

Exciting Future for R.K. MacDonald Nursing Home

ANTIGONISH, NS July 22, 2024 – The Government of Nova Scotia has taken a significant step toward enhancing the quality of life for long-term care residents in Antigonish by committing to developing a new R.K. MacDonald Nursing Home (RK). The new RK will be a state-of-the-art nursing home that meets the current long-term care facility requirements.

Located on a 13-acre lot on Church Street Extension, adjacent to the West River, the new RK will be a beautiful, modern facility with ample parking and lots of green space. Construction is expected to begin in late 2024, with the facility opening in early 2027.

The new home will feature 144 beautiful resident rooms, each equipped with a private bathroom. The space will be easy to navigate and will provide views of nature and easy access to outdoor spaces, including the gardens. It will be a bright, climate-controlled environment designed to accommodate clusters of people living in smaller groups. The facility's features will ensure an appealing and inviting space that families, volunteers, and community members want to visit.

The current RK Nursing Home has been a vibrant part of the Antigonish community since its opening in 1958. The new facility and location will ensure the RK remains a valuable part of the community while enhancing residents' ability to live full and abundant lives.

The new RK is a significant milestone for Antigonish, contributing to the region's continued growth. This development coincides with other exciting projects in the area, including a new active transportation corridor, further expanding the community's appeal and connectivity.

About the R.K. MacDonald Nursing Home

The R.K. MacDonald Nursing Home provides loving and dignified care to seniors in Antigonish. We empower individuals to live full and abundant lives through our core values of compassion, accountability, respect, excellence, and safety, and we strive to create a vibrant and supportive community.

Contact:

Terry MacIntyre, CEO
(902) 863-2578 ext. 233
Terry.MacIntyre@rkmacdonald.ca

Quotes

“Announcing the new RK MacDonald Nursing Home marks a significant milestone for our community. This modern facility showcases our steadfast commitment to providing enhanced care and continue a nurturing environment for our seniors. We are not just building a new home, but fostering a space where the comfort, and community spirit will continue to flourish for generations to come.”

- Camilla Benoit, Chair of the Board, Member of the Finance and Steering Committee

“Having worked on the frontlines as a care provider and in leadership roles at the RK MacDonald, I know the importance of this facility and its staff to its residents, their families, and the broader Antigonish community. A new RK is a significant step to ensuring seniors in our community know they will have access to a modern long-term care facility to live with dignity and enjoy high-quality care in comfortable surroundings.”

- Michelle Thompson, Minister, Health and Wellness, Antigonish MLA

“The new RK MacDonald Nursing Home will be such a welcome environment for staff, seniors and families in the region. This new home isn’t just a building. It's a promise that we're committed to providing top-notch care for seniors, and a place for them to call home where they can feel safe, comfortable, and valued.”

- Barbara Adams, Minister of Seniors and Long-Term Care

"The RK has been an important part of Antigonish for over six decades, providing exceptional care and support to our seniors. The construction of a new RK represents an opportunity to carry on its proud tradition in a modern residence. This new facility will not only serve as a comfortable and state-of-the-art home for our seniors but also as a welcoming space for families and the broader community. We are excited to see this project come to life and continue the legacy of care and community spirit that has been a hallmark of the RK."

- Laurie Boucher, Mayor, Town of Antigonish

“This development of a new RK is a testament to the Antigonish community’s commitment to ensuring our seniors receive the care they deserve. This is an exciting announcement that, when opened, will provide vibrant senior living and aligns with the region’s growth. It’s a great day for Antigonish!”

- Owen McCarron, Warden, Municipality of the County of Antigonish

“The Congregation of the Sisters of St Martha has a long history with the RK. The beginnings of the RK were the culmination of years of planning by the Sisters of St Martha, clergy and many local citizens. Today's vision for the new RK follows years of planning and hard work that aligns with our original commitment to providing loving and dignified care for seniors in our community. We have deep connections with the residents and pray for their well-being and the future of the RK. We are proud of the RK Board and of the staff and all involved in the oversight of the RK. We are excited to Bless the RK as they continue to be leaders in Caring for the elders of our Community.”

- The Congregation of the Sisters of St Martha