

# CAH'S TIMELINE OVER 40 YEARS

**1975** **Encounter**  
Simone meets Fred Lafontaine and Gérald Bouchard, two developers who specialize in the construction of homes for the elderly.

**1978** **Getting there...**  
While waiting to find a site and receive funding, Simone decides to organize a friendly visit service and daytime activities.

**1979** **Think big!**  
The list of services offered is growing day by day. For Simone, the next step will be to obtain more spacious premises where people can meet regularly.

**1980** **For 99 years**  
The City of Toronto leases two acres of land at 33 Hahn Place within the St. Lawrence Housing Development complex for 99 years.

**1980** **Le Centre settles in**  
The Centre des Pionniers takes possession of its premises on the ground floor of 33 Hahn Place in December 1981.

**1982** **The chapel**  
At the request of several residents, an apartment on the 8th floor is transformed into a chapel. The Chapel of St. Simon-Pierre was blessed on May 13, 1983.

**1982** **Simone Lantaigne**  
Sadly, this great visionary died in October 1982. However, her dream has lived on ever since...

**2008** **Francophone designation**  
In 2006, CAH submitted an application for a Francophone mandate from the City of Toronto to protect its right to accept French-speaking adults in Place Saint-Laurent as a priority. This right was granted in 2008.

**2012** **New website**  
In 2012, CAH creates a new website, which will allow the addition in 2015 of the interactive online resource called Dr Actif.

**2014** **Increased funding**  
In 2014, increased funding is granted to CAH to provide additional staff to better serve clients with more complex needs.

**2018** **Breaking free!**  
In 2018, not only does CAH pay down its last mortgage payment for Place Saint-Laurent, it is successful in negotiating a municipal property tax exemption, representing a savings of approximately \$350,000 per year.

**1975** **Sacré-Coeur**  
After mass, in a corner of the Sacré-Coeur parish hall, Simone Lantaigne helped seniors fill out either a tax return or some other official form. Soon, she identifies more pressing needs.

**1978** **Incorporated**  
In order to be able to seek grants and funding, twelve signatories form the corporation Les Centres d'Accueil Héritage on August 22, 1978: Fred Lafontaine, Gérald Bouchard, Charles E. Arsenault, Roger Arsenault, Alphonse Charette, Omer Deslauriers, Dr Didier Piot, Dr Robert Potvin, Guy Hamel, Ammand Charlebois, François Roy, Pierre Gravel.

**1979** **Centre des Pionniers**  
In January 1979, the Centre des Pionniers was officially opened at 310 Danforth Street (in Eastminster United Church), but the Centre had been active since September 28, 1978, when Simone's team had moved from its small office to this new address.

**1980** **Accueil Médical**  
Simone Lantaigne launched L'Accueil Médical Francophone in the summer of 1980 to help French-speaking people coming to Toronto who were unwell. This service will serve as the basis for the creation in 1985 of the Centre médico-social communautaire de Toronto, which will ultimately merge with the Centre francophone in 2004.

**1980** **Place Saint-Laurent**  
Construction of Place Saint-Laurent (PSL) officially begins on May 2, 1980. On June 5, a reception is held to bless the cornerstone of PSL. (It can still be seen to the left of the main entrance of CAH building.)

**1982** **Home Sweet Home**  
The apartments of the large 135-unit complex, built at a cost of \$7 million, were all rented out by January 1982, even before the completion of construction. The first tenants were admitted at the beginning of 1982.

**2018** **Accreditation by Accreditation Canada**  
The quality of CAH's services is recognized as meeting the highest standards of the 2nd and final phase of the accreditation process by Accreditation Canada in 2018. CAH achieved the first phase of accreditation in 2015.

**2018** **Reintegration Care Unit**  
The new reintegration care unit, missing up until now, is an essential part of the French continuum of care. It is the logical continuation of an approach initiated by CAH 40 years ago to ensure the well-being of Francophone seniors.

