



# PRESS RELEASE

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## **Grand Opening of the Eriksdale Wellness Centre**

**Stonewall, MB** - The Interlake RHA is pleased to announce the grand opening of the Eriksdale Wellness Centre which will serve as the new home for community-based programs such as Public Health, Community Wellness, Home Care, Mental Health and Speech Language Services. The Wellness Centre is complete with offices, a meeting room and two clinic rooms, which will serve as an ideal environment to see individual clients and to offer education and wellness clinics.

As a component of the Eriksdale Wellness Centre, a partnership was created between the community of Eriksdale, CancerCare Manitoba, the Interlake Regional Tribal Council, Manitoba Health and the Interlake RHA for cancer resource and support services in Eriksdale.

"I want to congratulate Eriksdale for developing this unique facility that will undoubtedly contribute to the health and well-being of many residents," said Theresa Oswald, Minister of Health. "Our government is pleased to support this innovative resource as it both increases services and brings them together to facilitate easier access." The province provided \$720,000 in funding for community cancer services as well as health and wellness programs.

"The opening of the Eriksdale Wellness Centre represents an enhanced level of health care and community-based services for residents of Eriksdale and surrounding communities," noted Interlake RHA CEO, Kevin Beresford. "Through the establishment of the Eriksdale Cancer Resource and Support Center, Interlake residents will get the support they need closer to home," added Beresford.

“We welcome the opening of the Eriksdale Wellness Centre, and over the months to come we look forward to launching the Cancer Resource and Support Centre which is a unique offering among CancerCare Manitoba’s Cancer Community Programs Network sites across Manitoba,” said Dr. Dhali Dhaliwal, President and CEO of CancerCare Manitoba. “As the provincially mandated cancer agency, this resource and support centre is part of the enhancement of services across the province and will supplement and complement the current cancer care offering in the Interlake at CancerCare Programs in Gimli and Selkirk.”

A key aspect of the Eriksdale Cancer Resource and Support Center is the establishment of a patient navigation service to act as a liaison between patients, their families and CancerCare Manitoba staff. This confidential service strives to address concerns, answer inquiries, give information, guide the patient and family through the experience, and act on suggestions in a respectful, compassionate and timely manner. As needed patients and families will have the option of receiving formal social work services closer to home. Feedback received by the patient navigator helps CancerCare Manitoba to identify areas of concern, design new or modify existing programs, streamline processes and improve the quality of patient care.