

## **Ontario Home Care Association supports faster discharge from hospital to home care**

February 23, 2009 – The Ontario Home Care Association (OHCA) will work with hospitals and CCACs across the province to help expedite discharges home – a key element of Ontario’s strategy for reducing the total amount of time patients spend in emergency rooms.

Home care is integral to preventing the need for emergency room presentation and enabling prompt discharge from hospital. OHCA members provide home care services 24 hours per day, seven days a week and are positioned to respond to individuals on short notice.

An effective home care system assists patients to go home to their families safely and with confidence. New and innovative home care delivery options that include electronic point of care documentation; digital wound photography; remote monitoring; telephone support and specialized clinic-based care will relieve the hospital burden for those who are able to stay in the community. A sustainable home care system that truly provides support for people in their homes is the only way to effectively break the cycle of prolonged in-patient utilization and non-acute utilization of emergency departments.

OHCA believes that all health system partners must work to advance solutions to provide “the right care at the right place” and ultimately increase Ontarians confidence in their health care system.

-30-

### **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).

### **For more information, contact:**

Susan D. VanderBent  
Executive Director  
Phone: 905-543-9474  
Email: [suevan@homecareontario.ca](mailto:suevan@homecareontario.ca)

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).