



## GEORGINA

Hospice Georgina  
20849 Dalton Road,  
P.O. Box 721  
Sutton West, Ontario  
L0E 1R0

September 11, 2024

Re: Support for a *residential hospice* in Georgina

To Whom It May Concern:

As the Mayor of the Town of Georgina, I am writing to express our Council's support of Hospice Georgina's ongoing efforts to establish a *residential hospice* within our community.

The Town of Georgina is geographically one of the largest municipalities in York Region, situated one hour north of Toronto on the southeast shores of Lake Simcoe. The municipality is comprised of a number of lakefront communities, small rural hamlets and three larger communities: Keswick, Sutton/Jackson's Point and Pefferlaw. As a growing community, the Town is home to just over 50,000 people, projecting to be at approximately 71,000 by 2051.

Hospice Georgina is a not-for-profit organization and registered charity that provides individuals and their families affected by a life-limiting illness with critical services such as caregiver support groups, cancer support groups, creative therapy, day hospice, drop-in grief groups and grief support, ensuring comfort and peace, and improving quality of life.

Through their work, as mentioned in their 2023 annual report, Hospice Georgina provided 668 hours of bereavement support for children, youth, adults and seniors; 1,667 hours of home visiting and caregiver support and led 260 groups that could not have been done without the commitment and dedication demonstrated through the donation of 11,321 volunteer hours. It is clear that Hospice Georgina provides a vital service to the residents of our community for end of life assistance as well as for family caregivers to be present and available to their loved ones on their final journey.

It is my understanding from ongoing discussions and a presentation from Hospice Georgina to Council in February 2024 that the current *residential hospice* infrastructure falls significantly short of the need, with a total bed capacity of 25 for all of York Region, none of which are located in Georgina. More must be done to advance and improve access to healthcare, including the establishment of much needed residential hospice beds within our community to fully support Georgina's growing population well into the future.

Through this letter of support, I am openly urging the Province and encouraging all partners to support this extremely important initiative to improve the well-being and quality of life of the residents of Georgina as we look to enhancing healthcare services and *residential hospice* care in our community.

Margaret Quirk  
Mayor, Town of Georgina