

**OTF Grant helps NROCRC recover from the impacts of COVID-19**

**Ottawa, Ontario** – On Wednesday November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021, the Nepean, Rideau, and Osgoode Community Resource Centre, (NROCRC) formally acknowledged their \$68,900 Resilient Communities Fund grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation, (OTF) at their virtual Annual General Meeting. The Honourable Lisa MacLeod, Minister of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries and MPP for Nepean, Jeremy Roberts, MPP Ottawa West—Nepean and Katharine Bambrick, Chief Executive Officer, Ontario Trillium Foundation were present for the occasion and congratulated NROCRC's staff and board members.

This Resilient Communities Fund grant will help NROCRC hire a staff person, engage experts for strategic planning and research and evaluation, purchase office supplies and cover employment-related expenses to rebuild and recover from the impacts of COVID-19. The pandemic had a significant effect on NROCRC's programming and its ability to deliver services to the communities it serves. The OTF's grant will allow NROCRC to develop their next Strategic Plan and related initiatives to prepare for upcoming priorities and to build resiliency in the years to come.

*"Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, our government has committed to supporting those struggling the most,"* said Lisa MacLeod, Minister of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries and MPP for Nepean. *"That's why support programs like the Ontario Trillium Foundation's Resilient Communities Fund are so important. Through this fund, we are helping non-profits like the Nepean, Rideau, and Osgoode Community Resource Centre adapt to the challenges created by the pandemic and ensuring they will continue to provide the best service possible – making a positive difference in the lives of individuals and families in communities across the province."*

*"Over the last 18 months our charities faced many unique challenges, and so often they would go above and beyond to do what was needed."* said Jeremy Roberts, MPP for Ottawa West – Nepean. *"NROCRC plays a vital role supporting vulnerable people in our community. I am grateful for the opportunity we have to support their important work through the Resilient Communities Fund."*

*"The Resilient Communities Fund grant supports non-profit organizations in their own rebuilding and recovery. Organizations like Nepean, Rideau, and Osgoode Community Resource Centre who were severely impacted by the COVID-19 need this support to continue to deliver essential services to help the most vulnerable people in our communities."* said Katharine Bambrick, Chief Executive Officer, Ontario Trillium Foundation.

In addition to providing the funds to build a new strategic plan, this OTF support will allow for plan-specific organizational training and coaching; staffing; partnerships; research and development; improved fundraising; and changes to programming and services to meet the needs of the communities, employees, and volunteers.

Anita James, NROCRC's Executive Director, explains the benefit of the OTF Resilient Communities grant this way, *"The Resilient Communities Fund through the Ontario Trillium Foundation is enabling us to build vital organizational capacity during these challenging times of increased needs from the communities we serve and demands on our programs and services. By providing the necessary resources to develop our next Strategic Plan and related evaluation and fundraising mechanisms, this grant will ensure that we can deliver critical supports to address priority community needs with the greatest impact. The support of this work will be key to our future success and the progress of our communities."*

The Nepean, Rideau and Osgoode Community Resource Centre's mission is to work in partnership with community members and stakeholders to improve the social determinants of health and meet the needs of the diverse communities within Nepean, Rideau and Osgoode. For more information about NROCRC please visit [www.nrocrc.org](http://www.nrocrc.org).

The Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) is an agency of the Government of Ontario, and one of Canada's leading granting foundations. Last year, nearly \$112M was invested into 1,384 community projects and partnerships to build healthy and vibrant communities and strengthen the impact of Ontario's non-profit sector. In 2020/21, OTF supported Ontario's economic recovery by helping non-profit organizations rebuild and recover from the impacts of COVID-19. Visit [otf.ca](http://otf.ca) to learn more.

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