

**Ministry of
Long-Term Care**

Office of the Minister

400 University Avenue, 6th Floor
Toronto ON M7A 1N3

**Ministère des
Soins de longue durée**

Bureau du ministre

400, avenue University, 6^e étage
Toronto ON M7A 2J5



eApproval#179-2020-85

January 6, 2021

Dear Long-Term Care Home Licensee:

Re: Second Wave Response to COVID-19

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

Our government is working together with the long-term care sector, as well as with other health care sectors, as we continue to strive for the safety and well-being of long-term care home residents, families and staff. We continue to look at all possible courses of action to limit the spread of COVID-19.

In addition to previous investments, we are also investing an additional **\$398 million** to support the province's long-term care sector in managing the second wave. This brings total Ontario government support to help the long-term care sector respond to the COVID-19 pandemic to **\$1.38 billion**.

The new investment includes:

- **\$268 million in additional prevention and containment** funding to long-term care homes to further support additional costs associated with screening, staffing, supplies and other measures necessary to prevent and contain outbreaks. This additional funding will be provided to cover an increased proportion of COVID related costs already incurred and to enable continued funding to the end of the fiscal year.
- **\$42 million to long-term care homes to ensure adherence to critical testing and screening requirements.** This will allow long-term care homes to hire third-party screeners, such as security guards, to ensure that people entering long-term care homes are adhering to applicable screening testing requirements in Directive #3 and in the Minister's Directive COVID-19: Long-Term Care Home Surveillance Testing and Access to Homes, issued by the Minister of Long-Term Care; and
- **An additional \$88 million to reimburse long-term care homes for lost revenue** as a result of restrictions on admissions and reduced occupancy of beds in long-term care homes. This is building on a prior commitment of \$40 million to support homes that have been impacted by the changes in occupancy numbers due to COVID-19 and are incurring staffing and other operating costs.

Sheila Bristo, Assistant Deputy Minister of the Long-Term Care Operations Division, will share details about the terms and conditions of these investments 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,

Original Signed By

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