandated financial review process in year three – the first of its kind in any provincial child care deal – to reconcile the actual costs of the new national child care plan with funding.
- Reduction of child care fees through four steps of reduction to an average of \$10 a day per child five years old and younger.
- Parent rebates, retroactive to April 1, will begin in May.
- Protection of all for-profit and non-profit child care spaces, helping to support predominantly female entrepreneurs across the province who provide high-quality child care services.
- Creation of approximately 86,000 new, high-quality child care spaces for children five years old and younger.
- Hiring new early childhood educators and support improved compensation for all Registered Early Childhood Educators (RECEs) working in licensed child care.
- Maintain Ontario’s child care tax credit program that supports 300,000 families with expenses in licensed and unlicensed child care.
- Work with municipalities to enrol 5,000 licensed child care centres and home child care agencies into the program between now and September 1.

As a first step, all Ontario families with children five years old and younger in participating licensed child care centres will see their fees reduced, up to 25 per cent, to a minimum of \$12 per day, retroactive to April 1, 2022. In December 2022, parents will see another reduction. In total, fees for families will be reduced in 2022, on average, by 50 per cent, relieving parents of \$1.1 billion in child care costs. Families will see further fee reductions in future years.

Additionally, this agreement supports the creation of 86,000 more licensed child care spaces to address increasing demand, including more than 15,000 licensed child care spaces created since 2019. To maintain the province’s high quality of child care, the agreement also supports the recruitment of new early childhood educators, stable compensation for all Registered Early Childhood Educators (RECEs) working in licensed child care, including RECEs providing child care for children six to 12 years old.



# Services de garde d’enfants à 10\$ par jour

L’Ontario et le gouvernement fédéral ont signé un accord de 13,2 milliards de dollars qui permettra de réduire les frais pour les parents et d’offrir des services de garde d’enfants à 10 \$ par jour.

Les points saillants de l’accord amélioré de l’Ontario sont les suivants :

- Un investissement fédéral de 13,2 milliards de dollars sur six ans, la province ayant obtenu davantage de certitude quant au financement des années suivantes. Cet accord comprend une année supplémentaire de financement, avec des fonds d’au moins 2,9 milliards de dollars.
- La souplesse nécessaire pour répartir le financement fédéral de manière à permettre à la province d’offrir des services de garde d’enfants à 10 \$ par jour en moyenne, notamment en dépensant les 10,2 milliards de dollars initiaux sur quatre ans au lieu de cinq.
- Une protection accrue contre les manques à gagner grâce à un processus d’examen financier obligatoire au cours de la 3<sup>e</sup> année, le premier en son genre dans un accord provincial sur la garde d’enfants, pour vérifier que les coûts réels du nouveau plan national de garde d’enfants sont en adéquation avec le financement.
- Une réduction des frais de garde d’enfants, en quatre étapes, pour atteindre une moyenne de 10 \$ par jour par enfant de cinq ans et moins d’ici septembre 2025.
- Les remboursements aux parents, rétroactifs au 1<sup>er</sup> avril, commenceront à être versés en mai.
- La protection de toutes les places des services de garde d’enfants à but lucratif et non lucratif, permettant ainsi de soutenir majoritairement les femmes entrepreneuses de la province qui fournissent des services de garde d’enfants de haute qualité.
- La création d’environ 86 000 places de haute qualité dans les services de garde pour les enfants de cinq ans et moins.
- Le recrutement de nouvelles éducatrices et de nouveaux éducateurs de la petite enfance et le soutien à l’amélioration de la rémunération de l’ensemble des éducatrices et éducateurs de la petite enfance inscrits travaillant dans les services de garde d’enfants agréés.
- Le maintien du programme de crédit d’impôt de l’Ontario pour la garde d’enfants, qui aide 300 000 familles à couvrir les dépenses liées aux services de garde agréés et non agréés.
- La collaboration avec les municipalités pour inscrire au programme 5 000 centres de garde d’enfants et services de garde d’enfants en milieu familial agréés d’ici le 1<sup>er</sup> septembre 2022.

Dans un premier temps, toutes les familles ontariennes ayant des enfants de cinq ans ou moins dans des services de garde agréés participants verront leurs frais réduits, jusqu’à 25 %, ou jusqu’à un minimum de 12 \$ par jour, rétroactivement au 1<sup>er</sup> avril 2022. En décembre 2022, les parents verront une autre réduction. Au total, les frais de garde d’enfants que les familles devront payer en 2022 seront réduits, en moyenne, de 50 %, soit une diminution de 1,1 milliard de dollars. Les familles verront d’autres réductions de frais en septembre 2024, pour aboutir à une réduction finale des frais de services de garde d’enfants qui ne s’élèveront qu’à 10 \$ par jour en moyenne d’ici septembre 2025.

Par ailleurs, cet accord soutient la création de 86 000 places supplémentaires en services de garde d’enfants agréés pour répondre à la demande croissante, y compris les plus de 15 000 places de garde d’enfants agréés créées depuis 2019. Pour maintenir la grande qualité des services de garde d’enfants de la province, l’accord appuie également l’embauche de nouvelles éducatrices et nouveaux éducateurs de la petite enfance et une rémunération stable de toutes les éducatrices et de tous les éducateurs de la petite enfance travaillant dans des services de garde d’enfants agréés, y compris celles et ceux qui offrent des services de garde aux enfants de six à douze ans.

