

2025-2026

**ANNUAL
REPORT**

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Indigenous Land Acknowledgement

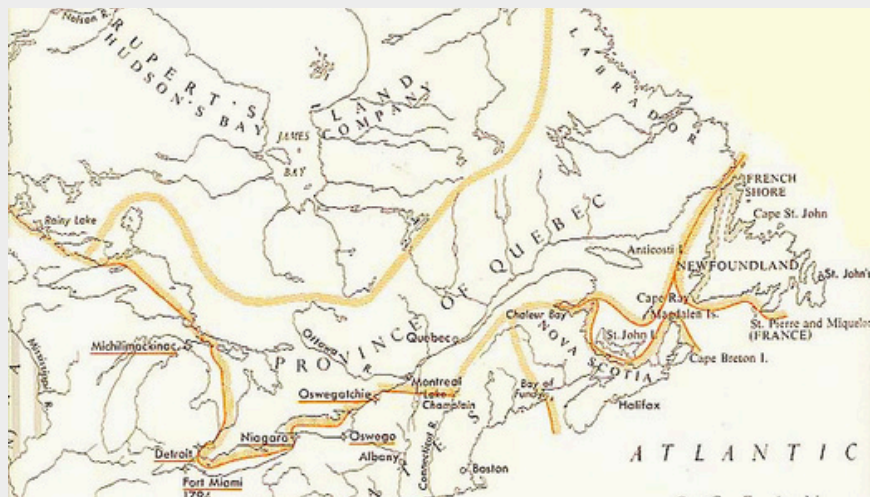
Evergreen Hospice recognizes that we provide care on the traditional territories of Indigenous Peoples who have stewarded this land for generations. We honour the **Haudenosaunee, Huron-Wendat, Anishnabeg, Seneca, Chippewa, and the Mississaugas of the Credit peoples**. We are committed to reconciliation and to building relationships rooted in peace, friendship, and trust.

We acknowledge the teachings of the **Dish With One Spoon Wampum**—a shared understanding that we all share responsibility to care for the land and ensure that the “dish” is never empty for future generations. This principle guides our commitment to inclusivity and respect in all aspects of our work.

In 2017, the **City of Markham** signed a landmark **Agreement of Cultural Collaboration** with **Eabametoong First Nation (Fort Hope)**, an Ojibway community in Northern Ontario. This first-of-its-kind partnership between an urban city and a remote First Nation supports cultural exchange, social and economic collaboration, and the promotion of Indigenous knowledge and awareness.

The City also opened the **Aaniin Community Centre and Library**, named after the Ojibwe word for “welcome.” The centre serves as a gathering place for learning, dialogue, and community connection.

In 2018, Markham adopted its first **formal land acknowledgment**, which was updated in **2021** to reflect a deeper understanding of Indigenous presence, rights, and contributions. Evergreen Hospice supports and shares in these efforts toward reconciliation and continues to learn from Indigenous communities across the region.



Letters from Leadership



**Laura
Lavallee**

CEO, Evergreen Community Hospice

Dear Friends of Evergreen Hospice,

When I reflect on 2025, what strikes me most is not simply what we accomplished — it is who made it possible. Every program delivered, every family supported, every moment of comfort provided in our community exists because of you: our donors, volunteers, partners, and the dedicated team at Evergreen.

This past year, we grew. Not just in the number of individuals and families we served across Markham, Stouffville, and Thornhill, but in the depth and range of how we served them. Our programs reached people living with life-threatening illness, caregivers carrying invisible weight, and those navigating the profound grief of losing someone they love. We met them where they were — and we walked alongside them.

What makes Evergreen truly remarkable is our model: compassionate, community-based care, provided at no cost to the people who need it most. In a world where access to support is too often determined by financial means, we believe that no one in our community should face serious illness or loss alone simply because they cannot afford help. That conviction has never been stronger than it is today. **And now, that conviction is becoming brick and mortar.**

I am deeply proud to share that we are moving forward with the Evergreen Hospice Residence at Elgin Mills — the first dedicated hospice residence in this community. This is a landmark moment, not only for Evergreen, but for every family in our region who deserves access to compassionate, dignified end-of-life care close to home. For far too long, that option has not existed here. It will now.

Alongside this, we are expanding our reach further with the opening of our secondary location in Uxbridge in partnership OVH and located on their grounds — bringing Evergreen's programs and services to families who have previously had to look elsewhere, or go without. No one should have to travel far from home, or from the people they love, to find support. This new presence in Uxbridge is a direct expression of that belief.

Letters from Leadership



**Laura
Lavallee**

CEO, Evergreen Community Hospice

Continued

Together, these two milestones mark a new chapter for Evergreen — one defined not just by where we have been, but by how far we are determined to go.

Looking ahead, our ambition is clear: to deepen our reach, strengthen our programs, and ensure that every person in our growing service area who needs us can find us. The need in our community is real — and so is our capacity to meet it.

None of this is possible without the generosity that sustains us. Evergreen currently receives only 30% of our funding from government sources. Everything else — the counselling sessions, the wellness programs, the grief support groups, the volunteer hours, and now the growth of our physical presence in this region — flows from the goodwill of people who believe, as we do, that how we care for one another in life's hardest moments defines the kind of community we are. We are expanding our reach, expanding our programs and services, expanding our locations, and received increased ministry funding in the years to come.

Thank you for believing in us. Thank you for making all of this possible.

