

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **MINISTER JEAN YVES-DUCLOS AND MOUNT ROYAL MP ANTHONY HOUSEFATHER ANNOUNCE FUNDING FOR LOCAL SENIORS CAREGIVER PROGRAM**

**Côte Saint-Luc, April 22, 2016** – The Honourable Jean-Yves Duclos, Minister of Families, Children and Social Development, and Anthony Housefather, Member of Parliament for Mount Royal, announced today that a project to build a Drop-In Centre at the Côte Saint-Luc Aquatic and Community Centre will receive \$390,913 in funding over three years from the New Horizons for Seniors Program to provide program support for senior caregivers.

The Drop-In Centre project has been a collaboration between the Cummings Centre, the City of Côte Saint-Luc, the Integrated Health and Social Services University Network for West-Central Montreal (West-Central Montreal Health), Mr. Housefather, D'Arcy-McGee MNA David Birnbaum and the Town of Hampstead and has been a tremendous example of a project being assembled collaboratively by all different levels of government and a private not-for-profit organization. The group has been working together since last May when it was announced that changes were being made to the Drop-In program located at the CLSC René-Cassin. All involved parties will work together to plan the eventual opening of the new Drop-In Centre.

“Our government recognizes that senior caregivers can sometimes find themselves socially isolated. We are determined to work with organizations and communities to provide additional support and resources that will help alleviate the feelings of loneliness and isolation. The Cummings Caregiver Support Centre project will offer multiple forms of caregiver support, interactive workshops and information sessions as part of a group of project activities by three organizations working together to help seniors. I believe that these new projects will have a positive impact in the lives of those who need it most,” said the Honourable Jean-Yves Duclos, Minister of Families, Children and Social Development.

“Having been involved in the creation of the project when I was still Mayor of Côte Saint-Luc and having been working on it since its inception, I cannot tell you how pleased I am that our federal government has come through with funding for the Drop-In Centre,” Mr. Housefather said. “This is a project that will allow many caregivers within our community needed respite in an ideal location, and I look forward to the success of the project.”

David Birnbaum added, "Our government's priority is to ensure seniors and their caregivers are afforded the health and social services they count on and deserve. I am really proud to see community leadership in the riding step up and lead the way, with the support of three levels of government, to open a seniors' caregiver Drop-In Centre right here where it's needed."

“At the Cummings Centre we are committed to enhancing the quality of life of individuals 50 years of age and older through arts, education, health, wellness and Jewish life. The Cummings Centre promotes positive attitudes about aging,” said Pauline Grunberg, Executive

Director. "We are pleased to be partnering in this important project and using our expertise to run the Drop-In Centre."

"The City of Côte Saint-Luc is very excited to be a partner in a project serving so many within our community," Côte Saint-Luc Mayor Mitchell Brownstein said. "The use of our Aquatic and Community Centre for this program fits both the mission of the building and the needs of our local residents. We are so pleased that federal funding has been made available for this worthy project."

"I am very pleased about the opening of this Drop-In Centre, since it demonstrates the commitment of our network, partners and government officials to work together and provide the services that health care users require," said Dr. Lawrence Rosenberg, President and CEO of West-Central Montreal Health. "All of our network's activities are designed to put users' needs first, and even if certain services sometimes need to be rearranged, an effort is made to ensure that the overall level and quality of service is maintained."

In addition to the Cummings Jewish Centre for Seniors, the Government of Canada is supporting the Canadian Caregiver Network and the Jewish General Hospital for a total investment of \$1.1 million to reduce social isolation among senior caregivers in the Greater Montréal area. Innoweave, an initiative of the J. W. McConnell Family Foundation, will support the implementation of this collaborative approach.

#### Quick Facts

- Employment and Social Development Canada received over 200 project proposals through the 2015–2016 NHSP Call for Proposals for Pan-Canadian Projects, which was open from May 29 to July 10, 2015.
- Since 2004, the NHSP has funded close to 17,800 Community-based and pan-Canadian projects in hundreds of communities across Canada, with a total Government of Canada investment of more than \$360 million.

## Backgrounder

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For the **2015–2016 New Horizons for Seniors Program Call for Proposals for Pan-Canadian Projects**, the Government of Canada invited organizations seeking project funding to submit an impact plan describing the respective roles they and their project partners would play in collectively addressing the important issue of social isolation among seniors by using collaborative approaches towards attaining measurable results.

For this call for proposals, the Government partnered with the J.W. McConnell Family Foundation and its Innoweave initiative to support the development, implementation and scaling of these collaborative approaches to reduce social isolation among seniors.

