



## NEWS RELEASE

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# IC Savings announces \$50,000 commitment to Luso Canadian Charitable Society

**Toronto, ON**, April 11, 2018 — On behalf of IC Savings, Frank Alvarez, chair of the credit union's Community Advisory Board, announced today a donation of \$50,000 through *Fundo de Apoio IC Savings* to Luso Support Centre Peel, part of the Luso Canadian Charitable Society.

This donation, also the credit union's first funding commitment through this fund, will be used to transform the rooftop of Luso Support Centre Peel this summer into a spacious garden terrace for the benefit of participants, families, caregivers and program staff. Operating out of 6245 Mississauga Road in Mississauga, the centre's day program serves adults living with developmental and/or physical disabilities, as well as their families and caregivers.

"*Fundo de Apoio IC Savings* was launched with the heartfelt intent to create positive, lasting impacts for the benefit of our community," said Frank Alvarez. "We're extremely proud of this investment by IC Savings, knowing that it is made on behalf of the credit union's members and that it will make a world of difference to the community at Luso Support Centre Peel."

Given the many social and curative benefits of time spent enjoying and interacting with nature, the rooftop garden terrace will incorporate various outdoor zones. Beds of fresh herbs such as basil and parsley and garden vegetables like peppers, cucumbers and tomatoes will add zest to the life skills cooking program. In addition, summer flowers will be planted and maintained, providing physical exercise and a serene environment for socializing. The completed garden terrace will incorporate decorative planters, walkways, shaded seating areas, a BBQ area and raised planting beds to accommodate participants in wheelchairs.

"Luso Canadian Charitable Society is honoured to be chosen as the recipient of *Fundo de Apoio IC Savings*' support for the new rooftop garden terrace. Through the generosity of IC Savings, our participants will enjoy an accessible and safe outdoor environment for socializing, physical activity and enjoying the pleasure of simply being outdoors on a fine day," said Jack Prazeres, Chair and President, Luso Canadian Charitable Society. "Thank you IC Savings and *Fundo de Apoio IC Savings*, for your leadership and commitment to making positive differences in the lives of the disabled."

IC Savings has enabled many long-lasting and positive economic, social and cultural impacts in the communities where it operates, whether through donations, bursaries, scholarships or employee volunteerism. During the last ten years, the credit union and its charitable arm, the

IC Savings Foundation, have contributed more than \$5 million to local projects and activities.

### **About IC Savings**

IC Savings is a financial co-operative with 100 employees and seven branches in the Greater Toronto Area. It is Ontario's 17th largest credit union by asset size, and aims to deliver a better banking experience to its members (customers) whether online, by mobile or in-branch. To learn more, visit [www.icsavings.ca](http://www.icsavings.ca).

### **About *Fundo de Apoio IC Savings***

Launched by IC Savings in September 2017, *Fundo de Apoio IC Savings* seeks to invest in direct-impact, community-based services and programs in the Portuguese-Canadian community. Grants are awarded annually to registered charities and community groups that are focused on enhancing the Portuguese-Canadian footprint in the Greater Toronto Area.

### **About the Luso Canadian Charitable Society (LCCS)**

The Luso Canadian Charitable Society is a registered charity serving disabled persons and their families since 2002. With three well-equipped stand-alone facilities, LCCS supports families and persons living with physical and/or developmental disabilities in reaching their full potential. LCCS works in partnership with the broader community to provide access to information, resources and programs that facilitate independence, growth and integration. To learn more, visit [www.lusoccs.org](http://www.lusoccs.org).

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