



For Immediate Release

August 31, 2016

## **Seniors' Interactive Learning Program Launch at the Museum of Health Care**

(Kingston, ON) - This fall, the Museum of Health Care is inviting seniors to examine how the doctor's visit has changed from the 1800's to today. "Transformation of the Doctor's Visit" includes hands-on learning, real museum artefacts, and lively discussions. The learning program will launch with free workshops for seniors on September 31<sup>st</sup> and October 1<sup>st</sup> from 10 am to noon at the Museum (32 George Street). Refreshments will be served. Registration is required (spaces are limited).

This program follows highlights in the transformation of medical care over the past 200 years as explored by the doctor's visit. "The program offers opportunities to engage with the history of Canadian health care and discuss some of its major changes," says Public Programs Coordinator Shaelagh Cull. "Participants will explore how innovations, inventions and technologies have adapted over this time period to provide more successful treatments and tools," adds Public Programs Assistant Anne Dilworth.

Designed for seniors with their input and the aid of community advisors, this workshop will be available for group bookings all year round starting in October. "We are fortunate to have received input from the Seniors Association Kingston Region, Rideaucrest Home, and the Alzheimer Society KFL&A, among others" says Jenny Stepa, Museum Manager and Program Director. "The Alzheimer Society even provided dementia-friendly training" she adds.

This program was developed as a summer outreach and in-museum workshop adaptable for a variety of mobility and cognitive needs. The project also involves the development of an accessibility improvement plan to make the Museum a more senior-friendly space. The plan will be shared on the museum's website in early 2017.

This project was funded by the Government of Ontario through the Seniors Community Grant program.

"We want seniors in Ontario to fully participate in their communities. The Seniors Community Grant program encourages this by supporting hundreds of projects focussed on volunteerism, learning, social inclusion and physical activity."

— Dipika Damerla, Minister Responsible for Seniors Affairs

To attend a free workshop and launch event on September 30 or October 1, or book a seniors' group visit, call 613-548-2419, email [info@museumofhealthcare.ca](mailto:info@museumofhealthcare.ca), or visit [www.museumofhealthcare.ca](http://www.museumofhealthcare.ca).

### **About the Museum**

The Museum of Health Care at Kingston acquires, conserves, researches, displays, and interprets artefacts that help tell the story of health and health care in Canada. As part of its 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations in 2016, it is pursuing a series of new initiatives to enhance its mission, raise its public profile, and reach out to new audiences. Since 2000, the Museum has developed over 20 curriculum-linked, onsite and outreach education programs for grade K-12, university classes, summer camps, and other community groups.

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**Location:** Museum of Health Care, Ann Baillie Building National Historic Site, 32 George Street, Kingston, ON

**Dates & Times:** Friday, September 30, 10-noon OR Saturday, October 1, 10-noon.

**Cost:** Free

**For more information, contact:** Jenny Stepa

613-548-2419 | [info@museumofhealthcare.ca](mailto:info@museumofhealthcare.ca) | [www.museumofhealthcare.ca](http://www.museumofhealthcare.ca)