

Northumberland County & Community Care Northumberland Receive Community Transportation Pilot Grant Program

The Ministry of Transportation (MTO) established in November 2014, the Community Transportation Pilot Grant Program (the “CT Program”), a \$2 million, 2-year pilot grant program, to provide financial assistance to Ontario municipalities for the development and implementation of community transportation initiatives.

This Pilot Grant Program is helping Ontario municipalities to partner with community organizations, like Community Care Northumberland to better leverage and coordinate existing local transportation services. The overarching goal of the \$2-million pilot program is to ensure more rides are available to help people get to more destinations. Twelve of the 22 funded projects target transportation services for seniors and people with disabilities. Funding is being used for a broad range of initiatives, including acquiring fully accessible vehicles, supplementing existing specialized transit service, providing a better level of service to those in need of assistance to complete their trips, and providing cross-boundary trips to people with mobility restrictions or those who find it difficult to make transfers.

Through this Pilot Grant Program, the Community and Social Services Department and Community Care Northumberland have been approved for a \$100,000 grant to enhance rural transportation capacity in the County. This funding will be under the direction of the County but will be used to expand Community Care Northumberland’s existing specialized transportation programs.

It is anticipated that the services will increase service to Hamilton Township, the Municipality of Brighton, and the rural areas of the Municipality of Port Hope.