

**2018 Pre-Budget Submission**  
**Innovative Social Infrastructure**  
**The Village Living Wellness and Learning Centre at**  
**Canadore College, North Bay Ontario**

**Executive Summary:**

- Canadore College in North Bay, Ontario is requesting funding for their proposed Village Living Wellness and Learning Centre “The Centre” – an investment in training, healthcare, Indigenous wellness, seniors housing and advanced care for seniors.
- The Centre will be an intergenerational living, teaching and learning facility that includes a 144-units of seniors housing, including affordable housing. It is replicable model of innovative social infrastructure that meets the needs of seniors, Indigenous community members and youth.
- This innovative health and wellness teaching residence will offer teaching and learning opportunities for Canadore students studying in the health and human service fields related to seniors’ care while supervised by faculty who are regulated health professionals, something that will increase Canadore’s students’ productivity and ability to enter the ever-expanding field of seniors’ care.
- The state-of-the-art academic learning centre and integrated inter-professional rehabilitation clinic will incorporate Western, Eastern and traditional Indigenous healing practices.
- Canadore College estimates that it will cost approximately \$28 million to build under a P3 model. Canadore College is requesting \$9 million from the Government of Canada.
- Leveraging funding from the federal and provincial governments and through a P3 model, construction began on the Centre in June 2017 and will be fully operational with government support by late 2018.
- Construction will create 100 jobs in Northern Ontario. Once the centre is operational it will employ 120 people.

**Introduction**

Dear Honourable Members of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance,

Canadore College is proud to present The Village Living Wellness and Learning Centre to be considered for investment through the Budget 2018 consultation process. The Centre is an innovative and unique educational opportunity that will provide advanced health care training to students and desperately needed housing for seniors in Northern Ontario.

An investment in the Centre will bring real change to the lives of students and the Centre’s residents. Specifically, students, seniors, unemployed Canadians and Indigenous peoples will be the main beneficiaries of the Centre. The Centre would spur economic growth and increase the earning potential of hundreds of people a year in a region that needs assistance. It is an excellent model of social infrastructure that meets the needs of seniors, Indigenous community members and youth.

## The Village Living Wellness and Learning Centre

### *What is The Village Living Wellness and Learning Centre?*

The Centre will integrate seniors care and living with teaching and skills training for Canadore College all in one facility. It embodies the **productivity-enabling, innovative social infrastructure projects** envisioned by the Liberal government mandate and will be a driver of personal and business growth.

The Centre will be located on the Canadore College Campus grounds in North Bay, Ontario, just minutes away from the Nipissing First Nation.

This innovative seniors' care and housing facility will offer teaching and learning opportunities for Canadore students studying in the fields related to seniors care.

The Centre will incorporate advanced Western, Eastern and traditional Indigenous healing practices.

It's a **community hub**. The Centre will leverage existing campus infrastructure, including a library, wellness facilities as well as access to public transit and a hospital located two minutes away – enabling the residents to stay connected to the community around them.

Canadore College is proposing to fund the construction of the Centre through a P3 model.

### *Innovative social infrastructure for affordable seniors' housing and care that will drive productivity and enable labour market participation*

The Centre will be an intergenerational living, teaching and learning facility that includes retirement accommodations, short-term stay and rehabilitation beds, with academic space to train the next generation of seniors' care workers.

Intergenerational facilities have been shown to be beneficial in senior care.

Residents will be supported in all aspects of retirement living, including independent living, independent supportive living, assisted living and short-term stay care in a culturally safe environment.

The Centre will be a quality-driven, service-oriented sustainable model that adds value and choice to residents, their families and the community around them.

The Centre will use an inter-professional service delivery teaching and learning model that will offer diverse and flexible opportunities for residents, staff and students.

### *Integrating First Nations Traditional Healing Practices*

Canadore College is proud of our warm relationship with the Indigenous Communities we serve and will integrate Traditional Healing practices into the Centre that can be replicated across the country.

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission Report's 22nd recommendation states: "We call upon those who can effect change within the Canadian health-care system to recognize the value of Aboriginal healing practices and use them in the treatment of Aboriginal patients in collaboration with Aboriginal healers and Elders where requested by Aboriginal patients." Canadore honours this recommendation through the active participation of Indigenous nations in the development of governance structures, procedures and councils.

Seniors will receive care in their Indigenous language as well as all assessments and requests for service.

The Centre will reflect Indigenous community values in all health and human service programming.

This unique service learning model will prepare graduates to integrate bi-cultural approaches and enhance their inter-professional knowledge base in their First Nation communities and within urban centers.

### *The Village Living Wellness and Learning Centre Offers Residents:*

- Desperately-needed **seniors' housing** in North Bay, Ontario.
- Access to primary **medical care** with on-site nurses, occupational therapists, physiotherapists, personal support workers, mental health and addictions workers, dental hygienists, recreational therapists and more.
- Access to an Interprofessional Safe Mobility Care clinic which focuses on injury prevention and existing mobility issues.
- Senior-friendly hospital and culturally respectful principles allowing residents requiring emergency care to transition easily from the Primary Care Facilities.

