

**Ministry of  
Long-Term Care**

Office of the Minister

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**Ministère des  
Soins de longue durée**

Bureau du ministre

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eApproval#179-2021-119

March 19, 2021

**Re: Enhancing Cooling in Long-Term Care Homes and New Minor Capital Funding for 2021-22 in Long-Term Care Minor Capital and Infection Prevention and Control Minor Capital**

Dear Long-Term Care Home Licensees:

Thank you for your ongoing efforts to ensure that long-term care residents receive the best care possible during this unprecedented time.

Our government recognizes the importance of having proper air conditioning (including all similar mechanical cooling systems) in place within long-term care homes by summer 2021. Having these systems in place will make a significant impact to the health and well-being of residents. As such, I am pleased to announce that we are providing up to **\$85.3 million** for minor capital funds to be available to support homes in purchasing, installing, upgrading, or repairing air conditioning in common areas and in resident rooms, and for other eligible minor capital priorities.

The investment includes:

- **\$23.9 million for the Long-Term Care Minor Capital Program.** This funding is the second year of the Long-Term Care Minor Capital Program announced on July 21, 2020. The \$23.9 million consists of \$22.8 million in base funding and a one-time additional \$1.1 million for the 2021-22 fiscal year. As a phased-in program, the program is intended to continue helping homes in maintaining and extending the life of long-term care homes.
- **\$61.4 million for the Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) Minor Capital Program.** This one-time funding is a continuation of the IPAC Minor Capital Fund announced on October 9, 2020. The fund will continue to support minor capital improvements directly linked to improved infection prevention and control (IPAC) practices.

To support the implementation of this priority, Infrastructure Ontario has been engaged by the ministry to provide technical expertise and options for cooling solutions in long-term care homes.

Sheila Bristo, Assistant Deputy Minister of the Long-Term Care Operations Division, will share details about the terms and conditions of the funding with you in the near future.

With our government's investments and thanks to your ongoing efforts and dedication, we continue to strive for the safety and well-being of residents, staff and caregivers in Ontario's long-term care homes, during and beyond the COVID-19 pandemic.

Thank you for your continued service and commitment to delivering high-quality care to long-term care residents in Ontario.

Sincerely,



Dr. Merrilee Fullerton  
Minister of Long-Term Care

- c: Mr. Richard Steele, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Long-Term Care  
Mr. Peter Kaftarian, Assistant Deputy Minister and Chief Administrative Officer, Corporate Services Division  
Ms. Sheila Bristo, Assistant Deputy Minister, Long-Term Care Operations Division  
Ms. Janet Hope, Assistant Deputy Minister, Long-Term Care Policy Division  
Mr. Brian Pollard, Assistant Deputy Minister, Long-Term Care Capital Development Division  
Mr. Jim Yuill, Director, Financial Management Branch, Corporate Services Division  
Ms. Abby Dwosh, Director, Funding and Programs Branch, Long-Term Care Operations Division  
Mr. Bill Hatanaka, Board Chair, Ontario Health  
Mr. Matthew Anderson, President and Chief Executive Officer, Ontario Health  
Ms. Donna Duncan, Chief Executive Officer, Ontario Long-Term Care Home Association  
Ms. Lisa Levin, Chief Executive Officer, AdvantAge Ontario  
Monika Turner, Director of Policy, Association of Municipalities Ontario