



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Lake of the Woods District Hospital to receive funding to operate new MRI machine**

*Kenora, ON, November 12, 2024* – Lake of the Woods District Hospital (LWDH) is overjoyed to receive news today from the Ontario Ministry of Health that our hospital has been selected to receive operational funding for a new, state-of-the-art Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) machine for Kenora! This groundbreaking investment in local healthcare marks a major milestone for our hospital and community.

Today, MPP Greg Rickford of Kenora-Rainy River visited Kenora’s hospital to announce and celebrate this monumental step forward for our region. Through this investment approximately 1,560 square feet will be renovated at Lake of the Woods District Hospital for a new MRI suite to house Kenora’s first-ever MRI machine.

“Throughout the past few years, we have been updating our diagnostic imaging equipment and bringing an MRI to our hospital is the last piece of the puzzle” said Dr. Catherine Murray, Chief Radiologist at LWDH. “We will now be able to offer our patients and the region a full complement of gold standard imaging practices while keeping them close to home, which has always been our goal! This will transform the way we practice in our hospital and helps bring better patient care and health equity to the North.”

Cheryl O’Flaherty, President and CEO of LWDH, echoed the enthusiasm, stating, “We are so grateful to Minister Greg Rickford for supporting this project and to the Ministry of Health for recognizing the need for an MRI to enhance service access for patients in northern Ontario. This investment by the Province will improve health outcomes in our region.”

The provincial funding will cover the MRI’s operational costs and necessary MRI suite construction but the journey doesn’t end there. The hospital will work in collaboration with the Lake of the Woods District Hospital Foundation to raise the capital funding needed for the MRI machine and other related equipment. This is no small task, but the Foundation is committed to making it happen for our community.

“At the Lake of the Woods District Hospital Foundation, we will work tirelessly to make this happen as soon as possible. Our hospital has benefited so much from the community’s generosity in the past and we are a better hospital for it.” shared Mira Trebilcock, Executive Director of the LWDH Foundation. “Kenora deserves access to

top-tier medical equipment and services, and we are fully dedicated to supporting this crucial project, so our community gets the care and services it deserves.”

This is a landmark achievement for Kenora and the surrounding communities we proudly serve. The journey is just beginning, and LWDH and the LWDH Foundation will be sharing updates and engaging our communities in the coming months as the MRI plans come together.

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See also [Ontario Expanding MRI Services in Kenora | Ontario Newsroom](#)