

Acquired Brain Injury residence opens doors in Napanee

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NEWS

The South East Local Health Integration Network (LHIN), along with Pathways to Independence, today announced the opening of an Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Supportive Housing Residence in Napanee.

The bungalow site, which will accommodate six people living with an ABI, will have the first residents in by early August. Construction on the bungalow site, the first of two planned ABI Residences in Napanee began in summer of 2014 and is in the final stages of completion.

Since 2010, the South East LHIN has been working with members of the Napanee community, Pathways to Independence, the Canadian National Ski Team alumni, and most notably the Finlay family to develop these community-based supportive living residences, which will help maximize independence and quality of life for people living with an ABI.

The South East LHIN continues to work with the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, Pathways to Independence and the Finlay family for the second proposed residence, and is hoping to see the project completed by 2016.

For more information on the bungalow residence or Pathways to Independence please visit www.pathwaysind.com. Ensuring people are receiving the care they need in the most appropriate setting is part of the Ontario Government's [Patients First: Action Plan for Health Care](#).

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QUOTES

“The economic impact of brain diseases and mental health in Ontario is \$39 Billion annually and one in three Canadians will be affected by brain disorders or injuries. It is important to find innovative treatments to help Ontarians that suffer from these diseases and improve their everyday lives. This initiative is just that - a wonderful example of collaboration and partnership to provide individualized and patient-centered rehabilitation to those living with ABI right here in our region.”

- **Sophie Kiwala, MPP, Kingston and the Islands**

“This supportive residence is building a much needed capacity in our health care system to deliver services and supports that will improve the lives of people living with an ABI. It is the overwhelming support of those involved with this project that has really helped us reach this milestone.”

- **Paul Huras, CEO, South East LHIN**

QUICK FACTS

- A Request for Tender was launched for the bungalow site in 2014
- More than 18,000 Ontarians and 50,000 Canadians sustain brain injuries each year.
- An ABI is defined as damage to the brain that occurs after birth. It can happen to anyone in an instant. ABI can result in a variety of difficulties including: cognitive, physical, social and psychological. These difficulties can create challenges throughout the person's lifetime.

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