



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

All Nations Health Partners Ontario Health Team Welcomes New Partner Wiigwas Elder and Senior Care

March 12, 2025, KENORA, ON – The All Nations Health Partners Ontario Health Team (ANHP OHT) is pleased to announce Wiigwas Elder and Senior Care has joined the 15 other partners of the ANHP OHT in working towards the development of a seamless, patient-centered health care system for Kenora and surrounding Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities.

The addition of Wiigwas Elder and Senior Care enhances the ANHP OHT work of addressing gaps in housing programs and supports, as well as strengthening the strategic relationship among providers across the continuum of care specific to senior health care and regional housing needs.

“We are very excited to announce that Wiigwas Elder and Senior Care are joining as a member of the All Nations Health Partners Ontario Health Team,” said Chief Chris Skead, Secretary-Treasurer of Wiigwas Elder and Senior Care on behalf of the Board for Wiigwas. “We have really been working to grow the capacity of the home in many aspects, and this is huge step forward in ensuring the voices of our residents are at the planning tables. Our Elders have always taken care of us, and we will continue to work to make sure we are delivering the best care,” concluded Skead.

Wiigwas Elder and Senior Care (WESC) is a non-profit organization formed in 2021 under the leadership of Ogimaawabiitong Kenora Chiefs Advisory to own and operate a long-term care home, which is culturally responsive to the unique needs of the northern First Nations in Treaty #3 and the local residents of the greater Kenora District. WESC commenced operations in October of 2021 with the ownership transfer of a 96 bed home. Situated with a view of Lake of the Woods, the home is the preferred destination of First Nations community members from Ontario’s northwest and remote communities who require long-term care.

“We are so pleased to have the Wiigwas Board and team bring their expertise and experience in long-term care to the partner table,” said Cheryl O’Flaherty, Co-Chair of the ANHP OHT and President & CEO of Lake of the Woods District Hospital. “With Wiigwas as a part of our working group, we now have significant new capacity to help continue crafting a locally owned, sustainable and equitable community care service delivery plan.”

About the ANHP OHT

The All Nations Health Partners Ontario Health Team, created in ceremony in 2017, includes Indigenous, municipal and health care leaders, working towards implementing a new model of organizing and delivering health care that better connects patients and providers in their communities to improve patient outcomes. In 2019, the ANHP OHT became one of the first Ontario Health Teams (OHTs), as well as the first from the North, the smallest, and the only team with full Indigenous and community partners.

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