

INCREASING TRANSPARENCY & QUALITY IN LONG-TERM CARE

June 17, 2008

IMPLEMENTATION TEAM

Shirlee Sharkey will lead a team of stakeholders from the long-term care sector to facilitate implementation of recommendations from her staffing and care report as well as provide advice on key resident care areas which require regulations under the *Long-Term Care Homes Act, 2007*. The team will also develop a local staffing plan template and provide input to the Ontario Health Quality Council on new measures and public reporting of resident health outcomes and satisfaction.

Representatives from Resident Council and Family Councils, unions, home operators, experts, LHINs and staff from Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care are being invited to join the Implementation Team.

PUBLIC REPORTING

For the first time in Ontario, the long-term care sector will publicly report on health outcomes and patient satisfaction. The implementation team will provide input to the Ontario Health Quality Council which will recommend the reporting structure and indicators to be measured. The data will be posted on a public website.

HOURS OF RESIDENT CARE

Sharkey's report confirms that long-term care home residents currently receive on average 3.200 paid care hours per resident day: 2.089 Personal Support Workers, 0.762 licensed staff (RPNs, RNs, NPs, etc), 0.264 programming staff (therapists, dieticians, social workers etc.) and 0.085 additional nurses (1,200 RPNs funded in January 2008).

The Sharkey report also concludes that staff increases announced in 2008 Ontario Budget, and increases announced prior to that, will boost the average hours of paid resident care to approximately 3.5 hours per day. This includes 2,000 nurses and 2,500 Personal Support Workers.

Today, long-term care homes employ approximately 45,000 staff who provide nursing personal care as well as program and support services to residents, including approximately 28,900 personal support workers, 10,650 licensed nurses and 3,600 allied health professionals.