

Long-Term Care Homes Act: Implementation Update #1

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Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care
Long-Term Care Homes Act
Implementation Project
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About This Update

As part of the ministry's commitment to keeping you informed about developments related to the implementation of the *Long-Term Care Homes Act, 2007* (LTCHA), we are pleased to launch the first issue of Implementation Update.

Proclamation of the LTCHA is July 1, 2010

In May 2007, the Ontario Legislature enacted the new LTCHA. Regulations under the Act were finalized in March 2010 after extensive feedback from experts, the general public, and LTC Homes. The LTCHA will replace the *Homes for the Aged and Rest Homes Act*, the *Nursing Homes Act* and the *Charitable Institutions Act*, to become the single legislative authority over LTC Homes. The LTCHA is the cornerstone of the Ontario government's commitment to improve the quality and safety of care for residents in LTC Homes. It will enhance protection of residents' rights and guide LTC Homes in providing resident-centred care in a safe and home-like environment.

"We recognize that the long-term care sector is in a significant period of change and that we are all dedicated to the same end goal - improving the quality and safety of care for residents. Long-Term Care Homes are at the frontlines of this change and our government is committed to supporting you."

▮ Deb Matthews, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care

Implementation Support

To assist the LTC Homes sector in meeting the requirements of the new Act, the ministry and its partners will be launching a number of initiatives both before and after July 1, 2010.

In the weeks leading up to proclamation, the following will be made available:

- ❖ **LTCHA IMPLEMENTATION ROADSHOW:**
Presentations for LTC Homes will occur throughout the month of June 2010 across Ontario. They'll provide an overview of the Act, Regulation, and changes to compliance inspection processes. Ministry representatives will also be meeting with Family Councils to provide them with information and answer inquiries. Dates and registration details will be released shortly.
- ❖ **LTCHA GUIDE:**
This guide provides a section by section look at the Act and Regulation in plain language. An interim guide will be available prior to proclamation and refined thereafter as appropriate.
- ❖ **IMPLEMENTATION FUNDING:**
Over \$30 million has been committed by the government to support all aspects of LTCHA implementation. Details will be communicated as soon as they are available.
- ❖ **STARTER KIT:**
This starter kit includes materials that will be required in LTC Homes as of July 1, 2010, such as the new Bill of Rights.

Over time, the ministry is committed to improving the information and resources available to LTC Homes on the Act. To facilitate this, FAQs, webinars, teleconferences, DVDs, and topical postings on the ministry website will be made available.

We encourage you to visit e-Laws to read the Act and Regulation for yourself

Long-Term Care Homes Act, 2007 → www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/statutes/english/elaws_statutes_07108_e.htm

Ontario Regulation, 79/10 → http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/source/regs/english/2010/elaws_src_regs_r10079_e.htm

