



MEDIA RELEASE

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September 1, 2006

**BONNECHERE MANOR AND MIRAMICHI LODGE WELCOME MPP
 YAKABUSKI ON DAY LONG TOURS**

**Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke MPP First Provincial Member Shadows Staff of
 Long Term Care Homes**

Pembroke, ON: The Ontario Association for Non-Profit Homes and Services for Seniors (OANHSS) has organized opportunities for local MPPs to spend time in the long-term care homes in their ridings. The purpose is to have MPPs return to Queen’s Park with a better understanding of the critical need for new investment in long term care by “shadowing” staff to see first-hand the realities of under funding in this sector.

John Yakabuski, MPP, for Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke, is the first member from Queen’s Park to take part in the province-wide initiative. Mr. Yakabuski recently spent a half-day with members of the Nursing Staff and Health Care Aides at Miramichi Lodge and a half-day with members of the Dietary and other staff at Bonnechere Manor.

Shelley Sheedy, Administrator at the Lodge stated, “**Mr. Yakabuski has always been supportive of our efforts. I know that his experience here will enable him to take the message back to Queen’s Park that sustainable and adequate funding is vital for the continued excellent care that all our residents receive.**” Bonnechere Manor Administrator **Judith Gilchrist** added, “**Mr. Yakabuski volunteered his time to shadow staff and this has provided him with a frontline view of our challenges. I am confident that Mr. Yakabuski will continue to bring forth our concerns on long term funding to all his colleagues.**”

The County of Renfrew and the City of Pembroke administer two long-term care facilities. Both Miramichi Lodge and Bonnechere Manor provide 24 hour nursing and personal care, nutritious meals and snacks, activation and recreation, rehabilitation, palliative and pastoral care, housekeeping, laundry and administrative support.

For more information, visit our website at www.countyofrenfrew.on.ca or call:

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