



United Counties of
Leeds and Grenville
25 Central Ave. W., Suite 100
Brockville, ON K6V 4N6
T 613-342-3840
800-770-2170
F 613-342-2101
www.leedsgrenville.com

MEDIA RELEASE

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Tender Awarded for Athens Long-Term Care Facility

ATHENS – The Maple View Lodge Long-Term Care Home capital redevelopment tender has been awarded to McDonald Brothers Construction.

Counties Council approved the \$70.5-million contract in a special meeting Friday following a recommendation from the Maple View Lodge Committee of Management and a tender deadline requirement.

“We owe this to our seniors,” said Warden Roger Haley after the decision was made to move forward with project.

“This is about caring for Leeds and Grenville’s most vulnerable residents while keeping them near their own communities,” Warden Haley said.

Although there was considerable debate around the council table over the need for long-term care beds, financial implications and potential future staffing issues, the by-law to approve the contract was unanimously supported by council.

“This is the largest capital project ever undertaken in the United Counties of Leeds and Grenville so I thank everyone for their deep consideration and support,” the Warden said.

The new three-story, 192-bed building will replace the existing 60-bed facility. It will provide a safe and secure home with excellent care for vulnerable seniors in their golden years.

Construction will begin immediately with off-site activities in advance of on-site construction starting later this summer. The current completion date is the spring of

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2025 with residents moving into their new home that summer. The major redevelopment plan, first revealed in April, includes the new construction, outdoor focal points, serene gardens and community gathering spaces.

"This is an exciting project that will bring much needed long-term care beds to our community to address a waiting list that now sits at 210 people," said Alison Tutak, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer for the United Counties.

The Province of Ontario has contributed an estimated \$43-million to the project. The cost of the redevelopment of Maple View Lodge will be spread over 25 years through a debenture.

"This project is important to ensure our seniors can remain in the Counties and receive quality care in a world-class facility," said Athens Mayor Herb Scott, chair of the Maple View Lodge Committee of Management.

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Media inquiries:

Alison Tutak, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer,
United Counties of Leeds and Grenville
25 Central Avenue West, Brockville
ON, K6V 4N6
613-342-3840, ext. 2305 or Alison.Tutak@uclg.on.ca

Deanna Clark, Economic Development Officer / Media contact,
United Counties of Leeds and Grenville
613-342-3840, Ext. 5360 or Deanna.Clark@uclg.on.ca