

The Cowan Foundation donates \$250,000 to help address homelessness in the Region of Waterloo

March 11, 2020

Kitchener, Ontario – The Cowan Foundation is donating \$250,000 to Indwell to help address the housing crisis in the Region of Waterloo.

On Friday, March 13, The Cowan Foundation will present the cheque at St. Mark's Lutheran Church—the future site of Indwell's first affordable housing program in the region. This contribution is a critical component in the funding of this project, as Indwell is to finalize the purchase of St. Mark's in June 2020.

“Cowan is pleased to support the innovative approach of Indwell and their introduction to the Region of Waterloo,” says Mary D’Alton, Executive Director, The Cowan Foundation. “The creation of permanent affordable housing with on site support, removes significant barriers to help people step out of poverty and closely demonstrates our Foundation’s commitment to making a positive impact in the lives of Canadians through transformational projects”.

Since its inception in 1995, The Cowan Foundation has supported many worthwhile Canadian charitable organizations, with a special focus on health and well-being as well as children and youth. By narrowing their focus on these key areas, their hope is that these investments will have a greater impact and make a real difference in people’s lives.

“We’re incredibly grateful for The Cowan Foundation and their focus on health and well-being. This gift towards affordable, supportive housing will enable many in the Kitchener-Waterloo community to thrive as they experience health, wellness, and belonging,” says Jeff Neven, Executive Director at Indwell.

“We have always been proud to support the communities where we live and work and one of the biggest challenges facing our region is affordable housing,” says Heather McLachlin, President of Cowan Insurance Group. “We know St. Mark’s will provide future tenants with stability and support as they move toward autonomy.”

The cheque presentation will begin at 9:00 am on Friday at St. Mark's Lutheran Church (825 King St W, Kitchener) and will include a preview of design plans.

Mary D’Alton, Executive Director of The Cowan Foundation, will present the cheque along with Jerry McDougall, Regional Manager, Cowan Insurance Group. Karen Redman, Regional Chair, Region of Waterloo; as well as Mayor Berry Vrbanovic; Jim Erb, Regional Councilor; Raj Saini, MP; and Laura May Lindo, MPP; will also be in attendance.

About Indwell

Indwell is a Hamilton-based charity that is responding to the urgent need to address homelessness in Southern Ontario by providing high quality affordable supportive housing. Indwell has more than 600 tenants in its programs in Hamilton, Woodstock, Simcoe, and London, and is looking forward to expanding into Kitchener and Mississauga—creating 400 more apartments in the next two years. Indwell builds for long-term sustainability with a focus on energy efficiency using the Passive House standard. On-site staff help tenants problem-solve, monitor their health, offer addiction counseling, encourage social activities, and connect with community resources and volunteer opportunities. To learn more, visit indwell.ca

About The Cowan Foundation

The Cowan Foundation was started in 1995 in honour of Frank Cowan, our founder. The Foundation is sustained by the ongoing success of the Princeton Holdings group of companies including Cowan Insurance Group (and its subsidiary Cowan Financial Solutions), Cowan Asset Management and Fountain Street Finance. Together they provide insurance and risk management solutions to clients. The goal of The Cowan Foundation is to make a positive difference in the lives of Canadians and the broader well-being of our communities. For more information, please visit www.cowanfoundation.ca.

About Cowan Insurance Group

As a prominent Canadian-owned and operated independent insurance brokerage and consulting operation, Cowan Insurance Group provides real value in insurance and risk management solutions to businesses, organizations and individuals. Approaching 500 employees and operating out of 12 locations across Canada, we partner with leading national and international insurance companies to advise on and create retirement, group benefits, disability management and international benefits programs for employee groups. We also offer wealth and asset management as well as financial and succession planning services to individuals, and specialize in property, casualty and credit insurance. For additional information about Cowan Insurance Group, please visit cowangroup.ca.

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