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*The Village Living Wellness and Learning Centre offers innovative learning, housing and care for residents and students:*

An intergenerational and multi-cultural facility.

A community care hub providing a continuum of care services.

A facility staffed by professionals with academic space that will provide experiential learning for students, including inter-professional, geriatric-modelled clinical placements for training:

- practical nurses, occupational therapists, physiotherapists, personal support workers, dental hygienists, social workers/mental health and addiction workers, recreation therapists, Indigenous specialists and elders.

The Centre will offer residents:

- a well-equipped library, an esthetics studio, a sweat lodge, a healing circle, planned physical, recreational, vocational cultural, spiritual and social events to address holistic healing and wellness.
- a designated number of rooms that will be earmarked as affordable housing units to be seamlessly mixed in with the for-profit units. Only the College administration will know which residents are recipients of subsidized housing.

*Innovative Social Infrastructure that meets seniors' housing needs in Northern Ontario*

The Government has prioritized infrastructure investments in affordable housing and seniors' housing to include finding ways to support the municipal construction of new housing units and refurbishment of existing ones. The Living Learning Village fits in perfectly with this priority.

The growing need to address First Nations health and social housing will be addressed through this project.

The Centre will be a collaboration between partners (public and private sector) coming together to provide a continuum of care services and learning opportunities for patients, senior residents, students and the community. This project is an ideal P3 initiative.

It will create approximately 100 construction jobs and 120 permanent jobs upon the facility's opening.

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*The Village Living Wellness and Learning Centre will make Canadians more productive and promote innovation through health, housing, Reconciliation and labour market participation*

### **Health and skills training**

Students come to Canadore College from across Canada. Upon completion of studies in the Centre, students will return to their home communities imbued with the ability to implement the innovative skills they learned at the Centre.

### **Increasing Labour Market Participation**

The Living Learning Village Centre will offer a unique and sustainable solution to training a workforce in alignment with the future of Canada's health care while maximizing existing resources.

This is a financially sustainable solution to increasing capacity in Northern Ontario that can be replicated across the country.

### **Social Housing**

The Centre will offer desperately needed subsidized seniors housing in Northern Ontario.

The model enhances and leverages existing public infrastructure, minimizing public investment while maximizing return – good stewardship of public resources.

### **Innovation and research**

It provides a “living hub” for data driven experimentation in seniors care techniques while providing First Nations, Western and Eastern teaching and healing practices.

### **Reconciliation**

Canada has a growing urban Indigenous population that will require specialized and culturally responsive supports as they age.

The Centre meets a need for seniors' housing in communities lacking such facilities and addresses the commitment to meet the needs of our First Peoples through Indigenous education and housing.

## **About Canadore College:**

Canadore College, based in North Bay, Ontario, with a satellite campus in Parry Sound, Ontario, embodies all that the government represents and supports. It serves as an innovation hub for northern Ontario, an academic institution with a stellar reputation for successful skill training that will enable the next generation of middle-class workers to thrive and integrates a growing number of Indigenous students into its halls.

Canadore College trains 3,700 students each year through applied learning, leadership and innovation. The College provides access to over 65 full-time quality programs and has outstanding faculty and student services. The College's four campuses – the Aviation Technology, Commerce Court Campus, the College Drive Campus and the West Parry Sound Campus – and its students contribute nearly \$290

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million to the regions of Nipissing and Parry Sound every year. Approximately 1,000 students graduate from Canadore College each year, and they join 43,000 alumni working around the globe.

Canadore College is proud of integrating our country's First Nations, Métis and Inuit population students into the student community. Canadore College is the choice of more than 450 self-identified FNMI students, representing more than 18 per cent of its total student population. Their dedicated employees develop programming and continuously evolve services to support their success in postsecondary. In fact, Canadore College's Aboriginal student retention and graduation rate has surpassed the national average for four consecutive years.

Canadore College also hosts the Innovation Centre for Advanced Manufacturing and Production (ICAMP). ICAMP opened its doors in September 2013 and provides the necessary resources for companies to research and create new products without any heavy investment in specific technologies. This 8,500 square foot industrial centre with a 10,000 ft. runway is focused on product innovation allowing companies to access the technologies and resources for the development of new products and processes or the refining of existing products and processes.

ICAMP has executed over 327 projects for more than 92 companies and helped industry create 80 new full and part time jobs and maintain 27 jobs. Through ICAMP's operations, these companies' annual payroll has increased over \$ 4.2 million in wages paid. ICAMP has directly contributed to a reduction in unemployment and increase tax revenue.

## Conclusion

As you conduct your consultations and formulate your recommendations for Budget 2018, we would be honoured for you to recommend investing in the Village Living Wellness and Learning Centre. It will greatly contribute to the economic productivity and growth of Northern Ontario, provide much-needed housing and social infrastructure for seniors, real skills training for students and further reconciliation with our First Nations neighbours. I would be delighted to discuss this proposal with you further if you have any questions or comments. This is an innovative shovel-worthy and shovel-ready that will deliver important social innovation and long-term employment in Northern Ontario.

Sincerely,

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