October 16, 2020

Re: Enabling intergenerational learning and social connection through virtual community

Fairview Parkwood Communities is pleased to partner with Wilfrid Laurier University, in our application for the “Supporting Inclusion through Intergenerational Partnerships” grant which aims to promote social inclusion among community-dwelling older adults living with dementia, and their care partners, in Waterloo Region, Ontario.

In partnership with Community & Workplace Partnerships at Wilfrid Laurier University, we will co-create, pilot, implement and evaluate virtual programming for older adults. This programming will be designed and delivered in partnership with students at Wilfrid Laurier University participating in a variety of community-engaged and experiential learning opportunities that are a part of their academic program.

Virtual programming and the creation of a technology lending library to support this programming and other virtual connections for older adults at Fairview Parkwood Communities will be designed to increase social connections and decrease feelings of isolation in older adults, while also offering them an opportunity to learn new things, be active, and have fun.

The student opportunities that will be created through this project will provide opportunities for students in a range of disciplines at Wilfrid Laurier University to contribute their time, skills, and knowledge while also connecting with the wider community, making social connections, and gaining a sense of self-awareness through critical reflection activities that are essential to community-engaged learning.

Fairview Parkwood Communities is pleased to support the project as the applicant partnering with Wilfrid Laurier, and specifically professors working with Community & Workplace Partnerships to embed these experiential learning opportunities into their courses or programs. We will support the project through membership on the advisory committee, providing the host sites for students, employing and supervising student facilitators, housing the technology lending library, co-creating modules/toolkit to be shared with other community settings working with older adults and actively participating in all evaluation activities for the project.

Fairview Parkwood Communities has responded to many challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic and we are pleased to act on this exciting opportunity to deepen our relationship with Wilfrid Laurier University in creating something positive for our resident community, the students who will engage with us, and the wider Waterloo Region.

Respectfully,



Marion Good

Board Chair