

OHCA works with government on employment changes

December 10, 2008:- Ensuring worker rights and benefits is important to creating a vibrant Ontario. The Ontario Home Care Association (OHCA) is working to support initiatives to strengthen the conditions of employment within the health care sector.

As described in our recent paper, *Addressing the Health Human Resource Challenge from a Home and Community Perspective: A Blueprint for Action*, it is imperative to have a strong human resource strategy within the home care sector to support Ontarians in their wish to receive care and remain independent at home. OHCA believes that enhancing terms and conditions of work for those who choose to dedicate their careers to caring for the frail and vulnerable living in our communities is an important element of the strategy.

OHCA will continue to work with the government to develop the details and implement the necessary financing to support the proposed legislative changes announced yesterday. With appropriate support, the home care sector will continue to play a key role in keeping Ontarians well in their own homes, thereby avoiding unnecessary emergency room presentations, non-acute hospital admissions and premature institutionalization.

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About 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 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 and/or 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.