

**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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179-2021-130

May 12, 2021

Re: Personal Support Worker Temporary Wage Enhancement

Dear Long-Term Care Licensees:

I am pleased to confirm that the Ministry of Long-Term Care (ministry) will be providing up to \$67,981,800 in funding for a 13-week extension of the temporary wage enhancement for personal support workers providing publicly funded personal support services in long-term care (LTC) homes. The extension is effective April 1, 2021 to June 30, 2021. LTC licensees should continue to provide eligible personal support workers with the temporary wage enhancement to ensure that there are no interruptions to these payments.

Since the onset of COVID-19 as an emerging public health issue, the ministry has been actively working with the LTC sector, as well as our partners across the health care system, to implement enhanced measures to stop the spread of the virus. This additional measure is intended to encourage stabilization and retention of the current complement of personal support workers as they continue to work during COVID-19. It also supports ongoing efforts to attract and recruit new employees in order to maintain safe staffing levels and operations in LTC homes.

Sheila Bristo, the Assistant Deputy Minister of the Long-Term Care Operations Division, will write to you shortly concerning the terms and conditions governing this funding.

Thank you for your continued dedication and commitment to improving the quality of LTC in Ontario.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'M Fullerton'.

Dr. Merrilee Fullerton
Minister of Long-Term Care

c: Lisa Levin, Chief Executive Officer, AdvantAge Ontario
Donna Duncan, Chief Executive Officer, Ontario Long Term Care Association
Jane Sinclair, Chair, Board of Directors, AdvantAge Ontario
Brent Gingerich, Chair, Board of Directors, Ontario Long Term Care Association
Monika Turner, Director of Policy, Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Michael Jacek, Senior Advisor, Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Richard Steele, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Long-Term Care
Janet Hope, Assistant Deputy Minister, Long-Term Care Policy Division
Sheila Bristo, Assistant Deputy Minister, Long-Term Care Operations Division
Adriana Ibarguchi, Director, Strategic Initiatives Branch
Abby Dwosh, Director, Long-Term Care Funding and Programs Branch