

MEDIA RELEASE

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Wendat Community Programs has a new dishwasher thanks to a \$13,100 OTF grant from the Ontario government

Penetanguishene, ON – On Friday, MPP Jill Dunlop met with the team at Wendat Community Programs to hear more about the impact that a \$13,100 Capital grant awarded by the provincial government's Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) has had since receiving it in 2023. The funds were used to purchase and install a new commercial dishwasher for the facility's Penetanguishene location.

"Congratulations to Wendat Community Programs on the Capital grant investment from our government," said Jill Dunlop, MPP for Simcoe North. "We are so happy to see the OTF grant being used to bolster care and support for adults experiencing mental illness or age-related challenges. As a community, we are profoundly grateful to Wendat for their steadfast commitment to empowering individuals to achieve their optimal health and well-being through their transformative programs."

Wendat made the request for the funds to replace the seven-year-old dishwasher in its commercial kitchen. The addition of the new dishwasher will also help the organization to save on costly repairs. Wendat Community Programs has been in operation since 1987, providing high quality care and support services to adults experiencing mental illness or age-related challenges in the Simcoe-Muskoka area. Wendat's Community Support Programs for Seniors have a positive impact on the wellness, independence and quality of life for at risk older adults so they are able to live longer, in better health and in their chosen environment in the communities of Penetanguishene, Midland, Tiny Township and Tay Township.

"The impact of this Ontario government grant can not be overstated," said Michael Webb, President of the Board, Wendat Community Programs. "Keeping our commercial kitchen and all the equipment in working order is vital to ensuring we are able to provide meals to frail older adults living in our community."

"Non-profit organizations across Ontario deliver programming that makes a difference," said Neil Lumsden, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport. "That's why funding that my ministry is providing through the OTF is so important. Our government wants to ensure that these programs and spaces remain the heart of communities across our province."

For more information about Wendat Community Programs and the programs it provides, please visit: www.wendatprograms.com

The Ontario Trillium Foundation's (OTF) mission is to build healthy and vibrant communities across Ontario. As an agency of the Government of Ontario, and one of Canada's leading granting foundations, last year, OTF invested over \$110M into 1,022 community projects and partnerships. Visit <u>otf.ca</u> to learn more.

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