



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

More Than 7,500 Northwest Toronto Residents to Access Primary Care Through New \$3-million Investment

TORONTO....July 29, 2026 - More than 7,500 people in Northwest Toronto will be connected to primary care over the next year through a new provincial \$3-million investment to expand primary care services through an expanded Interprofessional Care Team (IPCT) team led by Black Creek Community Health Centre (BCCHC), in collaboration with local primary care providers in the Northwestern Toronto Ontario Health Team (NWT OHT).

The investment significantly expands community capacity to connect residents who do not currently have a family doctor, nurse practitioner, or primary care team, with ongoing, comprehensive care in their home community.

BCCHC marked the announcement with a community gathering hosted by Cheryl Prescod, Executive Director of Black Creek Community Health Centre; along with Tom Rakocovic, MPP for Humber River - Black Creek; representatives from Ontario Health and the NWT OHT, Dr. Ryan Banach, Lead Physician, Norfinch Family Health Organization and co-chair of the NWT Primary Care Network; Black Creek CHC Community Ambassadors and staff as well as members of the community.

The announcement is a welcome message to the Black Creek community, where the need has been greater than the access to primary care services. Additionally, Black Creek CHC has expanded access to care for French-speaking clients and offers interpretation services for newcomers lacking fluency in English.

Community Ambassadors were on site during the event, speaking directly with residents, helping people learn about available primary care services and showing those without a primary care provider how to apply for access to care.

Expanded access will support an interprofessional approach to care, connecting individuals and families from the area with physicians and nurse practitioners who work alongside allied health and social service professionals to attend to medical matters, support mental health, meet practical needs and provide social supports that contribute to overall health and well-being.

"This investment represents thousands of new relationships between people in our community and a primary care team they can count on," said Cheryl Prescod, Executive Director, Black Creek Community Health Centre. "For us, primary care is about more than having somewhere to go when you are sick. It's about having a trusted team that knows you, understands the circumstances affecting your health, and can provide culturally appropriate care and support over time. We are incredibly proud to work with our community partners to welcome thousands more individuals and families into care."

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The investment supports Ontario's broader Primary Care Action Plan and its goal of connecting every Ontarian to publicly funded primary care by 2029. The announcement was deliberately held in the community, where BCCHC staff, health-care providers and ambassadors could meet residents directly and help people take the first step toward getting connected to care.

"Access to a family doctor, nurse practitioner or primary care team is one of the issues I hear about from many residents," said Tom Rakocovic, MPP for Humber River-Black Creek. "I have been proud to advocate for greater access to primary care in our community, and I am thrilled to see this investment making a real difference. More than 7,000 people can now build an ongoing connection to primary care close to home."

Residents who do not currently have a family doctor, nurse practitioner or primary care provider are encouraged to learn more about the importance of a consistent, ongoing relationship with their primary care provider.

Residents can register for primary care at bcchc.com/primary-care/. Applications are available in French, Spanish and English. The community is invited to learn more about primary care in Northwest Toronto at nwtoht.ca.

About Black Creek Community Health Centre

Black Creek Community Health Centre (BCCHC) is a respected multi-service agency serving Toronto's Northwest and adjacent communities since 1989. BCCHC partners with individuals, families, and organizations to deliver comprehensive healthcare services and programs, providing high-quality care where it's needed most. Known for its holistic approach, BCCHC collaborates with government, healthcare, and community partners to meet the unique needs of its diverse community in a culturally responsive and safe manner.

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More than 7,500 Northwest Toronto residents will be connected to primary care over the next year because of a new \$3-million investment to expand team-based primary care services through a collaborative, led by Black Creek Community Health Centre, and in collaboration with healthcare partners within the Northwestern Toronto Ontario Health Team.

BCCHC Executive Director Cheryl Prescod was joined by Tom Rakocevic, MPP for Humber River - Black Creek, and representatives of Ontario Health, Toronto and the Northwest Toronto Ontario Health Team, Community Partners, Black Creek CHC Staff, Community Ambassadors and members of the community for the announcement. BCCHC is currently accepting new clients at its service locations and at partner sites.

Visit bcchc.com/primary-care/ to learn more or call 416-249-8000 or 416-246-2388.