



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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An exciting new direction for driver rehab services

Markham, ON – To better serve the needs of adult and senior drivers, Bloorview MacMillan Children's Centre is transferring its driver rehabilitation program to Saint Elizabeth Health Care (SEHC), effective February 1, 2005. The transfer includes the program's dedicated team of professionals and all of its assets.

Driver rehabilitation services continue to see an increase in the number of adults and seniors requiring driver rehabilitation following an injury or stroke. As a paediatric rehabilitation centre, Bloorview MacMillan was challenged to market its program to this population and underwent a search to identify potential partners with adult-focused services and expertise.

"As a leading provider of home-based services, Saint Elizabeth Health Care is a natural fit for this program as most clients require pick-up at home and training within their own communities," said Joan Ferguson, vice president of programs and services at Bloorview MacMillan. "This partnership will only enhance service delivery and our dedication to enabling people with disabilities to achieve driver independence."

Saint Elizabeth Health Care currently operates a Ministry-approved, research-based driving assessment program for medically at-risk drivers, known as DriveABLE.

According to Neil Barran, a senior vice president at SEHC, the partnership with Bloorview MacMillan is part of a broader strategy to strengthen and expand the organization's services for people with disabilities, an important and growing segment that SEHC wishes to serve.

"Bloorview MacMillan has spent 30 years building an outstanding driver rehabilitation program that is second to none. We look forward to leveraging those strengths and bringing our own unique blend of innovation, experience and excellence to the program moving forward," said Barran.

The agreement between SEHC and Bloorview MacMillan ensures that the driver rehabilitation program will continue to:

- Guarantee service for complex clients
- Guarantee services for young adult clients receiving treatment at Bloorview MacMillan
- Maintain its not-for-profit status
- Employ Bloorview MacMillan's existing driver rehabilitation experts, in addition to the dedicated team at SEHC

Established in 1908, Saint Elizabeth Health Care is a Canadian not-for-profit charitable organization who shares its talent and wisdom in the areas of direct service delivery, consultation and eSolutions, to support the transformation of care for health organizations and the people they serve.

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