

New Long-Term Care Beds

Ministry Call for Proposals for New Beds Expected Soon

In the government's recent paper, <u>Aging with Confidence: Ontario's Action</u> <u>Plan for Seniors</u>, a short-term commitment to create 5,000 new long term care beds by 2022 was made, along with a longer term commitment to create over 30,000 new beds over the next decade. In addition, the government committed to increasing the hours of direct resident care to a provincial average of four hours, which amounts to an additional 15 million hours of care for LTC residents.

The Ministry is moving ahead with implementation plans for these initiatives. As such, a recent announcement was made with regard to changes in the Ministry's Executive Team. Nancy Lytle will assume a new role, ADM, Long-Term Care Innovations and Liaison, to help move forward the government's *Action Plan for Seniors* with a focus on increasing long term care home capacity. Brian Pollard will become the ADM, LTCH Division, with responsibility for policy, programming, licensing and inspections. The Ministry has informed us that a call for proposals for new bed developments is expected shortly. Members with redevelopment projects requiring additional beds are encouraged to make requests to the Ministry as part of their redevelopment applications. Those members with ideas for new LTC home developments or expansions are encouraged to begin preparing to submit proposals to the Ministry. Having additional land will not be a requirement to apply.

As indicated in the *Action Plan for Seniors*, proposals focussing on the following criteria will be prioritized:

- Region with high needs for LTC beds
- Will serve specialized populations
- Will serve culturally specific needs, including those of Indigenous populations
- Will be part of a campus of care or hub model
- Will be innovative

The Ministry encouraged speaking with your Local Health Integration Network and getting support from them for your proposal as they will be consulted on each application. In addition to the above criteria, decisions about bed allocation will be informed by responses to the consultations on the *Action Plan for Seniors*.

AdvantAge Ontario will inform members as soon as the call for proposals is released.

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