With gratitude and hope,

Laura Lavallee
Chief Executive Officer
Evergreen Hospice

Letters from Leadership



**Dr. Andrew
Patterson**

Chair, Board of Director

Dear Members, Supporters, and Community Partners,

This past year at Evergreen has been a season of monumental change and growth. We've seen a meaningful shift, fueled by bold decisions and a clear commitment to forward-looking care. Our CEO, Laura Lavallée, has worked tirelessly to bring our mission into even closer alignment with the community we serve. Additionally, I'd like to extend a warm welcome to our two new Directors: Providence Diomedi, Director of Care, and Prathi Pararajasingam, Director of Fundraising

Under Laura's guidance, Evergreen has taken decisive steps toward a future we've long envisioned. From securing land for Canada's first hospice within a national park to successfully securing 3 Ministry-funded beds, these breakthroughs have been years in the making. We're now looking ahead to the next milestone - breaking ground this fall as we move closer to opening our Residential Hospice.

Our Board is proud to have supported these initiatives, while remaining committed to strong governance, ethical oversight, and long-term sustainability. We've also expanded Evergreen's reach through new partnerships and a renewed focus on ensuring that more communities can access compassionate care. Thank you to our community for the heart you bring every time you step in. Your support truly makes a difference and we are grateful.

As always, our role is to steward financial health, assess risk, and protect the values that define Evergreen. To our staff, volunteers, donors, and partners: thank you! Your belief in Evergreen's mission makes this work possible. Through your daily support, you've empowered our CEO and leadership team to turn vision into reality. For four decades, Evergreen Hospice has been a steady presence in our community - bringing comfort, dignity, and compassionate support to individuals and families when it matters most. Because of that legacy, Evergreen is a promise our community can feel - one that continues to grow through the care, dedication, and hope shared by everyone who steps forward

With deep appreciation,

Dr. Andy Patterson
Chair, Board of Directors
Evergreen Hospice

Executive Committee Members



Dr. Andrew Patterson
President and Chair



Andrew Salo
Treasurer



Raymond Chan
Secretary

Committee Members



Chris Collucci
**CEO, Markham
Board of Trade**



Jake Mitten
**Owner of Home
Instead Markham**



Rev. Canon
Nicola Skinner
**Minister, Grace
Anglican Church**



Jessica Competiello
**Senior Funeral Director,
Highland Funeral Home**



Santo Natale



Shaminder Kahlon



Robert Stuparyk
Director of Sales



Mary Minielli
**Regional Business
Development Manager,
Chartwell Retirement
Residences**

About Evergreen Hospice

Our Mission

Evergreen Hospice's mission is to provide supportive services and education for people impacted by life-threatening illnesses or grief, promoting quality of life through compassionate support, in a safe, non-judgmental space - meeting them where they are and enabling them to move forward in their journey.

Whether someone is navigating a diagnosis, caring for a loved one, or coping with loss, our services are designed to provide comfort, dignity, and hope. Through personalized support and meaningful connections, we empower people to move forward at their own pace, with care that is both compassionate and deeply human.

Our Vision

Evergreen Hospice is committed to providing access to supportive services and compassionate care to people impacted by life-threatening illnesses or grief across our diverse communities. Evergreen Hospice will continue to be recognized as an innovative leader in the palliative field.

Evergreen is a non-profit, charitable organization which depends on donations and limited government funding in order to provide support at no charge to the client.

In April 2014, Evergreen Hospice of Markham Stouffville and Hospice Thornhill, organizations that have both served their communities for more than 25 years, joined to become one stronger agency serving all three communities: Markham, Stouffville and Thornhill. Operational integration was completed at the end of 2013 with the governance and legal changes approved as of March 31, 2014. The new organization is now called "Evergreen".

We are here to make sure that those living with a serious illness, and their caregivers and families, get the vital care and support they need. We help provide individuals with dignity, personal choice, and quality of life, helping clients and their families to make the most of their precious time together. Support doesn't end at end-of-life - we are here to support every step of the way along the journey - from the point of diagnosis, through treatment, end-of-life care, and on into bereavement.

Organizational Overview

Overview of 2025 to 2026

Our partnership intent is to stage our opening of the 12 beds.

- Parks Canada (Markham) site: 3 beds in winter/spring of 2027
- Uxbridge Hospital (UXH) Campus site: 3 beds in spring/summer of 2027
- Markham Stouffville Hospital (MSH) Campus site: 9 beds in 2028/29

With this timeline, we will get 6 beds open for the community in 2027, and then once the MSH site opens in 2028/29, we will transfer the Parks Canada beds in Markham to that site - leaving the MSH site (9) beds and UXH site (3 beds) operating, with the Parks Canada site continuing to serve as a group therapy and administrative space.

All three sites would be operated by Laura and her team at Evergreen, with in-kind supports from Oak Valley Health.



Impact at a Glance



18,299

**Visits To
Clients**



1,129

**Clients & Their
Families
Supported.**



1,607

**Attendance
at Groups or
Seminars**



364

**Children &
Teenagers
Supported**



1,112

**Bereavement
Mailings**



404

**Caregiver
Support Mailings**

Overview of 2025 to 2026

Our complete 2025-2026 Financial Report is available at the AGM and will also be available on our website at www.evgcare.org.

You can also request a copy from the office by contacting us at (416) 499-2185 or by email at info@evgcare.org.

Financial Report

Income and Expenditures

→	Total Income	\$1,085,419.40
→	Expenditures	\$704,729.69
→	Remaining Income	\$380,689.71

Residence Income and Expenditures

→	Money Raised	\$2,798,401
→	Expenditures	\$33,178



FOR MORE INFORMATION



info@evgcares.org



(416) 499-2185



www.evgcares.org



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Markham, ON, L3P 1A8



For more information regarding our charitable status and financial reporting to the Charities division of the Canada Revenue Agency please visit our listing on the CRA website

Our charitable business number is 12802 6143 RR0001