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NEWS RELEASE

Ontario Expanding Mental Health and Addictions Services in Sudbury

Funding Will Improve Access to Specialized Addictions Services and Supports

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[Ministry of Health](#)

SUDBURY — The Ontario government is investing \$2.5 million through the new [Addictions Recovery Fund](#) to immediately enhance access to addictions treatment supports at Monarch Recovery Services, located in Sudbury. This funding will provide access to a total of 15 new addictions treatment beds and help hundreds of Ontarians in Sudbury and the surrounding region access specialized addictions treatment.

“Now more than ever, it is important to ensure that everyone can access the safe and effective mental health and addictions services they deserve - when and where they need them,” said Michael Tibollo, Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions. “Investing in mental health and addictions services in Northern Ontario, like those offered at Monarch Recovery Services, is just one more way our government is ensuring all Ontarians have access to the high-quality mental health and addictions care that meet their unique needs and have opportunities for treatment and recovery.”

Monarch Recovery Services offers addiction services and supports for Ontarians aged 16 and over including recovery, treatment, and aftercare programs. Funding through the new Addictions Recovery Fund will provide access to six new withdrawal management services beds, four new addictions treatment beds, and five new supportive treatment beds.

Studies have shown that opioid-related deaths surged by 79 per cent during the first two waves of the pandemic, with rates being three times higher in Northern Ontario. To meet the demand for treatment, the new Addictions Recovery Fund will support almost 400 new addictions treatment beds across the province, helping to stabilize and provide care for approximately 7,000 clients per year. This includes clients in northern, rural and Indigenous communities. Addictions Recovery Fund investments in other addictions services and supports across the province include:

- Six new Youth Wellness Hubs offering developmentally tailored primary care and mental health and addictions treatment for youth ages 12 to 25;
- Two new Mobile Mental Health Clinics to provide a full suite of mental health and addictions services directly to individuals living in remote, rural and underserved communities;
- Three new police-partnered Mobile Crisis Response Teams to support individuals in a mental health or addictions crisis;
- Support for Indigenous-led land-based healing services; and
- Additional community supports including day/evening intensive treatment, mild to moderate intensive treatment, and after-care programs.

“Every year, more than one million people in Ontario experience a mental health or addictions challenge,” said Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health. “That’s why our government is continuing to fulfill our commitment of making mental health and addictions a priority by investing in targeted addictions services.”

“Our government recognizes the importance of making substantial investments in high-quality addictions care across Northeastern Ontario,”

said Greg Rickford, Minister of Northern Development and Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry and Minister of Indigenous Affairs. “Today’s \$2.5 million investment for 15 new addictions treatment beds shows that our government is committed to improving the health of communities within the Sudbury region.”

Quick Facts

- The \$90 million Addictions Recovery Fund complements, but is separate from, the \$175 million [Roadmap to Wellness](#) investment announced in the 2021 Budget, and is being invested over three years. Investments of \$7.2 million are being made in 2021-22, and \$41.39 million in each of 2022-23 and 2023-24.
- As part of Budget 2021, Ontario is investing [\\$32.7 million in new annualized funding](#) for targeted addictions services and supports, including treatment for opioid addictions. This funding is part of the government’s commitment to invest \$3.8 billion over 10 years to implement Roadmap to Wellness, Ontario’s comprehensive plan to build a modern, connected, and high-quality mental health and addictions system centred around the needs of individuals and their families.
- As part of this \$32.7 million investment in annualized funding, the Ontario government committed \$18.8 million towards bed-based addictions services for adults and youth who need intensive supports. This investment included \$7.85 million for a total of 90 new treatment beds determined through an Ontario Health-led provincial call for applications in summer/fall 2021.
- In 2020-2021, in response to the COVID-19 outbreak, the province invested up to \$194 million in one-time emergency funding for mental health and addictions services.
- The Ontario government is investing \$2.5 million in Breaking Free Online, an innovative therapy tool that makes it faster and easier for Ontarians to access safe and effective addictions supports. Ontarians can register at www.breakingfreeonline.ca and have free access to programming and resources for two years. Mental health and addictions service providers can also register their patients for this service.
- Ontario funds a wide range of community-based mental health and addictions programs and services through the Ontario Health regions. You can find more information about services in communities across Ontario through ConnexOntario online at www.connexontario.ca (chat and directory of services), by phone at 1-866-531-2600, Text/SMS CONNEX to 247247 or, through

ConnexGO app, available on Android (Google Play) or iOS (App Store).

- Visit [COVID-19: Support for People](#) to find information about the many available, confidential, and free mental health and addictions services and supports for Ontarians of all ages.

Quotes

"Monarch Recovery Services recognizes that the need for addiction services continues to escalate in our community and this funding will allow us to not only facilitate access to services, but it will also increase our capacity and help fill the gaps in the continuum of care that we provide to individuals who are struggling with substance use."

- Roxane Zuck
CEO, Monarch Recovery Services

"This is an important element in the continuum of care and services available to individuals experiencing mental health and addictions challenges. We look to the province for their firm commitment to provide ongoing operating funds for the establishment of much needed Supervised Consumption and Supported Transitional Housing Services in Greater Sudbury."

- Brian Bigger
Mayor, City of Greater Sudbury

Additional Resources

- [Protecting Our Progress](#)
- [Ontario Launches New Addictions Recovery Fund](#)
- [Ontario Expanding Support for Addictions Treatment Throughout the Province](#)
- [2021 Budget - Ontario's Action Plan: Protecting People's Health and Our Economy](#)
- Visit Ontario's [COVID-19 vaccine web page](#) to view the latest provincial data and information on COVID-19 vaccines.
- Visit Ontario's COVID-19 information [website](#) to learn more about how the province continues to protect the people of Ontario from the virus.
- For public inquiries call ServiceOntario, INFOline at 1-866-532-3161 (Toll-free in Ontario only)

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