

Ministry of Health  
and Long-Term Care

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## Sessional Paper No. P-7

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Petition relating to Long term care beds and community care for independent and semi-independent seniors (Sessional Paper No. P-7) Mr. McDonell. (Tabled February 20, 2013)

Petition relating to Long term care beds and community care for independent and semi-independent seniors (Sessional Paper No. P-7) Mr. McDonell. (Tabled March 25, 2013)

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### Response:

The Long-Term Care Homes Act, 2007 (LTCHA) and the Ontario Regulation, 79/10 (Regulation) were proclaimed into force on July 1, 2010 and are now the single legislative authority for safeguarding resident rights, improving the quality of care and improving the accountability of long-term care (LTC) for the care, treatment and well-being of over 77,000 residents. The Ontario government plans to redevelop 35,000 older LTC beds over the next 10-15 years to ensure equitable access to quality LTC homes.

The Ontario government is also making it easier for seniors to live independently at home longer by increasing support for home and community care. In the 2012 Budget, the government announced that it would be increasing funding to the community services sector by approximately four per cent per year over the next three years. This new funding will help 90,000 more seniors receive care at home and will fund an additional three million personal support worker hours.

Ontario is also committed to taking other steps to prepare the health care system to better meet the needs of an aging population through the launch of a new Seniors Strategy. The government is supporting seniors to live independently in their own homes through the new Healthy Home Renovation Tax Credit, which makes it more affordable for seniors to physically adapt their homes with modifications that can improve safety and access. Supporting seniors to receive the care they need in their community and at home can reduce or delay the use of more costly resources such as hospitals and long-term care homes, while improving their quality of life. The ministry works with the Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs) at the local level to ensure access to long-term care and community care services.

Increased support for home care and community services helps to provide the right care, at the right time, in the right place and is part of Ontario's Action Plan for Health Care.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Deb Matthews'.

Honourable Deb Matthews