

## **Ontario Home Care Association Commits to Working with Ministry on PSW Registry**

May 20, 2011 - The Ontario Home Care Association (OHCA) welcomes the opportunity to actively participate in the establishment of a Personal Support Worker (PSW) registry. Minister Matthews announced the plan May 19th, PSW Day in Ontario acknowledging the invaluable contributions that these members of the health team make to health care in the province.

PSWs are an expanding workforce providing care for clients across the health care system including, acute care, long term care and home care. The OHCA values the very important supportive role in home care that PSWs maintain in assisting people to continue to live and age at home independently – the preference of most Ontarians (<http://www.homecareontario.ca/public/about/publications-home-care-team.cfm>). PSWs are integral to the strategies that have, and continue to be, directed at providing more Ontarians with flexibility and independence to stay at home maintaining their valuable contributions to communities and families.

OHCA commits to working with the Ministry and all other system partners to develop an effective registry that supports excellence in care.

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### **About the OHCA**

The OHCA, *the voice of home care in Ontario*, is a membership association representing providers of quality home care services from across Ontario. OHCA members represent an estimated 25,000 staff collectively serving 300,000 Ontarians per year. OHCA works with families as integral partners in the delivery of home care services and as such estimates that 1.2 million Ontarians are impacted by members. OHCA is dedicated to promoting the growth and development of the home and community health care sector by helping to shape health care policy, supporting members to excel, and being a leading source of information on home and community care. OHCA members are accredited through Accreditation Canada, CARF, and/or registered with the International Standards Association (ISO).

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For the latest in news and information about the home care sector in Ontario, subscribe to the Ontario Home Care Association's "House Call" at [www.homecareontario.ca](http://www.homecareontario.ca).