

Ministry of Health
and Long-Term Care
Assistant Deputy Minister
Long Term Care Homes Division

11th Floor, 1075 Bay Street
Toronto ON M5S 2B1
Tel.: 416-212-9069

Ministère de la Santé
et des Soins de longue durée
Sous-ministre adjointe
Division des foyers de soins de longue durée

1075, rue Bay, 11e étage
Toronto ON M5S 2B1
Téléphone: 416-212-9069



MEMORANDUM TO: Long-Term Care Home Stakeholders

FROM: **Brian Pollard**
Assistant Deputy Minister
Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care

RE: Spring 2018 amendments to improve access and enhance transparency in long-term care (LTC) homes

I am pleased to provide you with a summary of recent changes to improve access and enhance transparency in LTC homes.

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (Ministry) made a number of regulatory changes to Ontario Regulation 79/10 (Regulation) under the *Long-Term Care Homes Act, 2007* (LTCHA), which are in force as of January 1, 2018. These include provisions that:

- Enable the designation of Reunification Priority Access Beds (RPABs) for spouses/partners in crisis;
- Enable the Ministry to designate new specialized units to address the needs of complex residents; and
- Provide the Ministry with the ability to disclose personal information of an individual to a health regulatory college and the Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service.

In Spring 2018, the Ministry made additional changes to the Regulation, including:

- **Amendments to clarify RPAB provisions of the Regulation (effective April 3, 2018)**
 - The Ministry made two minor amendments to support system flow of RPABs on an ongoing basis, and ensure a maximum of two reunifications at one time within each home via RPABs.
- **Disclosure of Cannabis-related Federal Offences (effective July 1, 2018)**
 - Consequential technical amendments to ensure that cannabis-related federal offences must still be declared by staff and volunteers, to align with the federal government's proposed legislative changes regarding cannabis legalization.
- **Administrative Monetary Penalty (AMP) and Re-Inspection Fees (effective January 1, 2019)**
 - Introduction of administrative monetary penalties and re-inspection fees for licensees who continue to be in non-compliance.

- **Board of Management (effective April 1, 2018)**
 - Expansion of a Board of Management's capacity to borrow funds for operating and capital purposes, and an increase in the amount a Board of Management is able to include in its annual budget as a reserve for working funds.
- **Automated Income Verification (AIV) (effective May 1, 2018)**
 - Launch of the new AIV system to improve and modernize the LTC Rate Reduction Program and to reduce the administrative burden on licensees.

In addition, legislative changes were made to the LTCHA:

- **Minister's Directives (effective February 1, 2018)**
 - The Minister was given the authority to issue operational or policy directives to LTC homes to address systemic or other concerns within the LTC sector.
- **New Provincial Offences (effective July 1, 2018)**
 - Introduction of two new provincial offences: Failure to comply with an order and Failure to protect residents from abuse and neglect.

Should you have any questions, please contact the Licensing and Policy Branch at LTC.Info@ontario.ca.

I want to thank you for your continued support as we work to improve quality of life for residents in LTC homes.



Brian Pollard
 Assistant Deputy Ministry
 Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care

- c: Sharon Lee Smith, Associate Deputy Minister, Policy and Transformation
 Nancy Naylor, Associate Deputy Minister, Delivery and Implementation
 Michelle-Ann Hylton, Director (A) Licensing and Policy Branch
 Stacey Colameco, Director (A), Long-Term Care Inspections Branch
 Amy Olmstead, Director, Home and Community Care Branch