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## Honouring Generosity- Eggenberger Grand Openings

What a fabulous day we had on February 18, 2026, as we came together to celebrate the grand opening of the **Eggenberger Pavilion Administration Entrance** and the **Eggenberger Pavilion Boardroom**!

*“Do your little bit of good where you are; it’s those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world”*

*Desmond Tutu*

The atmosphere was incredible, filled with laughter, joy, and a spirit of community. It’s not every day that we cut one ribbon, let alone two ribbons, and open the doors for two special areas of our facility!

We were honored to have the incredible Eggenberger family with us, whose generosity has left an incredible mark on our community.



(L to R) AVENS Board Chair, Colleen Welborn, AVENS President and CEO, Daryl Dolynny, Gladys Eggenberger, Jennifer Eggenberger-Gillard, Albert Eggenberger, AVENS Board members, Taig Connell and Ron Allen

A huge thank you to the Eggenberger family for their generous contributions over the years! Their support for our **AVENS Care on Wheels** program and, most notably, their legacy gifts of **\$1 million to the Stanton Territorial Hospital Foundation** and **\$1 million to the Yellowknife Community Foundation in 2022**, which are the largest personal donations in NWT history, speaks volumes about their commitment to our community.



Albert Eggenberger addressing the crowd

As we unveiled the **Eggenberger Pavilion Administration Entrance**, we celebrated not just a new space, but a welcoming gateway for our residents and their families. **The Eggenberger Pavilion Boardroom** is now ready to host important discussions about the future of AVENS and our mission to provide exceptional care.



Many members of the Eggenberger family joined this celebration

As Jennifer Eggenberger-Gillard, daughter of Albert and Gladys, beautifully put it,

***“...this donation is a way of giving back to a community that has given so much, allowing seniors to live independently while maintaining those vital social connections.”***

The event was a beautiful reminder of the power of community. We shared stories, smiles, and a few happy laughs as we recognized the Eggenberger family's lasting impact. It was touching to see so many familiar Yellowknife faces come together to mark this special occasion with them.



(Top L, clockwise) Jennifer Eggenberger-Gillard, Albert Eggenberger and AVENS Board Member, Ron Allen all sharing kind words on this occasion



Our AVENS CFTO, Sara Fullerton, using her previous NB Liquor experience in tending the bar. Thank you to our AVENS Food Supervisor and his team for the incredible snack platters



More Eggenberger family members surrounded by Yellowknife's finest



The Eggenberger name will now stand proudly alongside other great families like the Bromley's, whose name is forever etched in our history with the Barb Bromley AVENS Administration.

With the opening of these new facilities, we're excited about the future! They represent our commitment to creating inclusive, vibrant spaces where our seniors can thrive. We can't wait to see how these new areas will enhance the experiences of everyone at AVENS.

## Strengthening Our Partnership With Aurora College

I wanted to take a moment to share some wonderful highlights from our recent visit on February 19, 2026, with **Aurora College** executives, along with our Chief Financial & Technology Officer, **Sara Fullerton**. We had the pleasure of meeting with **Heather McCagg-Nystrom**, Vice President of Community and Extensions, and **Raphael Kuvarega**, Interim Vice President of Corporate Services and Administration.



(L to R) Aurora College, Vice President of Community and Extensions, Heather McCagg-Nystrom, virtually from Fort Smith campus, Interim Vice President of Corporate Services and Administration, Raphael Kuvarega, and AVENS Chief Financial and Technology Officer, Sara Fullerton

First off, a huge thank you to Heather for her kind words in her follow-up email. She noted how our passion and commitment to AVENS were **"seen and heard in spades."** It's always great to know that our dedication to enhancing the lives of our seniors resonates with others!



During our discussions, we explored ways to further our collaboration, particularly considering the research Aurora College is undertaking for their Board of Governors fundraising sub-committee project. Heather mentioned that she anticipates reaching out for our **"generous offer to volunteer in a high-level consulting capacity"** should they need further assistance. We're excited about the possibility of contributing

our insights and experience to help our partner of many decades.

One of the highlights of the day was the campus tour I had the pleasure of giving. Heather was particularly impressed by our state-of-the-art industrial kitchen facility. Just imagine the educational programming possibilities that could emerge from this!

We also discussed our long partnership with Aurora College, especially regarding their **School of Health and Human Services** (PSW, LPN, B.ScN) programs. I was thrilled to hear Heather's praise for our specially designed training room, in her words, **"I was incredibly impressed with your training room that you have put in place in your campus that allows our Health and Social Services staff and students to have a safe space to take training on site, but also offers access to state of the art online learning connectivity as well."** We couldn't agree more!

It's this type of spirit of collaboration that strengthens our NWT community! Stay tuned....

## A Golden Morning With Team Canada

As an avid hockey fan, I couldn't resist sharing an unforgettable moment that took place this past Sunday, February 22, 2026, during the Olympic Men's Gold Medal Game against the United States. Yes, you are reading this right—**6 AM** on a Sunday!

Hoping to rally a few fellow fans, I invited our incredible independent Pavilion housing tenants to join me. Much to my delight, **AVENS Board Member Taig Connell** and several others showed up bright and early, some proudly sporting their Team Canada colours, but most

having a large coffee in tow. It was epic to see everyone so enthusiastic about our boys going for gold.



As we settled in to watch the game, I had a little surprise up my sleeve. I arranged for the kitchen to prepare some delicious mid-game breakfast treats, which we enjoyed during the intermissions. Nothing like some snacks to enhance the excitement of a good ol' hockey game, right? On top of that AVENS Recreation and Wellness Supervisor, Carol Norwegian, and her husband Wayne, prepared some breakfast sandwiches and a coffee station. Wow, what a catered morning!



Nothing like coming down in your pajama's to watch some Olympic hockey #LifeAtThePavilion



Thank you Carol and Wayne Norwegian for the nice gesture. Carol seen here helping Patrick how to use the coffee machine

The atmosphere was electric as we cheered on our team, and I can honestly say that witnessing our Canadian men's hockey team almost clinch the gold medal alongside all these wonderful tenants is a memory I will cherish for many years to come.



We may have come up short by the USA overtime goal, but Canada definitely dominated the game, and as Canadians, our boys did us proud!



Canada scores its only goal in the second period and the room goes wild!



Not everyday you get to sit and watch an Olympic Canadian Men's Final Hockey game with your youngest son, Bronson, who joined us on this very cold winter morning (-43C)

Thank you to everyone who joined in on the fun! Here's to more shared moments and celebrations—except next time, let's pick a late afternoon game, ok?

## Community Corner

**AVENS**

### G.E.M.S.

GOING THE EXTRA MILE FOR SENIORS

## AWARDS

LONG TERM SERVICE  
SHINING STAR  
HELPING HAND  
RESIDENT CHOICE  
GET SMART

**Date/Time:**  
Monday, February 23 2026  
1:30PM - 2:30PM

**Address:**  
AVENS Barbara Bromley  
Administration

Congratulations to all the award recipients!

**RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP BY MARCH 31**

TO BE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE AT AVENS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**AVENS MEMBERSHIP INCLUDES:**

- Eligibility to vote at our Annual General Meeting
- Exclusive access to information and events about seniors
- Discounted rates to all Room Rentals
- Being a part of our community for seniors

**FREE**

SCAN THE QR CODE TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

OR SIGN UP ON OUR WEBSITE

For more information about AVENS, please visit our website: [www.avensseniors.com](http://www.avensseniors.com)

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