

RE: Eldercare is a horror show

The growing numbers of seniors is a testament to a progressive health care system and to our success as a society. The vast majority of elderly Ontarians want to live and age at home where they play an invaluable role in their own families and contribute significantly to the social fabric of their communities.

Our goal, as a society, should be to ensure that elderly Ontarians and the estimated 2 million family caregivers who love them, have ready access to the full range of home care and community supports.

Services such as nursing, therapies, personal support , meals , transportation and day programs coupled with technology to facilitate monitoring and connectedness can help even those people with high care needs to live independently and safely at home.

A well resourced home care system can help older persons prevent illness and injuries, manage all types of chronic illness and bring them home from the hospital to avoid premature institutionalization and the related costs.

New provincial government regulations to increase hours of home care through the Community Care Access Centres are welcomed, however, the public should know that an expanded home care system would help to contain health costs and more importantly mean that many more aging Ontarians could remain independent and happy at home.

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