



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

All Nations Health Partners welcomes Paapiiwaaniimaan Mercury Care Home (Grassy Narrows) as new partner

October 20, 2026, KENORA, ON – The All Nations Health Partners Ontario Health Team (ANHP OHT) is pleased to announce that Paapiiwaaniimaan Mercury Care Home (Grassy Narrows) has joined the 16 other partners of the ANHP OHT in working toward the development of an integrated, patient-centred health care system for Kenora and surrounding Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities.

Paapiiwaaniimaan Grassy Narrows Mercury Care Home (GNMCH) is a community-led centre of excellence established to provide healing, wellness, care and support for the people of Asubpeeschoseewagong Anishinabek (Grassy Narrows First Nation) affected by the lifelong and intergenerational impacts of mercury poisoning. Its model brings together mercury-informed ambulatory health care, rehabilitation, in-patient, respite and palliative care, community wellness, traditional healing, and Anishinaabe knowledge and practices within an integrated, person-centred and culturally secure continuum of care.

As a member of the ANHP OHT, GNMCH will help strengthen connections between the specialized and culturally grounded care being developed in Grassy Narrows, and the primary care, hospital services, specialists and other health providers across the Kenora area.

“We are very pleased and grateful to be welcomed as a member of the All Nations Health Partners Ontario Health Team,” said Lauri-Ann Marshall, Executive Director of Paapiiwaaniimaan – Grassy Narrows Mercury Care Home. “Paapiiwaaniimaan reflects decades of advocacy and leadership by Grassy Narrows community members, who have fought tirelessly for recognition of the ongoing impacts of mercury contamination and for access to the care people impacted by mercury need and deserve—when and where they need it.”

“We are grounded in scientific evidence, community knowledge, and expert advice, and welcome the opportunity to work with regional health partners in providing integrated, culturally safe, and responsive care,” continued Marshall. “This care will support healing, recognize the whole person, and maintain connections to family, community, culture, and the land. We believe meaningful change rarely happens in isolation. Partnerships bring our perspectives together, strengthen our collective voice, expand our advocacy, and help us

make a greater difference in the wellbeing and aspirations of the communities we serve—locally, regionally, and beyond.”

“I understand the Paapiiwaaniimaan Mercury Care Home is the result of decades of advocacy by the people of Grassy Narrows to have their health needs recognized and addressed on their terms,” said Jennifer Dreaver, Executive Director of Ogimaawabiitong Kenora Chiefs Advisory. “As the Indigenous Co-Chair of the All Nations Health Partners Ontario Health Team, I welcome Lauri-Ann and the Mercury Care Home to the planning table and look forward to opportunities to build stronger health care in partnership with the community. Still today, not enough people really understand the health impacts of mercury poisoning, and the ongoing nature of what is taking place on the land. The inclusion of the Mercury Care Home at our local planning table is a good step forward to educating partners and our communities at large.”

“The All Nations Health Partners Ontario Health Team exists because no single organization can meet the health needs of our communities alone,” said Cheryl O’Flaherty, Co-Chair of the ANHP OHT and President & CEO of Lake of the Woods District Hospital. “By bringing partners together, we can enhance access, strengthen relationships, and create a more coordinated experience for patients and families. We are pleased to welcome Paapiiwaaniimaan Mercury Care Home and look forward to the contributions and perspectives they will bring to our shared work.”

About the ANHP OHT

The All Nations Health Partners, created in ceremony in 2017, includes Indigenous, municipal and health care leaders, working towards implementing a new model of organizing and delivering health care that better connects patients and providers in their communities to improve patient outcomes. In 2019, the ANHP OHT became one of the first Ontario Health Teams (OHTs), as well as the first from the North, the smallest, and the only team with full Indigenous and community partners.

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