

Long-Term Care Residents in Ottawa and Niagara Can Access Certain Types of Specialized Care Without Going to the Hospital

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The pandemic increased the average Canadian's awareness of the state of Long-Term Care and the dire need for its residents to receive a higher quality of care.

The Ontario government invested \$6.4 billion to add nearly 60,000 new and upgraded Long-Term Care beds and increase the amount of care that residents receive so that they can live with dignity ([source](#), [source](#)). This will help address wait lists for Long-Term Care and ensure that people are being cared for in the right place ([source](#), [source](#)).

In addition to that, the provincial government is investing over \$120 million in specialized services and supports in 2022-23 ([source](#), [source](#)). Two days ago, the government announced the Ontario Health Local Priorities Fund, which makes up \$20 million of that spending ([source](#), [source](#)). From this new Fund, \$2,103,000 is going towards four projects in Ottawa and \$294,513 is going towards 19 projects in the Niagara Region ([source](#), [source](#)).

These projects will help connect people with complex medical needs like dementia and bariatric care to specialized care and supports in their Long-Term Care home instead of a hospital ([source](#), [source](#)).

Some of the local projects will do this by helping residents get the specialized care they need in their Long-Term Care home without having to go to an emergency room or be admitted to hospital ([source](#), [source](#)). Other projects will support the admission of people into Long-Term Care homes who no longer require acute care in hospital, but who have complex needs that are better met by specialized services and supports ([source](#), [source](#)).

What's Happening in Ottawa?

The projects in Ottawa include:

1. \$174,300 to Perley Health Long-Term Care home for bariatric equipment, specialized equipment and training for wound care, and renovation costs to convert an existing unit to a secure unit to support the needs of residents with dementia;
2. \$1,700,000 to Royal Ottawa Place for the continued operation of this Long-Term Care home, which specializes in care for residents with complex responsive behaviours, complex cognitive challenges, and chronic mental illness;

3. \$183,758 to Royal Ottawa Place Long-Term Care home for specialized bariatric equipment, diagnostic equipment, and an enteral feeding pump; and
4. \$45,266 to West End Villa for a specialized model of care in partnership with the Ottawa Hospital that meets the complex medical care needs of residents.

Click [here](#) to read the Ontario government's press release, which is the source of this information.

What's Happening in the Niagara Region?

The projects in the Niagara Region include:

1. \$47,840 to Heidehof Long-Term Care Home in St Catharines, for diagnostic equipment, bariatric equipment, 36 slings, and 14 tumble mats;
2. \$17,200 to Heidehof Long-Term Care Home in St Catharines, for additional diagnostic equipment;
3. \$24,889 to Foyer Richelieu Welland, for diagnostic equipment, an infusion pump and stand, a suction machine, and specialized dementia training;
4. \$19,421 to Royal Rose Place in Welland for diagnostic equipment;
5. \$17,642 to Albright Manor in Beamsville, for diagnostic equipment;
6. \$17,306 to Shalom Manor in Grimsby, for diagnostic equipment;
7. \$17,141 for diagnostic equipment to each of five (5) Long-Term Care homes: Crescent Park Lodge (Fort Erie), Maple Park Lodge (Fort Erie), Millennium Trail Manor (Niagara Falls), Oakwood Park Lodge (Niagara Falls), Valley Park Lodge (Niagara Falls);
8. \$15,500 to Linhaven, in St. Catharines, for diagnostic equipment; and
9. \$7,000 for diagnostic equipment to each of seven (7) Long-Term Care homes: Albright Manor (Beamsville), Gilmore Lodge (Fort Erie), Deer Park Villa (Grimsby), The Meadows of Dorchester (Niagara Falls), Upper Canada Lodge (Niagara-on-the-Lake), D.H. Rapelje Lodge (Welland), and The Woodlands of Sunset (Welland).

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Final Thoughts

The government is investing in Long-Term Care so that Ontarians can get the quality of care and quality of life that they deserve both now and in the future ([source](#), [source](#)).

This work is built on four pillars: staffing and care; quality and enforcement; building modern, safe and comfortable homes; and providing people with faster, more convenient access to the services they need ([source](#), [source](#)).

“Our government is increasing our investment in bold, creative, and innovative solutions that conveniently connect Long-Term Care residents to the specialized care they need in the comfort of their Long-Term Care home, instead of a hospital,” said Paul Calandra, Minister of Long-Term Care ([source](#), [source](#)).

“Initiatives like the Local Priorities Fund ensure Ontarians are being connected with the right care in the right place, close to their family and friends” ([source](#), [source](#)).

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If you think you may be experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, take the self-assessment at www.ontario.ca/coronavirus. Follow all directions from your medical provider or your local health unit at the following phone numbers:

Health Connect Ontario: 811

Telehealth Ontario: 1-866-797-0000

Toronto Public Health: 416-338-7600

Peel Public Health: 905-799-7700

Durham Region Health Department: 905-668-7711

York Region Public Health: 1-877-464-9675