



## **McCormick Dementia Services Helps Raise Awareness of Frontotemporal Degeneration by Participating in North American-wide Event**

September 30, 2019 – McCormick Dementia Services is participating in an event being held across North America to raise awareness of frontotemporal degeneration (FTD) -- a lesser-known form of dementia. In partnership with the Association of Frontotemporal Degeneration based in Radnor, Pennsylvania, McCormick Dementia Services will be hosting an information session on the specific behaviours associated with FTD. Neurologist Dr. Elizabeth Finger will be joined by a guest panel at the Kiwanis Seniors' Community Centre on Wednesday, October 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

McCormick Dementia Services, which has been offering information and support for those impacted by frontotemporal dementia since 1995, is pleased to welcome Dr. Finger, an assistant professor of neurology at Western University who specializes in clinical neurological sciences, including the study of frontotemporal degeneration, at St. Joseph's Health Care Parkwood Institute.

Frontotemporal degeneration is a rare disease, affecting more than 50,000 people across North America. It is a debilitating form of dementia that affects the frontal and/or temporal lobes of the brain, and strikes people in the prime of life, typically between ages 50 and 60, eroding their ability to speak, move and/or behave within social norms. There is no known cure. Current treatments may address symptoms but do not alter or slow disease progression.

The Association of Frontotemporal Degeneration began in 2002 as a not-for-profit organization that advocates for awareness and research into the causes and treatments of frontotemporal degeneration. The Food for Thought event is a grassroots fundraising and awareness campaign focusing on food and FTD education. Held the last week of September through early October, Food for Thought encompasses World FTD Awareness Week. During this time, people across the world host bake sales, restaurant benefit nights, information sessions and other awareness events.

McCormick Dementia Services is an accredited, London-based non-for-profit organization offering day programs for people living with dementia, as well as support programs for their caregivers. In operation since 1985, McCormick Dementia Services offers the largest adult day program of its kind in Ontario, as well as various specialized respite and support services for caregivers, managed by dedicated and experienced professionals, and believes strongly in preserving the dignity and quality of life for those living with dementia.

To register for this free information session on Wednesday, October 9, 2019, please call 519-439-9336 or e-mail [community.support@mccormickcare.ca](mailto:community.support@mccormickcare.ca).

For more information:

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