

OHCA applauds the Ontario College of Family Physician Vision for Health Care in Ontario

January 31, 2011 - The Ontario Home Care Association (OHCA) applauds the Ontario College Of Family Physician's (OCFP) work to envision the future for health care in Ontario. In its report, *Vision 2020: Raising the Bar in Family Medicine and Ontario's Primary Care Sector*, released on January 27, 2011, the OCFP underscores the importance of home care to respond to the public desire to receive care in their own homes as they get older. The goal is to "keep people as healthy as possible for as long as possible". In the future, a robust home care system will improve the quality of life, achieve better health outcomes for Ontarians, and reduce the need for care in the most expensive parts of the health system.

Primary care and home care are foundational to the health care system as it is in communities across the province where Ontarians receive the majority of their health care. A strong community-based system that appropriately utilizes and integrates all members of the team is essential to support good health outcomes. This team must have the tools and technology that allow them to access information in a timely way and seamlessly connect their clients to the system resources they require.

Providing quality health care to Ontarians is a fundamental principle on which the government of Ontario bases health care policy development. The *Excellent Care for All Bill* serves as an important touchstone for all health care organizations to demonstrate accountability for quality and to reinforce principles of organizing care around the individual. The OCFP *Vision 2020* offers insight and direction to achieving improved health and economic outcomes for the province's health system.

OHCA recognizes and values the important contribution of the interdisciplinary team and family physicians and will continue to work with all system partners to realize an improved health system for Ontarians.

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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.