

**Ministry of Health
and Long-Term Care**

Assistant Deputy Minister
Health System Accountability
and Performance Division

5th Floor, Hepburn Block
Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1R3

Telephone: (416) 212-1134
Facsimile: (416) 212-1859

**Ministère de la Santé
et des Soins de longue durée**

Sous-ministre adjoint
Division de la responsabilisation et de la
performance du système de santé

Édifice Hepburn, 5^e étage
Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1R3

Téléphone : (416) 212-1134
Télécopieur : (416) 212-1859



March 29, 2010

Dear Stakeholder:

I am pleased to announce that the General Regulation under the *Long-Term Care Homes Act, 2007* (LTCHA) has been approved and will be made available in the coming days on the e-Laws website at <http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca>. As you are aware, the LTCHA will be proclaimed into force on July 1, 2010.

Following the posting of this regulation on e-Laws, information relating to the regulation will be made available at the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care's website- http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/public/legislation/ltc_homes/ltc_homes.html. The regulation will also be posted on the Regulatory Registry at www.ontariocanada.com/registry/ and published shortly thereafter in the Ontario Gazette at <http://www.ontariogazette.gov.on.ca/>.

The LTCHA is the cornerstone of the government's strategy to improve and strengthen care for residents in Ontario's long-term care homes. When it comes into force on July 1, 2010, the LTCHA would serve as the single legislative authority for safeguarding resident rights, improving quality of care and strengthening the public accountability of long-term care homes. This is a significant step forward for long-term care in Ontario and one that will directly contribute to improving the lives of current and future residents in Ontario.

The proposed initial draft regulations were released for a 30 day public consultation period in two parts on May 5, 2009 and September 15, 2009. All feedback received during the public consultation periods was reviewed and considered in the drafting of the final regulation. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all individuals and organizations that provided feedback during the public consultation process. The feedback we received was very thoughtful and assisted us in drafting the final regulation under the LTCHA.

When the LTCHA comes into force, the current legislation governing long-term care homes would be repealed and their accompanying regulations would be revoked. The Long-Term Care Homes Program Manual would also no longer apply. The Ministry is currently engaging with sector associations and the LHINs on a plan to support long-term care homes and other stakeholders through this transition. Further information on specific activities will be available in the coming weeks.

Thank you for your continued support of long-term care in Ontario.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Deane".

J. Kenneth Deane
Assistant Deputy Minister
Health System Accountability and Performance Division