

## Introducing the ?Nurses Next Door?

Finding the right kind of in-home care can be a difficult task.

Along with taking into consideration the actual medical needs of the patient, there is always the concern of whether or not the caretaker and the person needing care will get along.

For many, the issue of companionship can also become a factor; while they may be receiving the medical and in-home care they need, if they are lacking companionship it can make their lives that much more difficult.

15 years ago in British Columbia (B.C.), a company was created to look into all areas and facets of in-home care, to provide a full-service style of home care designed specifically to meet the varying needs of individual patients.

Nurse Next Door Home Care Services opened in Brampton in 2012, and will be opening a location in Dufferin County soon, to continue offering their unique style of home care to local residents.

?Nurses Next Door takes a really unique approach to home care,? explained Avinash Arora, franchise partner/owner of the Brampton, and soon to be Orangeville locations. ?We focus on assigning caregivers based on their needs and the services that they would require. We offer both medical and non-medical care.?

The Nurses Next Door program is designed to ensure that people are receiving the best kind of care they can, with all their needs being met.

Along with having caregivers trained to provide expert care for those suffering from Alzheimer's or dementia, they also provide 24/7 nursing care, and companions who can help do the groceries, transport to appointments, or provide assistance when there may already be a full-time caregiver in the home, such as a spouse, child or parent.

?We don't believe in tying people down with long-term contracts,? explained Mr. Arora. ?Case management is a high priority with us, and we have an engaging client portal that allows family members to speak to their loved ones and interact, as well as keep up to date on necessary information.?

Arora added that the focus for Nurse Next Door is on both the individual's physical and mental well-being, rather than focusing simply on medical care.

It was part of this direction that led Mr. Arora to becoming the Brampton Franchise owner, following a promise he made to his passing grandfather.

?When he was passing away, I promised my grandfather that I would find a way to help elderly people who still want to have enjoyable lives, but don't want to leave their homes,? he said. ?Nurse Next Door isn't just about sending someone who is available out; it's about finding that perfect match that fits with the needs of the individual and their family.?

Since opening three years ago, the Brampton location of Nurse Next Door has seen a high level of success, and after drawing the attention of some clients from Dufferin County, Mr. Arora made the decision to expand to serve additional surrounding areas.

?We are so excited to expand our area of service and make the lives better of even more people,? said Arora. ?Whether providing medical care or basic assistance with daily tasks, we at Nurse Next Door, are here to make a difference in the lives of our clients and their families.?

The expanded service area includes Caledon, Bolton, Orangeville, Alliston, Fergus and the Peel-Dufferin area (Alton, Grand Valley, Honeywood, Horning's Mills, Belfountain, Inglewood, Laurel, Mansfield, Orton, Palgrave, Rosemont and Shelburne).

Although there is no office in the Orangeville area just yet, Mr. Arora said the priority is finding a central location that would allow the same quality service currently provided through the Brampton office.

?When we say we provide 24/7 assistance, we actually do,? said Mr. Arora. ?We have a live-person answering the phone no matter what time of day or night it is, and I often encourage potential clients to try calling in the middle of the night just to see for themselves.?

The services offered by Nurse Next Door include caregivers, Personal Support Workers (PSWs), RPN/RNs, and transportation services.

Nurse Next Door also provides a free assessment response within four hours of a potential client calling for one.

?We want to make sure that seniors have a happy, comfortable environment, and that they get that as quickly as possible,? said Mr. Arora. ?We manage everything, every step of the way so that our clients don't have to, and we work hard to ensure that they always have their service. If there is a huge storm that prevents their caregiver from getting to them, I will travel out myself. We are dedicated to providing that service, and it makes a huge difference.?

For more information on Nurse Next Door Home Care Services, visit [www.nursenextdoor.com](http://www.nursenextdoor.com), or call 1-888-988-5880 for 24/7 access to care.

**By Tabitha Wells**