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MEDIA RELEASE

\$97,400 OTF Capital Grant Gives Alternatives Community Program Services a new neighbourhood space

Peterborough – April 18, 2018: Recently, the staff and volunteers with Alternatives Community Program Services learned that they had received a year-long, \$97,400 Capital grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF). The funds will be used for the Braidwood Neighbourhood Project which aims to create a place where people with disabilities and community members can connect to a variety of systems, supports and activities.

“I am pleased that our government through the Ontario Trillium Foundation is partnering with Alternatives Community Program Services to improve their community space to assist those living with disabilities. This funding will help those who are isolated by providing a space that will encourage connections and engagement within their community.” - Jeff Leal, MPP

Funds from the OTF grant will be used to make needed upgrades to the space, by updating the HVAC system, replacing the floor, adding LED lighting, install new windows, paint, and make the south front lobby more accessible.

“This investment by the Ontario Trillium Foundation to complete renovations to our community space is great news for the Braidwood neighbourhood and for people living with developmental disabilities in Peterborough,” said Vikki Etchells, Executive Director of Alternatives Community Program Services. “There are many in the community who will benefit from this community space. It ensures that the space is beautiful, safe, secure and accessible, for now and into the future.”

“Thanks to the Ontario Trillium Foundation grant, people of all abilities will be able to access the building. The impact of this cannot be underestimated,” added Etchells. “This grant will ensure that much needed renovations are completed. Our neighbourhood space will be completely accessible and we can now accommodate everyone and serve our community better.”

Alternatives is committed to preserving this space and ensuring that it remains accessible for many community activities for years to come. If you wish to enquire about using the space for your meeting or hosting an event, please visit our website at: [Alternatives Community Program Services](http://AlternativesCommunityProgramServices.com)

An agency of the Government of Ontario, the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) is one of Canada's largest granting foundations. With a budget of over \$136 million, OTF awards grants to some 1,000 projects every year to build healthy and vibrant Ontario communities. [Ontario Trillium Foundation](http://OntarioTrilliumFoundation.com)

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