## PATIENT OMBUDSMAN

Patient Ombudsman is a champion for fairness in Ontario’s health sector organizations defined as public hospitals, long-term care homes and home and community care services coordinated by the Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs, formerly CCACs).

Patient Ombudsman strives to make our service a safe-space where we treat everyone with empathy, dignity and fairness.

We also want to thank the health sector organizations within our jurisdiction (public hospitals, long-term care homes, home and community care coordinated by the Local Health Integration Networks) for being open to change and meaningful resolutions that are fair for everyone.

The number of complaints that come to our office and the number of successful resolutions we facilitate continue to grow.

## OMBUDSMAN DES PATIENTS

L’Ombudsman des patients est un défenseur de l’équité en ce qui concerne les organismes du secteur de la santé en Ontario, définis comme les hôpitaux publics, les foyers de soins de longue durée ou les services de soins à domicile et de soins communautaires coordonnés par les RLSS (y compris les services autrefois coordonnés par les CASC).

L’ombudsman des patients cherche à faire de notre bureau un endroit sûr où toute personne est traitée avec empathie, dignité et équité.

Nous remercions également les organismes du domaine de la santé qui relèvent de notre compétence (les hôpitaux publics, les centres de soins de longue durée, les fournisseurs de soins à domicile et communautaires coordonnés par les réseaux locaux d’intégration des services de santé) de leur ouverture au changement et à de véritables règlements qui sont équitables pour tous.

Le nombre de plaintes que nous recevons à notre bureau continue de croître, de même que le nombre de règlements que nous réussissons à offrir.



# \$10 Million Additional Dollars for North Bay Regional Health Centre

The Ontario government is providing \$10 million to the North Bay Regional Health Centre. This funding includes both a \$2.2 million reimbursement for the hospital's lost revenue during the pandemic and a one-time \$8 million top-up investment to address additional operating and financial pressures. Provincial support has continued to provide financial stability and high-quality patient care which people need and deserve.

This funding is in addition to the \$2.6 million in COVID reimbursements announced in January, \$1.9 million in March, and \$2.4 million in additional operating funding announced for the 2021/22 year.



Nipissing MPP Victor Fedeli is joined by Paul Heinrich, President & CEO of the North Bay Regional Health Centre, and Peter Chirico, President of the North Bay & Area Chamber of Commerce for the major funding announcement.



## \$2 Million in New Film Support

An investment of \$2 million is headed into four North Bay film and television projects. This investment will help create jobs, attract local talent, boost economic growth, and improve the quality of life for those who live in the North. The following projects are receiving funding:

- \$500,000 for HP Time Productions Inc. to produce the made for television movie Angel Falls Christmas
- \$500,000 for Hideaway Pictures to produce the feature film Toying with the Holidays
- \$500,000 for HP Cold Productions Inc. to produce the made for television movie Great Christmas Switch
- \$500,000 for HP A Lot of Christmas Productions Inc. to produce the made for television movie Jingle Bells Princess



Nipissing MPP Victor Fedeli addresses the mining and business community to announce another major series of NOHFC funding.

## Over \$2.4 Million to Support Area Businesses

More than \$2.4 million is going to 9 projects in the mining supply, forestry, technology, and agriculture sectors in Nipissing. The following funding is being delivered through the **Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation**:

- **\$887,500** for DDS Drilling Services to purchase new equipment to expand its diamond core drilling services.
- **\$400,020** for Pilot Diamond Tools Ltd. to renovate its facility and purchase new equipment to allow for business expansion
- **\$400,00** for Mano Aggregates Inc to develop an onsite crushing facility for processing of aggregates

- **\$227,717** for JMI Design Studios/The Original Bug Shirt Company to purchase and renovate the building and purchase equipment
- **\$187,500** for Northern Meat Packers to establish and abattoir/processing facility
- **\$144,092** for North Bay Machining Centre Inc to purchase a robotic cell and update its electrical infrastructure to help improve productivity.
- **\$124,041** for iRing Inc. to develop hardware and software prototypes
- **\$56,988** for Metal Fab Limited to purchase new production equipment
- **\$44,967** for Golden Treasures Maple Products to assist with Capital construction and purchase of equipment.

### We're Here to Help!

The constituency office is open Monday to Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 5 p.m. You can reach us with any issue you may have, as we are here to help you. We can help you with your health card, birth certificate, celebratory scrolls, social services, and a multitude of other issues.

### Nous sommes à votre disposition!

Le bureau de circonscription est ouvert du lundi au vendredi, de 9h à 17h. N'hésitez pas à nous contacter si vous avez la moindre question. Nous pouvons répondre à vos questions notamment celles portant sur les cartes Santé, les certificats de naissance, les certificats de félicitations, les services sociaux, et maints autres besoins.

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Pictured from left: Diane Deagle, Constituency Assistant, Patti Giroux, Constituency Assistant, Vic Fedeli, Nipissing MPP, Keri Buttle, Executive Assistant.

Delivering for all of Nipissing