

Arirang Age-Friendly Community Centre and Rose of Sharon: Media Release

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Korean LTC Home Is Returned To the Korean Canadian Community

Rose of Sharon Korean Long Term Care Home acquired by AAFCC and renamed Arirang Korean Long Term Care

June 1, 2023 - Toronto, CA - Arirang Age-Friendly Community Centre (AAFCC) announced today that it has completed the purchase of the Rose of Sharon Korean Long Term Care Home, a 60-bed Class A LTC facility located in Toronto. Following a decade of tireless effort and collaboration, the Home is now securely in the hands of the Korean-Canadian community, as envisioned by AAFCC. The Home is the first-ever long-term care facility in Canada with a mandate to provide culturally-specific care to seniors of Korean descent.

To mark the start of a new chapter, the Home is changing its name. Beginning June 1, 2023, the Home will be known as Arirang Korean Long Term Care.

“The story of this Home is truly reflective of the strength, resilience, and unity of our community,” said AAFCC Vice Chair, Ms. Susan Han. “Today’s announcement owes its success to the hundreds of dedicated volunteers who gave freely of their time over many years, and to our generous donors, sponsors, and supporters. Every single person who helped with fundraising, stuffed an envelope, typed out an email or wrote a cheque, no matter the size, should feel a little glow of pride and satisfaction knowing that they contributed in a meaningful way. The Board of AAFCC is honoured to have been entrusted by our community partners to see this through to completion.”

Arirang Korean Long Term Care is Canada's first and only LTC facility exclusively dedicated to providing residents with access to Korean cultural activities, traditional food and Korean-speaking staff who understand the needs of each individual. It has an outstanding record of delivering care, including zero COVID-19 fatalities at the Home throughout the outbreak. The Home has been the beneficiary of exceptionally skilled and dedicated management and staff, led by its Administrator, Ms. Helen Jung, who will continue in this role. The newly appointed and Ministry-approved manager responsible for day to day operations is Universal Care Canada.

“Acquiring Arirang Korean Long Term Care is not the end of the journey, it’s a beginning,” said Chair of the AAFCC Board, Ms. Myung Sook Kim. “Keeping the 60 beds under the Korean community’s control is a first step in the right direction. But we now need to work together with all of our community partners and stakeholders to, first and foremost, continue to provide the highest level of LTC care to all current and future residents of Arirang Korean Long Term Care, and then to look to provide additional LTC beds and other senior-living options for Korean Canadian seniors. We look forward to re-engaging with the community to make that a reality.”

For more information and to donate please visit www.aafcc.ca.

About Arirang Korean Long Term Care:

Arirang Korean Long-Term Care is committed to providing high quality care tailored to the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of seniors in a Korean-Canadian culturally-specific home. The setting enables residents to live with comfort and dignity and to build a community bound by common language and culture. Their families can be confident that their loved ones are cared for with respect and professionalism.

About Arirang Age-Friendly Community Centre:

Arirang Age-Friendly Community Centre is a Canadian registered charity formed to provide a broad range of services to seniors, including specially adapted residential accommodations such as long term care homes. AAFCC began by serving Korean-Canadian seniors with much needed adult-day care programs in the Greater Toronto Area. AAFCC works with its partner organizations to lead efforts to provide better, more comprehensive seniors care for the Korean Canadian community.

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