

December 29, 2011

The Hon. Dalton McGuinty
Premier of Ontario
Room 281, Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 1A1

Dear Premier McGuinty:

On behalf of the Board of the Ontario Home Care Association (OHCA), I am writing to wish you success at the upcoming meeting of the Council of the Federation in January 2012.

The OHCA believes that a strong home care structure is vital for Ontarians and is committed to working collaboratively with the Ontario Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, ministry staff and all health system partners to support the provision of the right mix of care in order to keep people safe and independent at home.

OHCA is supportive of the Ontario government's advocacy regarding the need for continued funding for targeted programs such as home care. While Ontario's home care programs were robust, the 2004 Health Accord was instrumental in driving continued growth in the sector. The Board of the OHCA believes that this type of funding and leadership from the federal government is critical.

Ontario has demonstrated leadership in increased accountability for high quality patient care through the passage of the *Excellent Care for All Act*. There is great value in providing care in the community and organizing care around the individual at home as important elements to providing quality health care to Ontarians. OHCA members are pleased that the message of health reform and transformation is being taken by Ontario to the federal level.

Three OHCA position papers are attached for your reference: *Ontario's Home Care System in 2008: A Growing History of Quality and Excellence*, *Home Care in 2010 – Essential for an Aging Population* and the OHCA's *Response to the Drummond Commission*.

The OHCA would be pleased to provide additional information and I wish you success in the advancement of a renewed health care system for Canadians.

Sincerely,



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