



## PRESS RELEASE

### **Northwood Launches New GPS Watch: Providing Freedom and Security For Both Those Dealing with Dementia and Their Families**

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**Halifax:** Northwood Intouch has launched the newest device in its line of safety and security solutions. This innovative technology device allows those living with dementia to remain active while still under the supervisory care of family members or a care provider.

This new technology comes in the form of a GPS Watch that provides automatic location updates for someone who may have wandered or become disoriented and lost. The device allows for freedom of movement while ensuring an individual can be found quickly should an issue arise, giving greater peace of mind for all concerned.

The GPS Watch has also had the advantage of a S.O.F.T. (Satellite Option Finding Technology) Wear pilot project in conjunction with the Halifax Regional Police and the Alzheimer's Society in recent years, proving its benefits.

“My husband has Alzheimer's but is still very active and I was constantly anxious that he may become lost or disorientated,” says Ann West, a caregiver who participated in the S.O.F.T. Wear Project. “With a GPS Watch I have great comfort knowing I have early detection in the case of an emergency, but my husband still has the freedom to plan his days.”

Wrist-worn and user-friendly, it functions like a typical watch, with additional safety features such as an SOS panic button, two way voice communication and programmable safe zones. With many customizable features, caregivers and the individual with dementia can work together to create safe zones and strike a balance between independence and safety.

“When someone with dementia wanders or becomes lost, the first 12-24 hours is a crucial window of opportunity, not being able to locate them within that time can have deadly consequences.” says Tisha White, Program Manager for Northwood Intouch. “Our GPS Watch can save critical time in locating an individual, reducing anxiety for the individual and their families.”

A leader in the continuing care sector, Northwood is at the for-front of new dementia learning strategies, providing programs such as Out & About to those living with dementia as an activity and support program. Their new GPS Watch is now available through InTouch with both renting and purchasing options.

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