



ONTARIO NONPROFIT NETWORK

The Honourable Rod Phillips, Minister of Long-Term Care
Office of the Minister of Long-Term Care
6th Floor - 400 University Ave.
Toronto, ON M5G 1S5

By email: rod.phillips@pc.ola.org

June 25, 2021

Dear Minister Phillips:

On behalf of the Ontario Nonprofit Network (ONN), we are writing to congratulate you on your appointment as the Minister of Long-Term Care. We look forward to working with you, once again, to support and strengthen communities across the province.

ONN is the independent nonprofit network for the 58,000 nonprofits and charities in Ontario, focused on policy, advocacy and services to strengthen the sector as a key pillar of our society and economy. We work to create a public policy environment that allows nonprofits to thrive. We engage our network of diverse nonprofit organizations across Ontario to work together on issues affecting the sector and channel the voices of our network to government, funders, and other stakeholders.

As you may know, Ontario's nonprofit sector plays a vital role as an economic driver, contributing \$65 billion to our province's GDP. As a sector, Ontario nonprofits receive less than half of their revenues from governments, which means they can leverage public investments - via business activities, donations, and the contributions of volunteers - into significantly higher value in the services they deliver to Ontarians, all while creating jobs locally. The nonprofit sector is positioned to support the Ontario government to build a stronger economy and a resilient province. Working together, we can deliver real change.

We look forward to working closely with you and your team to ensure Ontarians have access to flexible, high quality long-term care (LTC) choices that do not compromise quality of care, safety and working conditions.

ONN wrote to Ontario's Long-Term Care COVID-19 Commission¹ late last year to highlight two key systemic issues around care services:

1. The foundational question of whether private profit belongs in long-term care services.

It is our position that care sectors (long-term care, child care, services for people with developmental disabilities, etc.) must operate without profit and that the participation of for-profit owners/operators in Ontario's long-term care system must therefore be phased out.

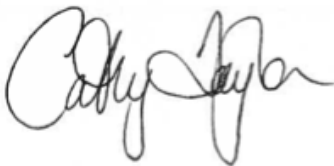
2. The need to address quality of jobs in the LTC sector- public, private, and nonprofit- as a crucial factor in ensuring the quality of care. It is no coincidence that care-work in this sector is overwhelmingly performed by women, many of whom are women of colour and/or immigrants, and that wages are low and tenure is often part-time, despite this work being highly demanding, both physically and emotionally.

It is our position that care-work must be "decent work," i.e., that care workers should be more highly valued and compensated, rather than forced to piece together a living from multiple, low-paid, part-time jobs.

We welcome the opportunity to meet with you at your earliest convenience to discuss how ONN and our network can act as a partner to the government in taking action on this important issue.

Congratulations again on your new role!

Sincerely,



Cathy Taylor
Executive Director
Ontario Nonprofit Network

¹ Ontario Nonprofit Network. "Submission to Ontario's Long-Term Care COVID-19 Commission". November 4, 2020.

<https://theonn.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/ONN-Submission-to-Long-Term-Care-Commission-Nov-4-2020.pdf>