

MEDIA RELEASE

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\$56,000 OTF Grant from the Ontario Government Helps Health Centre Forge New Program

Port Hope, ON – On Thursday, the team at Community Health Centres of Northumberland invited a representative from the provincial government's Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) to hear more about the \$56,000 Resilient Communities Fund grant that it received in 2023 to operate its Community Food Market project last summer. The project benefits community members struggling with rising food costs, as well as local markets and farmers.

“Ontario is dedicated to investing in organizations that support the health and wellbeing of our community,” said David Piccini, MPP for Northumberland-Peterborough South. “Funding through the Government of Ontario has supported Community Health Centres of Northumberland to run a community food market that has connected so many individuals and families with healthy, locally sourced produce and wider health services.”

The Community Food Market provided an opportunity to buy fresh produce, meats and meals sourced and produced locally at lowered prices. With the grant from OTF, the CHCN has been able to organize a market that pays local farmers for their products and then sells those products at a subsidized price. The result is fresh food that is more affordable to a broader range of the community and increased sales at local markets.

“The market has become a community hub where we can connect with people to share recipes and gardening advice, but also to connect those people to the Centre and the services we offer.” – Joelle Pegg

The Community Health Centres of Northumberland takes leadership in creative health promotion, illness prevention, and treatment services in an inclusive and safe environment. Opening in 2009, the Centre continues to improve its programs and services to best meet the needs of the community. The CHCN delivers primary care, diabetes education, mental health and addictions counseling, geriatric outreach services, a memory clinic, dental care, food security programs, exercise classes, community development activities and health promotion programs. For more information, please visit the website at www.chcnorthumberland.ca

The Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) is an agency of the Ontario government with a mission to build healthy and vibrant communities across the province. Last year, OTF invested more than \$110M into 1,044 community projects and multi-sector partnerships. Projects aim to enhance economic well-being, foster more active lifestyles, support child and youth development, provide spaces for people to come together and connect, and create a more sustainable environment. Visit otf.ca to learn more.

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