



Ministry of Long-Term Care

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Ministère des Soins de longue durée

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**Ontario
Health**

April 11, 2021

MEMORANDUM TO: Long-Term Care Home Licensees

FROM: Richard Steele
Deputy Minister
Ministry of Long-Term Care

Matthew Anderson
President and CEO
Ontario Health

SUBJECT: Call to Action: From Hospital to Home

We are writing to express our thanks once again for meeting with us urgently this past Friday morning, and more importantly for the work you are doing to support the immediate placement of hospitalized patients in your homes. We have already heard from many of you about how you are mobilizing to welcome new residents.

This work is critically important. As we discussed, our health care system is facing unprecedented challenges that could put our fellow community members at risk unless immediate, collective action is taken.

During the meeting we heard many good ideas about how the placement process could be improved and what changes (e.g., isolation requirements) could help as we move forward. We are looking at these ideas to see what can be done quickly, however we cannot wait to act on the ground.

We are asking each home to do everything they can over the next two weeks to admit or readmit as many hospitalized patients as is safe and appropriate. This is about available vacancies that meet individual needs and does not include 3rd and 4th ward beds or beds needed for isolation. We would like to strive to reach a minimum of 1,500 placements from hospitals over this period. Every individual admission is one more step towards this goal and no contribution to this effort is too small.

We understand the devastating toll this pandemic has taken on homes, residents and staff who have been the front line in the fight against COVID-19. We have seen where working together as a system can save lives. Thank you once more for responding to this call to action.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Richard Steele

Original signed by

Matthew Anderson

cc: Lisa Levin, Chief Executive Officer, AdvantAge Ontario
Donna Duncan, Chief Executive Officer, Ontario Long Term Care Association
Monika Turner, Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Michael Jacek, Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Colleen Geiger, President and CEO (Acting), Public Health Ontario
Erin Hannah, Associate Deputy Minister, LTC Pandemic Response, MLTC
Jeff Butler, Assistant Deputy Minister, LTC Pandemic Response, MLTC
Sheila Bristo, Assistant Deputy Minister, Operations, MLTC
Catherine Brown, COVID Executive Lead, Ontario Health
Donna Kline, Chief Communications and Engagement Officer, Ontario Health
Tess Romain, Regional Lead – Toronto, Ontario Health
Cynthia Martineau, Regional Lead – East, Ontario Health
Brian Kytzor, Regional Lead – North, Ontario Health
Mark Walton, Regional Lead – West, Ontario Health
Donna Cripps, Regional Lead – Central, Ontario Health