



David Orazietti, M.P.P. Sault Ste. Marie **News Release**

For Immediate Release
June 15, 2016

ORAZIETTI ANNOUNCES \$150,000 IN NEW ANNUAL FUNDING FOR ALGOMA RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY HOSPICE

Province Increasing Supports for End-of-Life Care in Sault Ste. Marie

Sault Ste. Marie - As part of the 2016 Budget, the provincial government is investing an additional \$75 million over three years to provide patients with more options and access to community-based palliative and end-of-life care. Ontario is increasing investments in hospice services across the province by \$13.9 million over three years, including funding for the Algoma Residential Community Hospice in Sault Ste. Marie, announced David Orazietti MPP today.

“This important investment will allow ARCH to direct more resources to patient care by providing loved ones and their families with the support they need,” said Orazietti. “We are committed to enhancing end-of-life care in order to give all Ontarians choices during difficult times and ensure they can live their final days with as much dignity and comfort as possible.”

As part of its commitment to strengthening access to palliative and end-of-life care, the \$13.9 million additional investment across the province will increase funding for existing hospice beds by \$15,000 per adult bed and \$22,400 per pediatric bed. ARCH Hospice will be receiving a funding increase of \$150,000 annually.

The increased funding for existing hospice beds will help ensure that the high-quality palliative and end-of-life care provided by hospices remains in the community for future generations. This investment will enhance compassionate end-of-life support that relieves suffering and improves the quality of living and dying.

Some previous provincial investments since 2003 for ARCH hospice and palliative care include:

- \$2.7 million to build ARCH hospice
- \$966,000 ARCH annual funding (increase of \$320,000 in 2011)
- \$427,164 for shared cared palliative team *ARCH Connect”
- Passed property tax exemption legislation for non-profit hospices in Ontario

“We are grateful for the Ontario Government’s commitment of additional funding to support quality community hospice palliative care,” said Theresa Mudge, Executive Director, ARCH Hospice. “Hospice care helps people live well until the natural end of life, and it supports the health and well-being of families and caregivers at a difficult time of their lives.”

Improving palliative care is part of the government's plan to build a better Ontario through its [Patients First: Action Plan for Health Care](#), which is providing patients with faster access to the right care, better home and community care, the information they need to stay healthy and a health care system that’s sustainable for generations to come. It is also part of Ontario's [Patients First: Roadmap to Strengthen Home and Community Care](#), which is the government's plan to improve and expand home and community care over the next three years.

QUICK FACTS

- As part of the 2016 Budget, Ontario announced an additional investment of \$75M in hospice and palliative care over the next three years. This additional spending will be on top of the \$80 million already invested in hospice and palliative care, bringing the total investment to \$155 million from April 2016 to April 2019.
- Ontario is providing funding increases for 39 facilities that provide hospice care across the province and is committed to supporting up to 20 additional hospices.
- Ontario recently released the [Palliative and End-of-Life Care Provincial Roundtable Report](#), which compiled feedback from province-wide consultations led by John Fraser, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care. The report will help Ontario develop a comprehensive strategy on palliative and end-of-life care, which will focus on supporting families and caregivers, and ensuring access to co-ordinated quality care where patients want it.
- Ontario recently launched the Ontario Palliative Care Network, a partnership among Cancer Care Ontario, Ontario's Local Health Integration Networks, Health Quality Ontario and other partners, including members from diverse care settings and caregivers, clinical representatives and associations.

LEARN MORE

- [Palliative and End-of-Life Care Provincial Roundtable Report](#)
- [Patients First: Action Plan for Health Care](#)
- [Ontario's Roadmap to Strengthen Home and Community Care](#)
- [Hospice Palliative Care Ontario](#)

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