

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

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September 11, 2017

HLTC6225IT-2017-220

MEMORANDUM TO: Long-Term Care Home Stakeholders

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

RE: Notification of public consultation period for proposed amendments to Ontario Regulation 79/10 under the *Long-Term Care Homes Act, 2007*

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (Ministry) is proposing amendments to Ontario Regulation 79/10 (Regulation) under the *Long-Term Care Homes Act, 2007* (LTCHA).

These proposed amendments would:

- Enable the designation of spousal/partner reunification priority access beds (RPABs) for spouses / partners who meet the requirements for prioritization in waiting list category 1 (crisis).
 - Separate waiting lists would be kept for RPABs and the requirements for placement on these waiting lists would be set out.
- Require the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care or the Director under the LTCHA to disclose personal information about an individual to a health regulatory college and the Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers for the purpose of the administration or enforcement of the legislation that relates to these colleges, where the Minister or Director is of the opinion that it is advisable to do so.
- Permit the Director to designate a specialized unit in a long-term care home on his or her own initiative, after considering the input of the Local Health Integration Network and the licensee of the home. A specialized unit could not be designated without the agreement of the licensee. (The current ability of the Director to designate a specialized unit on the recommendation of the LHIN would be maintained.)
- Permit the Ministry to serve documents by commercial courier. Service by courier would be deemed effective two business days after the commercial courier receives the documents.

A description of the proposed amendments is posted on the Regulatory Registry website at: www.ontariocanada.com/registry.

In addition, as required by the LTCHA, notice of the proposed initial draft regulations relating to RPABs and disclosure of personal information is posted on the ministry's public website at: <http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/public/programs/ltc/default.aspx>.

We are also requesting that all LTC home operators provide a copy of the information on these proposed draft regulations and regulatory amendments to their Family and Residents' Councils. In addition, we request that LHINs make copies available in their office for members of the public.

Please note that the consultation period is for 45 days, starting on September 11, 2017 and ending on October 26, 2017. Details as to how individuals or organizations can provide feedback to the ministry on the proposed amendments are provided on the Regulatory Registry and the public website. All feedback received during the public consultation period will be reviewed and considered during the final preparation of the draft amendments.

Further communication will be provided by the ministry should the Lieutenant Governor in Council amend the Regulation.

We look forward to receiving your comments and feedback on the proposed amendments and thank you for your continued support and engagement in the LTC home sector.

Original Signed By

Brian Pollard

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