



**Innovative Social Infrastructure
The Village Living Wellness and Learning Centre
at Canadore College, North Bay, Ontario**

Submitted by:
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Introduction

Dear Honourable Members of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance,

Canadore College is proud to present The Village Living Wellness and Learning Centre to be considered for investment through the Budget 2017 consultation process. The Centre is an innovative and unique educational opportunity that will provide advanced health care training to students and desperately needed senior residency for northern Ontarians.

An investment in The Village Living Wellness and Learning Centre will bring serious and real change to the lives of students and the Centre's residents. Specifically, students, seniors, unemployed Canadians and Indigenous peoples will be the main beneficiaries of the Centre. The Centre would spur economic growth and increase the earning potential of hundreds of people each year in a region that needs assistance. It is an excellent model of social infrastructure that will meet the needs of seniors, Indigenous community members, and youth.

Canadore College agrees with the Government that now is the time to invest in innovative methods to train the next generation of workers and to improve the quality of life of senior citizens. The Village Living Wellness and Learning Centre is a unique solution to address these challenges.

What is The Village Living Wellness and Learning Centre?

The Village Living Wellness and Learning Centre will integrate seniors care and living with teaching and skills training for Canadore College all in one facility. It embodies the innovative social infrastructure projects envisioned by the Liberal government mandate.

The Village Living Wellness and Learning Centre will be located on the Canadore College Campus grounds in North Bay, Ontario, just minutes away from the Nipissing First Nation.

This innovative seniors' care and housing facility will offer teaching and learning opportunities for Canadore students studying in the fields related to seniors care.

The Village Living Wellness and Learning Centre will incorporate advanced Western medical and traditional Indigenous healing practices.

It is a community hub. The Village Living Wellness and Learning Centre will leverage existing campus infrastructure including a library and wellness facilities as well as access to public transit and a hospital located two minutes away enabling the residents to stay connected to their community.

Canadore College is proposing to fund the construction of The Village Living Wellness and Learning Centre through a P3 model.

Innovative Social Infrastructure for Seniors' Housing and Care

The Village Living Wellness and Learning Centre will be an intergenerational living, teaching and learning facility that includes retirement accommodations, short-term stay and rehabilitation beds, with academic space to train the next generation of seniors care workers.

Intergenerational facilities have been shown to be beneficial in senior care.

Residents will be supported in all aspects of retirement living, including independent living, independent supportive living, assisted living and short-term stay care in a culturally safe environment.

The Village Living Wellness and Learning Centre will be a quality-driven, service-oriented, sustainable model that adds value and choice to residents, their families and the community.

The Village Living Wellness and Learning Centre will use an inter-professional service delivery teaching and learning model that will offer diverse and flexible opportunities for residents, staff and students.

Integrating First Nations Traditional Healing Practices

Canadore College is proud of our warm relationship with the Indigenous communities we serve and will integrate traditional healing practices into The Village Living Wellness and Learning Centre that can be replicated across the country.

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission Report's 22nd recommendation states: "We call upon those who can effect change within the Canadian health-care system to recognize the value of Aboriginal healing practices and use them in the treatment of Aboriginal patients in collaboration with Aboriginal healers and Elders where requested by Aboriginal patients." Canadore honours this recommendation through the active participation of Indigenous nations in the development of governance structures, procedures and councils.

Seniors will receive care in their Indigenous language as well as all assessments and requests for service.

The Village Living Wellness and Learning Centre will reflect Indigenous community values in all health and human service programming.

This unique service learning model will prepare graduates to integrate bi-cultural approaches and enhance their inter-professional knowledge base in their First Nation communities and within urban centers.

The Village Living Wellness and Learning Centre offers residents:

- Much-needed seniors' housing in North Bay, Ontario;
- Access to acute and primary medical care with on-site nurses, occupational therapists, physiotherapists, personal support workers, mental health and addictions workers, dental hygienists, recreational therapists and more;
- A well-equipped library, an esthetics studio, a sweat lodge, a healing circle, planned physical, recreational, vocational cultural, spiritual and social events to address holistic healing and wellness;
- Access to an Interprofessional Safe Mobility Care clinic which focuses on injury prevention and existing mobility issues; and
- Senior-friendly hospital and culturally respectful principles allowing residents requiring emergency care to transition easily from the Primary Care Facilities.

The Village Living Wellness and Learning Centre offers residents and students:

- An intergenerational and multi-cultural facility;
- A community care hub providing a continuum of care services;
- A facility staffed by professionals, with academic space that will provide experiential learning for students, including inter-professional geriatric-modelled clinical placements for training practical nurses, occupational therapists, physiotherapists, personal support workers, dental hygienists, social workers/mental health and addiction workers, recreation therapists, Indigenous specialists and elders.

