

MEDIA RELEASE**October 16, 2025****\$200,000 Ontario Trillium Foundation Grant Fortifies YWCA Toronto's Resilience**

Toronto, ON – On Thursday, October 16th, YWCA Toronto formally acknowledged the long-term impact that its \$200,000 Capital grant, awarded in 2024 by the provincial government's Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) has had since receiving it. The \$200,000 grant allowed YWCA Toronto to complete upgrades to its 1st Stop Woodlawn Emergency Shelter, making the shelter a safer and more accessible space for all.

The generous grant enabled the Association to install an accessible sink and shower as well as handrails, widen the doorframe to accommodate wheelchair use and install a panic button, allowing users to signal distress to the front desk. YWCA Toronto was also able to complete work to ensure cleaner, breathable air, free from asbestos.

"This Capital Grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation has enabled us to deliver urgent and extensive upgrades at our 1st Stop Woodlawn Emergency Shelter," said Heather McGregor, Chief Executive Officer of YWCA Toronto. "Thanks to this grant, we were able to complete much-needed renovations of the shared facilities, and reduce accessibility and safety barriers for our shelter participants. We are grateful to the Ontario Trillium Foundation for their incredible support."

YWCA Toronto is a leader and collaborator in the provision of feminist, intersectional and transformative shelter and housing, employment and training, leadership and advocacy for women, girls and gender diverse people. Annually, our Association serves nearly 13,000 people from diverse identities, abilities and immigration statuses. To learn more about our programs and services, please visit ywcatoronto.org.

The Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) is an agency of the Ontario government with a mission to build healthy and vibrant communities across the province. Last year, OTF invested nearly \$105M into 732 community projects and multi-sector partnerships. Projects aim to enhance economic well-being, foster more active lifestyles, support child and youth development, provide spaces for people to come together and connect, and create a more sustainable environment. Visit otf.ca to learn more.

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