



## **Home Care Ontario welcomes opportunity to work collaboratively to advance home and community care in Ontario**

December 17, 2015 – Home Care Ontario welcomes Minister Hoskins’ plan to strengthen patient-centred health care in Ontario. The discussion paper, *Patients First: A Proposal To Strengthen Patient-Centred Health Care In Ontario*, released today, reflects the government’s intention to transform the health system to one that is responsive to local communities.

Home Care Ontario supports the motivation to improve health equity and create a system that “puts patients first”. Members of the Association believe that within health care, there must be a willingness to examine current practices, test new approaches and undertake rigorous evaluation of all aspects of the system.

The Association welcomes the opportunity to offer insight, guidance and advice in response to the Minister’s proposal. Home Care Ontario will continue to work collaboratively with the Minister and all health system partners to deliver consistent care and services in a timely, effective and efficient manner.

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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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