

# **Pembroke Regional Hospital Partners With The County of Renfrew To Co-Host New Homelessness and Addiction Recovery Treatment (HART) Hub**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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The Pembroke Regional Hospital is pleased to share that it has been selected to co-host one of the province's 27 *Homelessness and Addiction Recovery Treatment (HART) Hubs* with the County of Renfrew, with plans to be operational by April 1.

The Renfrew County Mesa HART Hub will be a collaborative effort between Pembroke Regional Hospital and the County of Renfrew, Carefor, the City of Pembroke, the Algonquins of Pikwakanagan, MacKay Manor, Addictions Treatment Service, the Phoenix Centre for Children and Families, Ontario Addiction Treatment Centre (OATC) – Pembroke, Pathways Alcohol and Drug Treatments Services, Renfrew County Youth Wellness Hub, The Grind Pembroke, Renfrew County and District Health Unit, the Upper Ottawa Valley detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police, local municipalities, first responders and various community organizations.

With an annual funding allocation of \$6.3 million, including \$1.3 million earmarked for Mental Health and Addictions Supportive Housing, PRH President and CEO Sabine Mersmann said the *Renfrew Count Mesa HART Hub* will help address a critical need in our region in providing essential support for individuals experiencing homelessness and addiction.

The *HART Hub* will provide a range of services including:

- Primary Care
- Mental Health Services
- Addiction Care and Support
- Social Services and Employment Support
- Supportive and Bridge Housing Services

“The *HART Hub* is designed to offer timely, high-quality care and services, ensuring that individuals receive the right support at the right time from the right professionals. This program will focus on housing security, addictions treatment, and long-term recovery, filling a vital gap in our community and helping those in need rebuild their lives,” Mrs. Mersmann said.

It will complement existing programs and services offered through the hospital's Mental Health Services of Renfrew County (MHSRC) program in partnership with the County's Mesa initiative and other regional mental health services to further enhance the network of care available in our region.

“By thoughtfully integrating these established services into the *HART Hub*, we aim to create a more seamless and comprehensive support system for those struggling with homelessness and addiction,” Mrs. Mersmann said, adding that the hospital will be working closely with the County, community partners and their Mental Health Services team in the coming weeks in order to determine how best to integrate existing services and be ready to launch the Hub on April 1.

“This achievement is a testament to the strong partnerships within our community, and especially our relationship with Pembroke Regional Hospital,” remarked County of Renfrew Chief Administrative Officer Craig Kelley. “Together, we are poised to deliver comprehensive services that address the multifaceted needs of our residents.”

“Our hospital has a long history of providing services for some of our region’s most vulnerable residents through our Mental Health Services program and we are excited to be co-leading the development of this initiative with so many of our partners in health care,” Mrs. Mersmann said.

For a full menu of services offered by Mental Health Services of Renfrew County, please visit our Pembroke Regional Hospital website <https://www.pemreghos.org/mental-health-services-renfrew-county>.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:**

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