Innovative Social Infrastructure that meets the community's needs

The Government has prioritized infrastructure investments in affordable housing and seniors' housing to include finding ways to support the municipal construction of new housing units and refurbishment of existing ones. The Village Living Wellness and Learning Centre fits in perfectly with this priority.

The growing need to address First Nations health and social housing will be addressed through this project.

The Village Living Wellness and Learning Centre will be a collaboration between partners (public and private sector) coming together to provide a continuum of care services and learning opportunities for patients, residents, students and the community. This project is an ideal P3 initiative.

It will create approximately 100 construction jobs and 120 permanent jobs upon the facility's opening.

Why is The Village Living Wellness and Learning Centre the answer?

This model enhances and leverages existing public infrastructure, minimizing public investment while maximizing return – good stewardship of public resources.

It provides a "living hub" for seniors' housing, First Nations and Western teaching and healing practices, and research opportunities.



This is a financially sustainable solution to increase capacity in northern Ontario that can be replicated across the country.

We have a growing urban Indigenous population that will require specialized and culturally responsive supports as they age.

The Centre meets a need for seniors' housing in communities lacking such facilities and addresses the commitment to meet the needs of our First Peoples through Indigenous education and housing.

The Village Living Wellness and Learning Centre will offer a unique and sustainable solution to training a workforce in alignment with the future of Canada's health care while maximizing existing resources.

About Canadore College:

Canadore College, based in North Bay, Ontario, with a satellite campus in Parry Sound, Ontario, embodies all that the government represents and supports. It serves as an innovation hub for northern Ontario, an academic institution with a stellar reputation for successful skill training that will enable the next generation of middle-class workers to thrive, and integrates a growing number of Indigenous students into its halls.

Canadore College trains 3,700 students each year through applied learning, leadership and innovation. The College provides access to over 65 full-time quality programs and has outstanding faculty and student services. The College's four campuses – Aviation Technology Campus, Commerce Court Campus, Education Centre Campus and West Parry Sound Campus – and its students contribute nearly \$290 million to the regions of Nipissing and Parry Sound every year. Approximately 1,000 students graduate from Canadore College each year, and they join 43,000 alumni working around the globe.

Canadore College is proud of integrating our country's First Nations, Métis and Inuit (FNMI) population students into its student community. Canadore College is the choice of more than 450 self-identified FNMI students, representing more than 18 per cent of its total student population. Its dedicated employees develop programming and continuously evolve services to support their success in postsecondary education. In fact, Canadore College's Aboriginal student retention and graduation rates have surpassed the national average for four consecutive years.

Canadore College is home to the Innovation Centre for Advanced Manufacturing and Production (ICAMP). ICAMP opened its doors in September 2013 and provides the necessary resources for companies to research and create new products without any heavy investment in specialized technologies. This 13,000 square foot industrial facility is focused on product innovation allowing companies to access the technologies and resources for the development of new products and processes or the refining of existing products and processes.

ICAMP has executed over 327 projects for more than 92 companies and has helped industry create 80 new full-time and part-time jobs and maintain 27 jobs. Through ICAMP's operations, these companies'

annual payroll have increased over \$4.2 million in wages paid. ICAMP has directly contributed to a reduction in unemployment and increase tax revenue.

Conclusion

As you conduct your consultations and formulate your recommendations for Budget 2017, we would be honoured for you to recommend investing in The Village Living Wellness and Learning Centre. It will greatly contribute to the economic growth of northern Ontario, provide much-needed housing and social infrastructure for seniors, real skills training for students, and further reconciliation with our First Nations neighbours. I would be delighted to discuss this proposal with you further if you have any questions or comments. This is an innovative shovel-worthy and shovel-ready initiative that will deliver important social innovation and long-term employment in northern Ontario.

Executive Summary:

- Canadore College in North Bay, Ontario is requesting funding for its proposed The Village Living Wellness and Learning Centre.
- The Centre will be an intergenerational living, teaching and learning facility that includes a 144-unit retirement residence. It is an excellent model of innovative social infrastructure that meets the needs of seniors, Indigenous community members, and youth.
- This innovative health and wellness teaching residence will offer teaching and learning opportunities for Canadore students studying in the health and human service fields related to seniors' care while supervised by faculty who are regulated health professionals.
- The state-of-the-art academic learning centre and integrated inter-professional rehabilitation clinic will incorporate both Western and traditional Indigenous healing practices.
- Canadore College estimates that it will cost approximately \$25 million to build under a P3 model. Canadore College is requesting \$9 million from the Government of Canada. By leveraging funding from the federal and provincial governments, and through a P3 model, construction could begin on the Village Living Wellness and Learning Centre in 2017 with it being fully operational by early 2018.
- Construction will create 100 jobs in northern Ontario. Once the Centre is operational it will employ 120 people and provide housing for senior residents.

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