

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

First-of-its-kind Health2Work program expands, connecting Ontario Works clients to much-needed chiropractic care

Toronto, ON (January 23, 2025) — The innovative Health2Work program has expanded from Cambridge into Kitchener and Waterloo to help more Ontario Works clients access fully funded chiropractic care to support their transition to training and employment opportunities.

Launched by the Ontario Chiropractic Association (OCA), in partnership with the Region of Waterloo and Langs Community Health Centre, Health2Work has been a game-changer for people receiving assistance from Ontario Works who suffer from neuro-musculoskeletal (nMSK) conditions that hold them back from working or participating in job-related training.

nMSK conditions, including back pain, repetitive strain injuries, headache, and neck tension have devastating impacts on people's health, quality of life, and ability to participate in the workforce or maintain employment.

"Many Ontario Works clients live below the poverty line and would otherwise not be able to afford much-needed chiropractic care to treat their nMSK conditions and related chronic pain," says Dr. Amy Brown, chiropractor and Health2Work Practice Lead. "The Health2Work program has not only improved mobility, function and general quality of life for participants, but it has also provided new opportunities to get people back to working in roles that are a good fit for their physical capabilities."

Through the program, chiropractors have been able to help participants address their injuries so they can engage in retraining programs or gradually increase their working hours as they begin to feel better.

"Employment and Income Support (Ontario Works program) at the Region of Waterloo is excited to share that the Health2Work program in Waterloo Region has expanded. We have contracted four additional chiropractors which means that chiropractic services are now available to Ontario Works participants in Cambridge, Kitchener, and Waterloo. This is a wonderful resource for participants who are experiencing nMSK pain and looking to get back to work, school or attend job training," says Sheri Phillips, Manager, Employment and Income Support, Region of Waterloo.

"It's incredible to see chiropractors giving back to their communities through the Health2Work program," says Caroline Brereton, CEO of the OCA. "I'm so proud of our members and the profession for stepping up to support underserved communities in better managing their nMSK conditions and removing barriers to accessing care in the process."

Learn more:

- Health2Work program overview
- Health2Work introductory video
- Health2Work patient eligibility video

Ontario Chiropractic Association (OCA)

Established in 1929, the Ontario Chiropractic Association (OCA) serves as the voice of the province's chiropractors. Through advocacy, education, member engagement and knowledge translation, the OCA supports chiropractors in delivering quality care to improve Ontario's health system. As the fourth largest association of its kind in the world by membership, the OCA is advancing its vision of *Caring Chiropractors for Healthy Ontarians*. For more information, visit chiropractic.on.ca.

Region of Waterloo

The Regional Municipality of Waterloo, situated in Southern Ontario, is a diverse and thriving community that encompasses the cities of Kitchener, Waterloo, and Cambridge, along with the townships of Woolwich, Wilmot, Wellesley, and North Dumfries. The Region of Waterloo provides a range of programs and services that touch the lives of residents every day, with a commitment to innovation, sustainability, and inclusivity. The Region is dedicated to building a resilient and vibrant community for all. For more information, visit regionofwaterloo.ca.

- 30 -

For more information or to book an interview:

Sabrina Jeria
Communications Manager
Ontario Chiropractic Association (OCA)
sjeria@chiropractic.on.ca

Lynsey Slupeiks Manager, Corporate Communications Region of Waterloo media@regionofwaterloo.ca