

## Province announces \$3.7 million in funding for seniors active living centres

Announcement made at Caledon Seniors Centre in Bolton

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A major announcement for seniors centres across Ontario was made this week at Caledon's own seniors centre.

On January 14, Ontario Minister of Seniors and Accessibility Raymond Cho and Dufferin-Caledon MPP Sylvia Jones came to the Caledon Seniors Centre to announce a \$3.7 million investment in 316 seniors active living centre programs across the Province.

Cho said seniors active living centres play a key role in improving the health and well-being of Ontario's aging population.

"This year, we have increased our investment in seniors active living centres by almost one million dollars over last year, to provide seniors with more opportunities to access programs and supports," said Cho.

The Province has increased base funding for all seniors active living centres from \$42,700 last year to \$55,000 this year.

Jones said the Province is making record investments to ensure more seniors are supported for years to come.

"The Caledon Seniors Centre is a hub for our community and today's announcement is another step our government is taking to give seniors the opportunity to enjoy active living and a healthy lifestyle," said Jones.

Due to the success of seniors active living centres, the Province is also investing \$17 million to bring 100 more of the centres to communities across Ontario. A news release from the Province notes a call for proposals was launched in July of last year and successful applicants will begin to be announced early this year.

Sue Hesjedahl, Executive Director of the Older Adult Centres' Association of Ontario, said the Province's recent funding announcements demonstrate a significant commitment to supporting seniors.

"This is an important step forward in addressing the growing demands on seniors active living centres (SALCs). We're thrilled to see the government responding to the needs of SALCs, empowering them to expand their reach and strengthen their role as community hubs ? keeping seniors active, healthy, and connected to their communities," said Hesjedahl.