

MEETING **SENIORS'** **NEEDS** NOW

OANHSS 2017-18 Provincial Spending Priorities



Ontario's long term care homes serve an extremely vulnerable population with very complex care needs. Residents and their families rely on the provincial government to ensure that there is capacity in the system to serve the growing number of seniors needing long term care, and that homes have enough staff with the proper training to provide the needed care and resources to create quality, home-like environments. Our member homes, municipal and not-for-profit, are doing the best they can but care needs have gone far beyond what can be provided at current funding levels.

The Ontario Association of Non-Profit Homes and Services for Seniors (OANHSS) believes investments focused on the following priorities are critical to strengthening the long term care system so that it better serves Ontario's seniors.

Long Term Care Capacity

2,500-5,000 new bed licences over the next two years with a minimum of 50% of those licences dedicated to the not-for-profit sector.

Demand for long term care beds in Ontario has stretched beyond capacity. For the health and function of the sector, OANHSS is calling on the government to allocate 2,500 – 5,000 new licences for long term care over the next two years with the following conditions:

- A minimum of 50% of those licences must be dedicated for not-for-profit providers (charitable, municipal and non-profit long term care homes).
- In order of priority, the first target for allocation should be those long term care homes that are redeveloping within a seniors' campus and need additional licences to 'right-size' their proposal. This should serve to incent greater participation of providers to create the full landscape of housing initiatives that seniors need in Ontario.
- The second priority for allocation should be stand-alone long term care providers who are looking to participate in the redevelopment program and are guided by Ontario's capacity planning to develop appropriate specialized units.
- LHINs facing extremes in wait list times and high occupancy numbers must follow closely in receiving new licences to help reduce wait lists for appropriate placement.

Health and Safety of Residents

Staffing increases to achieve a provincial average of 4 hours of care per day for Ontario's long term care residents over the next two years.

OANHSS has long called for increased staff to better care for Ontario's long term care residents. The complexity and level of care that residents require is higher than ever before. Research evidence clearly shows that more staffing will mean better quality care, better resident outcomes and greater resident safety. We also believe that investments are critically needed to ensure quality food for residents. For the health and safety of residents and the staff who care for them, OANHSS is calling on the provincial government to:

- Fully respond to the Sharkey Report and increase funding levels so personal care, nursing care and related supportive therapies achieve a provincial average of four hours of direct care per resident per day over the next two years.
- Increase the resident per day food allowance by \$0.33 to \$8.66.

Resident Acuity and Responsive Behaviours

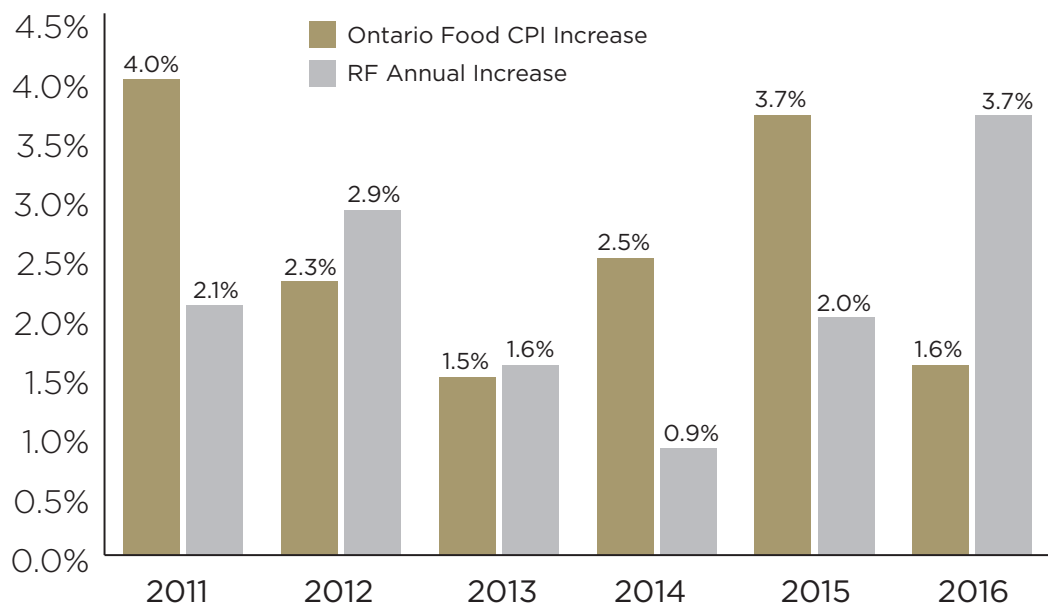
Dedicated behaviour teams in every long term care home and a minimum of 12 more designated behaviour units.

The rising acuity and complexity of long term care residents and seniors who are aging at home make increased funding for Behavioural Supports Ontario (BSO) and dedicated behaviour units a necessity. BSO training and support have proven to be integral to changing staff ability to de-escalate behaviours and avoid triggers, with the result being healthier and safer environments for residents and staff. OANHSS is recommending:

- Dedicated teams in every long term care home with specialized skills in caring for residents with dementia and moderate responsive behaviours.
- A minimum of 12 more designated behaviour units to ensure safe and proper care for residents with more severe responsive behaviours.
- That the capacity planning work undertaken by the MOHLTC be used to identify where behaviour units should be established.

Annual Change in Ontario Food Costs vs LTC Food Funding (2011 to 2016)

Increase the daily food budget to a minimum of \$8.66 per resident.





