



## **Announcement supporting family caregivers is good news**

April 25, 2017: On behalf of the approximately eight million family caregivers in Ontario, Home Care Ontario thanks the Government of Ontario for today's announcement. Charles Sousa, Minister of Finance, and Dr. Eric Hoskins, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, announced more respite services, increased education and training opportunities for caregivers, and a new, streamlined Ontario Caregiver Tax Credit.

In the Association's pre-budget submission, Home Care Ontario called for a significant increase in funding to, in part, achieve better support for family caregivers. Home Care Ontario, as a founding member of the Ontario Caregiver Coalition, is acutely aware of the needs of families who struggle to provide care at home.

"The Government's announcement is good news", said Sue VanderBent, CEO. "It is our hope that all stakeholders will work together to ensure that families are informed and supported to access the resources available to them."

The Association will be available to support the new Caregiver organization referenced in today's announcement. Home Care Ontario will continue to advocate for better awareness as to the limits of the publicly funded system and available care options.

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## **About Home Care Ontario**

Home Care Ontario, the voice of home care in Ontario™, is a member-based organization with a mandate to promote growth and development of the home care sector through advocacy, knowledge transfer, and member service. Home Care Ontario members include those engaged in and/or supportive of home-based health care. In Ontario, service provider organizations are responsible for providing nursing care, home support services, personal care, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, social work, dietetics, speech language therapy and medical equipment and supplies in the home to individuals of all ages. An estimated 58 million hours of publicly and privately purchased home care service is provided annually across the province.

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