The following three organizations identified in the Caregivers in the Greater Montreal Metropolitan Area Impact Plan (Quebec) are receiving project funding as a result of the NHSP call for proposals. These organizations have a vested interest in addressing the needs of seniors and in supporting isolated seniors who are caregivers facing the complex challenges and effects of loneliness and isolation.

ORGANIZATION NAME	PROJECT SUMMARY	FUNDING AMOUNT
Cummings Jewish Centre for Seniors (Drop-In Centre at Côte Saint-Luc Aquatic and Community Centre)	The <b>Cummings Caregiver Support Centre</b> project will reduce isolation of senior caregivers by providing access to caregiver respite and program activities for care recipients. The program will offer multiple forms of caregiver support, interactive workshops and information sessions. This organization will lead and coordinate the overall <b>Caregivers in the Greater Montreal Metropolitan Area</b> impact plan.	\$390,913
Canadian Caregiver Network	The <b>Caregiver to Caregiver: A Peer to Peer Learning and Support Network</b> project will be an online community network for senior caregivers to safely connect and share knowledge with others in similar situations. Project results will inform and improve service delivery to caregivers within health and social service organizations and promote awareness of caregiver needs.	\$606,427
Jewish General Hospital (Centre intégré universitaire de santé et de services sociaux (CIUSSS) du Centre-Ouest-de-l'Île-de-Montréal)	The <b>Caregiver Navigator</b> project builds upon the Hospital's experience in Caregiver Support. Caregiver navigators (healthcare professionals and volunteer caregiver mentors) will act as a liaison between caregivers and the healthcare system to enhance service delivery and improve wellness and health outcomes for caregivers and care-recipients.	\$140,750
TOTAL		\$1,138,090

## New Horizons for Seniors Program

The New Horizons for Seniors Program (NHSP) is a federal grants and contributions program that supports projects led or inspired by seniors who make a difference in the lives of others and their communities. Through the NHSP, the Government of Canada encourages seniors to share their knowledge, skills and experiences to the benefit of others.

The objectives of the NHSP are:

- promoting volunteerism among seniors;
- engaging seniors in the community through mentoring of others;
- expanding awareness of elder abuse, including financial abuse;
- supporting social participation and inclusion of seniors; and
- providing capital assistance for new and existing community projects and/or programs for seniors.

NHSP funding supports pan-Canadian projects and community-based projects.

## **Pan-Canadian projects**

Pan-Canadian projects test and share best practices across the country and replicate interventions that have worked well in addressing seniors' issues.

Projects funded through the [NHSP 2015–2016 Call for Proposals for Pan-Canadian](#) included an impact plan describing the roles played by respective project partners in addressing the important issue of social isolation among seniors by using collaborative approaches that place an emphasis on measurable results.

Successful projects are up to three years in duration and will receive funding between \$150,000 and \$750,000.

More than \$24.3 million (over \$8.1 million per year over the next three years) will be made available for pan-Canadian projects funded through the 2015–2016 NHSP Call for Proposals.

For this call for proposals, the Government of Canada partnered with the J.W. McConnell Family Foundation's [Innoweave](#) initiative to support community partners in their collaborative approaches to measurably reduce the rate of social isolation among seniors. Innoweave will provide implementation and evaluation support to funded projects.

Established in 1937, the [J.W. McConnell Family Foundation](#) has a mandate to enhance Canada's ability to address complex social, environmental and economic challenges. It does this by developing, testing and applying innovative approaches and solutions; by strengthening the community sector; and by collaborating with partners from various sectors—community, private and public.

## **Community-based projects**

Community-based project funding supports activities that engage seniors and address one or more of the program's five objectives: volunteering, mentoring, expanding awareness of elder abuse, social participation and capital assistance. These projects are eligible to receive up to \$25,000 per year per organization in grant funding.

The [NHSP 2015–2016 Call for Proposals for Community-Based Projects](#) closed on July 10, 2015. It invited organizations to apply for funding of up to \$25,000 for projects that help empower seniors to share their knowledge, skills and experiences with others and support communities by increasing their capacity to address local issues.

Close to 1,850 projects across Canada were approved through the NHSP 2015–2016 Call for Proposals for Community-Based Projects and are now in progress.

It is anticipated that the NHSP 2016–2017 Call for Proposals for Community-Based Projects will be launched in spring 2016. For more information on the NHSP, visit [Canada.ca/Seniors](http://Canada.ca/Seniors).