Seniors' Campuses

Large scale study of existing seniors' campuses to determine how the province and LHINs can enable their development.

Seniors' campuses in Ontario, encompassing housing, assisted living services/supportive housing, community programming and long term care, can form a comprehensive, integrated and coordinated service model that, with appropriate policy innovation, can result in better outcomes for seniors and the seniors' care continuum. Given this potential, OANHSS is recommending that:

- A large scale study of existing seniors' campuses be conducted to identify policy and program impediments and solutions to improve integration and coordination of local seniors' services and to identify best practices.
- Ontario specifically identify seniors as a priority population for new affordable housing, with seniors' campuses as a stated priority.

Summary of Recommendations

The following is the full set of OANHSS recommendations for 2017-18 provincial spending priorities. For further details and analysis, please refer to our submission, *Meeting Seniors' Needs Now: OANHSS 2017-18 Provincial Spending Priorities*, available at www.oanhss.org.

Recommendation 1

That the MOHLTC work with stakeholders to develop and execute a large scale study of a representative sampling of existing non-profit and municipal seniors' campuses in order to identify policy and program rigidities that inhibit their ability to integrate and coordinate local seniors' services; identify best practices, and assess individual and system level benefits.

Estimated cost: \$0.75M – \$1.0M

Recommendation 2

That the Ministry of Housing specifically identify seniors as a priority population for new affordable housing subsidies through the Ontario Affordable Housing Strategy and that bricks and mortar housing opportunities prioritize seniors' housing proposals situated on seniors' campuses.

Cost: to be determined

Recommendation 3

That the MOHLTC develop the Levels of Care framework to ensure that adequate funding accompanies both the assessed level of care across the seniors' population and, for care providers responsible for case management, that funding be in place to cover the costs of doing assessments.

Cost: to be determined

Recommendation 4

That the MOHLTC:

- Complete the refinements of their seniors' care capacity planning as soon as possible.
- Concurrent with that activity, issue 2,500 to 5,000 new licences and approvals for LTC beds to be awarded over the next two years.
- Allocate beds based on demonstrated need at the LHIN and sub-LHIN levels, with initial priority going to redevelopment projects in those high need areas.
- Recognize consumer preference for non-profit and municipal LTC homes by allocating a minimum of 50% of new licences/approvals to the non-profit and municipal sectors.

Cost: to be determined

continued...

Summary of Recommendations continued...

Recommendation 5

That the MOHLTC set and fund over the next two fiscal years (i.e. 2017-18 and 2018-19) a system target of a provincial average of 4.0 paid hours of direct care per resident per day; an increase of just under 35 minutes of care per resident per day.

Estimated cost: \$401.6M over two years.

Recommendation 6

That the MOHLTC facilitate access to the appropriate training and education programs for all care staff on a regular and recurring basis. Such funding should include staffing backfill costs.

Cost: to be determined

Recommendation 7

That the MOHLTC provide funding to the Behavioural Supports Ontario program to fund the creation of dedicated in-home behaviour teams in all provincial long term care homes. These staffing resources should be included in the funding for Recommendation 5, above.

Estimated cost: included in cost of Recommendation 5

Recommendation 8

That the MOHLTC fund and implement 12 more designated behaviour units across the province to ensure the safety of all residents and staff.

Cost: to be determined

Recommendation 9

That the MOHLTC, through the Provincial Dementia Strategy, develop a formal research program aimed at measuring the demand for, cost of, and optimum staffing models for specialized units. That research program should include a formal formative and summative program evaluation of new and existing specialized behaviour units in long term care homes.

Cost: to be determined

Recommendation 10

That the MOHLTC fund an increase of 2.4% in the NPC and PSS envelopes and, going forward, include both acuity growth and inflationary pressures in determining appropriate NPC and PSS funding increases.

Estimated cost: \$71.4M (NPC = \$64.9M, PSS = \$6.5M)

Recommendation 11

That the MOHLTC budget for a 3.9% (\$0.33) increase to the raw food per diem to compensate for variance between actual food costs and funding levels over the past five years.

Estimated cost: \$9.5M

Recommendation 12

That the MOHLTC develop a separate, case-specific funding mechanism for the provision of cultural and religious meals.

Cost: to be determined

Recommendation 13

That the MOHLTC budget for a 1.8% increase to the OA envelope in order to maintain the physical integrity of long term care homes as well as other OA pressures.

Estimated cost: \$27.4M

Recommendation 14

That the MOHLTC budget for an increase in the Accreditation per diem from its current \$0.33 per resident per day to \$0.47 per resident per day.

Cost: to be determined

Recommendation 15

That the MOHLTC give long term care homes and CSS providers access to the Health Infrastructure Renewal Fund (HIRF).

Cost: to be determined

Recommendation 16

That older homes built prior to the 1998 capital program, that were classified as an older “A” because they met the program’s design standards, be allowed to access redevelopment funding currently available for “B” and “C” homes.

Cost: to be determined

About OANHSS

OANHSS is the provincial association representing not-for-profit providers of long term care, services and housing for seniors. Members include not-for-profit long term care homes (municipal, charitable and non-profit nursing homes), seniors’ housing, supportive housing, and community service agencies. Member organizations serve over 36,000 long term care residents annually and operate over 8,000 seniors’ housing units across the province.



Ontario Association of Non-Profit Homes and Services for Seniors
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