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Municipality of North Perth

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Mayor and Council
Municipality of North Perth

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

NORTH PERTH ACQUIRES PERTH MEADOWS

The Council of the Municipality of North Perth has acquired the Perth Adult Life Care Residence (PALCR) Development known as Perth Meadows.

This step was taken to allow Perth Meadows to take advantage of the Municipality's ability to borrow from Infrastructure Ontario at favourable long-term interest rates. The money will be used to replace short-term funding and higher cost loans currently used to finance the development. This will provide Perth Meadows with long-term stability allowing the development of a strategic direction and ensure our community's need for seniors housing is met.

A key concern for North Perth Council in taking this step was to ensure that there would be no impact to property taxes. The \$5.5 million loan will be secured by Perth Meadows property holdings estimated at \$8.8 million. The Perth Meadows project has been designed to be completely self-funding so that no property tax dollars are involved in this project.

Perth Meadows is a community-driven project that was initiated to provide North Perth with much needed senior housing based on a continuum of care campus model. The municipality is becoming involved to ensure that these objectives can be attained. Phase one provides 18 town homes for adults over 55 and all the units are currently occupied. The second phase is a 36 unit apartment complex designed for independent living without the responsibilities of maintaining a home. The building also has activity rooms designed to support community functions. These units first became available last year and are becoming occupied. Open Houses indicate strong community interest in these units.

Residents of Perth Meadows will notice few differences as their needs will be met with the same care and concern as they have received in the past. It is the desire of Council that existing services and opportunities for our senior residents across North Perth continues to grow and are enhanced. Appropriate and accessible housing is a priority as the baby boomer population matures.

To assist us in these efforts, the Municipality has appointed Shirley Hanlon to be the Property Manager for Perth Meadows. Ms. Hanlon has a 22 year history of developing community-based programs and services in the North Perth Community and is well known to many. According to Ms. Hanlon "the Perth Meadows campus is an excellent example of a community driven development that focuses on the future needs of its seniors. Residents of North Perth and surrounding communities are fortunate to have local volunteers and Municipal representatives who are forward-thinking and want to assist our seniors in remaining in, or moving to their community of choice. I look forward to working with all seniors and their families in accomplishing these goals."

The final phase in the plan will be a long-term care facility. Currently, North Perth does not have enough long-term care beds in the community to support its aging population, thus often forcing residents to relocate outside our community for long-term care. It is often stressful for seniors and their families when essential health services are not available close to home.

The Council of the Municipality of North Perth believes a wide range of services, including seniors housing, is necessary to provide a sustainable community for its citizens. Several communities in Perth County have successful senior housing models similar to Perth Meadows.

For more information please contact Chief Administrative Officer, Kriss Snell at (519) 292-2040 or ksnell@northperth.ca.