

## Pathways to Independence launches Request for Tender for Acquired Brain Injury Residence in Napanee

April 29, 2014

### NEWS

The South East Local Health Integration Network (LHIN), along with Pathways to Independence, announced the launch of the Request for Tender (RFT) for a new Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Supportive Housing Residence in Napanee.

The launch of the RFT for the new bungalow site is the result of all stakeholders' combined efforts and a commitment to a home that will best serve people living with an ABI today and into the future. The RFT will be posted from May 1 to 22, 2014. The Request for Tender can be found on [www.pathwaysind.com](http://www.pathwaysind.com).

Construction on the bungalow site, the first of two ABI Residences in Napanee could begin as early as summer of 2014. Each residence will accommodate six people living with an ABI, by maximizing independence and quality of life.

Together, local communities and partners, Pathways to Independence, the Canadian National Ski Team alumni, and most notably the Finlay family have provided overwhelming support and propelled the project since 2010, when it was first presented to the South East LHIN.

Ensuring people are receiving the care they need in the most appropriate setting is part of Ontario Government's Action Plan for Health Care and the commitment to providing the right care at the right time in the right place.

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### QUOTES

"With the launch of the RFT, we are one step closer to seeing a home built in Napanee to house and treat individuals living with an acquired brain injury. Today's announcement is a testament to the overwhelming effort and support the community has shown towards this project and to the unwavering commitment of the Finlay family."

- **John Gerretsen, MPP, Kingston and the Islands**

"The friends and former ski teammates of Scott Finlay welcome this announcement as a significant step in the ongoing effort to provide long-term care for Scott and others in the region whose lives have been affected by a traumatic brain injury"

- **Jeff Armstrong, spokesperson, Napanee Acquired Brain Injury and Rehabilitation Home**

"We are very pleased to be moving forward with this project and to have been involved in the planning and development from the beginning. We look forward to providing ongoing services and supports to the people who will call this home in the future that will support their independence and enhance their quality of life.

- **Lorrie Heffernan, CEO, Pathways to Independence**

“The construction of supportive housing to support people living with an ABI was long needed in the South East region. It is an important achievement for the community, but above all for individuals living with a brain injury and their families, who will now get care that is tailored to their needs.”

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

## **QUICK FACTS**

- On Feb. 24, 1978, at the Canadian downhill championships in Lake Louise, Scott Finlay, a member of the Ontario Ski Team, fell halfway through his race. It was a fall that changed Scott and his family's life forever. Scott suffered a devastating brain injury that would leave him paralyzed on his right side and with limited movement on his left.
- In 2010, the Finlay's, residents of Napanee, along with Scott's former teammate Jeff Armstrong approached the South East LHIN with a proposal to build an ABI residence in Napanee.

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