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March 2, 2021

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON
K1A 0A6

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau,

Re: Long-Term Care Homes

I would like to take this opportunity to bring to your attention an issue of critical importance to Halton Regional Council. The COVID-19 pandemic has disproportionately impacted residents in Long-Term Care homes and exposed the structural weaknesses in the Long-Term Care system.

In July 2020, the Provincial Government launched an independent commission to investigate COVID-19 spread within Long-Term Care homes, how residents, staff and families were impacted and the adequacy of measures taken by the province and other parties to prevent, isolate and contain the spread of the virus.

On January 29, 2021, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) provided a Board-approved submission, *Improving the Long-Term Care Outbreak Response in Ontario: Submission to the Long-Term Care COVID-19 Commission*, outlining recommendations to the Commission on behalf of the municipal governments that operate 100 of the 626 long-term care homes in Ontario. This submission put forward 48 recommendations for action in both public and private long-term care homes across nine themes.

Halton Regional Council endorses AMO's recommendations to the Long-Term Care COVID-19 Commission and strongly urges the Provincial Government to move forward with implementation of these recommendations, including instituting higher standards with increased funding to homes to implement those standards.

Halton Region is requesting that the Federal Government enhance federal health care funding to the Provinces and Territories, specifically dedicating funding to long-term care, and to undertake further efforts to protect, promote and restore the physical and mental well-being of Long-Term Care residents in Canada.

Halton Region is also requesting that the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) develop a policy and advocacy position on enhanced federal support for long-term care.

Regional Municipality of Halton

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