CARIZON ANNOUNCES THE SALE OF ITS PROPERTY IN ST. AGATHA

Kitchener: Carizon Family and Community Services is consistently looking to improve its services and best utilize our resources to deliver mental health services to young children and families. Over the past several years, Carizon has been collaborating with children’s mental health service professionals to explore initiatives to ensure that our children, youth and families have optimum mental health supports.

After listening to many stories and understanding the need for connecting children and families with their communities, and following on a formal site review, the Carizon Board of Directors has made the decision to sell Carizon’s St. Agatha property. While this means a change in how we deliver our learning and recreation programs for children, we retain our commitment to supporting the education and respite needs of children with social, emotional and learning challenges, and will ensure that the children and their families receive the supports they need going forward.

The property will go up for sale in the next few months with the plan to close the St. Agatha site between June and September 2019, and to have our new program delivery model underway in September 2019. Over the next 18 months, we will continue to partner with both the Public and Catholic school boards, and work with our stakeholders to evaluate, confer and plan how best to continue to deliver our mental health supports to the children we serve.

“As we use this opportunity to explore how we can best meet the needs of children and their families, we will continue to seek the expertise of our various stakeholders including the school boards, community partners, families, and our knowledgeable staff,” says Carizon CEO Tracy Elop. “We are fortunate to have powerful partnerships in the community that work together to achieve the best possible outcomes for kids.”

“It’s never an easy decision to make significant change,” adds Carizon Board President, Holly Harkins-Manning. “We celebrate our history of delivering amazing services to children and families in St. Agatha for more than 150 years. We know St. Agatha holds a special place in the hearts of our staff and many families who received services there. But, we also know we have to make the best decisions for our community going forward and to use our resources wisely. When you look at all the data, research and the changes in our community, this direction just makes sense.”

ABOUT CARIZON:

Carizon is a source of hope for our community. When children, youth, adults, couples or families face life’s challenges, Carizon programs and services provide the care and compassion to help them achieve wellness. Carizon specializes in children’s mental health, youth engagement and development, family violence services, individual and family counselling, parental support and education, credit counselling, workplace resilience, settlement support and community wellness.

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