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For Immediate Release

### **GEF Seniors Housing Celebrates its Building for Life Breakfast Fundraiser to support Sakaw Terrace**

**Edmonton...** The **Greater Edmonton Foundation (GEF)** is holding its annual **Building for Life Breakfast Fundraiser** on **April 21, 2016**, starting at **7:00 a.m.** at the **Mayfield Dinner Theatre (16615 109 Ave.)**. The event will be hosted by **CTV's Daryl McIntyre** and will feature speeches from members of GEF's Senior Management, Board of Directors, and from **Minister of Seniors and Housing Lori Sigurdson** and **Edmonton – Centre MLA David Shepherd**.

Funds raised at the Building for Life Breakfast go directly to GEF's Building for Life Fund, which is currently supporting Sakaw Terrace, GEF's newest and most ambitious building project to date. Sakaw Terrace, which will be located along Mill Woods Road South and 58 Street, is a \$42.7 Million building project that will feature 158 different styles of units, from supportive lodge care to one and two bedroom suites, along with two courtyards, an indoor communal greenhouse, salon, exercise room, tuck shop, theatre room, and underground parking.

"Sakaw Terrace is the next step in addressing the high need for affordable seniors housing in Edmonton," says Raymond Swonek, GEF's CEO. "We currently have more than 700 people on our waiting list, and that number is only going rise as Edmonton's senior population continually grows."

Current statistics show that 60 Albertans turn 65 every day and that the number of seniors living in Alberta is expected to rise to 923,000 in the next 16 years. The Building for Life Fund sees to ensure that every senior has a place to call home that's friendly, affordable, and secure.

"We've had a lot of success in the past with new building projects funded in part by the Building for Life Fund," says Swonek. "I'm confident that through continued support we can keep helping seniors in need find a great home and enjoy their golden years."

Last year's Building for Life Breakfast Fundraiser saw close to \$80,000 raised towards Ottewell Terrace, which held its grand opening on September 30, 2015.

GEF is the largest provider of affordable seniors housing in Alberta. Originally established in 1959, the organization has evolved into a prominent not-for-profit registered charity, managing more than 40 apartment and lodge buildings housing for low to moderate income seniors in Edmonton.

Today, GEF Seniors Housing has close to 500 employees, hundreds of volunteers, and more than 3,500 residents and tenants across every major area of the city, providing safe and affordable accommodations for Edmonton's seniors and peace of mind for their families and communities.

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