![York Region logo]

# Memorandum

To:         Members of Regional Council

From:       Adelina Urbanski
            Commissioner, Community and Health Services

Date:       November 17, 2016

Re:         **Celebrating Innovation and Excellence**

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Annually, the Ontario Non-Profit Housing Association (ONPHA) recognizes non-profit housing providers who have created unique programs and/or services to address challenges facing their organization, community or tenants. The initiatives must demonstrate promising outcomes and serve as inspirations and models for other non-profit housing providers.

## Richmond Hill Hub wins Innovation Award

Housing York Inc. was recently awarded the 2016 ONPHA Innovation Award for the Richmond Hill Hub.

With its affordable housing units, commercial offices and space for social enterprise and youth services all under one roof the Richmond Hill Hub is a prime example of a mixed-use community hub model.

The first of its kind in York Region, the Richmond Hill Hub sets a standard for affordable housing and emergency and transitional housing facilities.

## Award of Excellence – Ontario Public Health Association

Kevin Haley, Environmental Health Specialist in the Public Health Branch, was awarded the Ontario Public Health Association's (OPHA) Award of Excellence at their Fall Forum earlier this month.

Over the past few years, Kevin has led the development of an online course to create healthier built environments.  The course was created by the volunteers and staff from three partner agencies: Ontario Public Health Association, Ontario Professional Planners Institute and the Public Health Agency of Canada.   *Public Health and*

*Planning 101: An Online Course for Public Health and Planning Professionals to Create Healthier Built Environments* is now available on the OPHA website.

Kevin has also  presented this initiative at several provincial conferences and drafted journal articles for the Ontario Planners Association and the Public Health Agency of Canada.

Adelina Urbanski
Commissioner, Community and Health Services

AU/dd

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