



Glenn Thibeault, MPP Sudbury

54 More Long-Term Care Beds for Seniors in Sudbury

Ontario Supporting Seniors, Caregivers and Families with 188 in the Northeast and 30,000 New Beds Across the Province

NEWS

April 26, 2018

Ontario is creating 54 new long-term care beds in Sudbury to help seniors better access high-quality care and continue to live happy and healthy lives.

Glenn Thibeault, MPP for Sudbury was at Extendicare York today to make the announcement that includes other investments throughout the Northeast:

Mauno Kaihla Koti	68 beds	Sault Ste. Marie
Extendicare (Canada) Inc.	20 beds	Sault Ste. Marie
Waters Edge	12 beds	North Bay
Temiskaming Lodge	46 beds	Haileybury
Weeneebayko Area Health Authority	32 Beds	Moosonee

These new beds are part of the province's commitment to build 5,000 new beds by 2022 and more than 30,000 new beds over the next decade.

Ontario is also investing more than \$300 million over the next three years to hire an additional registered nurse at every long-term care home, and to increase the provincial average to four hours of daily care per resident by 2022. This will ensure that every home will have staff with specialized training in behavioural supports and in palliative and end-of-life care.

These investments, as well as a substantial 4.6 per cent increase in funding for the hospital sector and more support for home care, will improve access to care and reduce wait times in the health system to better meet the needs of a growing and aging population.

The government is also improving life for more seniors by:

- Expanding OHIP+ in 2019 to make prescription drugs free for everyone 65 and over
- Investing \$650 million in new funding over three years to improve home and community care services
- Creating the Seniors' Healthy Home Program to help those over 75 offset the costs of living independently with a \$750 annual credit.

Making long-term care better and more accessible is part of the government's plan to support care, create opportunity and make life more affordable during this period of rapid economic change. The plan includes free prescription drugs for everyone under 25, and 65 or over, through the biggest expansion of medicare in a generation, free tuition for hundreds of thousands of students, a higher minimum wage and better working conditions, and free preschool child care from 2 ½ to kindergarten.

QUOTES

“Our government is committed to supporting Ontario residents who rely on long-term care homes for their ongoing health and personal care needs. We have allocated 5,000 new long-term care beds, and are delivering on our commitment to increase long-term care capacity by 2022 as part of Aging with Confidence: Ontario's Action Plan for Seniors. This is the first step to create more than 30,000 new long-term care beds over the next decade, helping more seniors access the care they need in their community, close to family and friends.”

— Dr. Helena Jaczek, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care

“Today's announcement will mean more care for seniors in Sudbury and throughout northeastern Ontario. By making these investments we will ensure that our elderly will be able to be taken care of close to home and in the language they are most comfortable. By expanding our local long-term care facilities, we can improve care for seniors and comfort for loved ones

— Glenn Thibeault, Sudbury MPP

“Just like the rest of the population, Franco-Ontarians are aging rapidly. Our government understands the need to support Francophone seniors and their families so that they get the best care possible in their community. As part of our commitment to create 30,000 new beds across the province over the next 10 years, these new long-term care beds will increase the Francophone capacity in the region and contribute to a healthier and stronger Francophone community.”

— Marie-France Lalonde, Minister of Francophone Affairs

“One of our priorities as health system manager is to build capacity across our health care system so that Northerners can get the quality care they need when they need it. We have worked with our long-term care homes and the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care to help ensure more equitable access to long-term care beds across our region. This investment increases access to care close to home, especially in places like Moosonee which will now have a long-term care home for the first time.”

— Jeremy Stevenson, CEO of the North East Local Health Integration Network (NE LHIN)

“We are very excited by this announcement. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Minister for the new beds. These beds will help address the hospital pressures in Sudbury and will address the long wait list for long-term care. In addition, they will facilitate the redevelopment of our older homes like this one (Extendicare York) so that we can provide our residents with the dignity and privacy that they deserve. With our long history in Sudbury this will help us continue to fulfil our commitment of providing care to the Sudbury community.”

— Tim Lukenda, President & CEO Extendicare

QUICK FACTS

- Through the 2018 Budget, Ontario is making more than \$3.3 billion in additional investments to support seniors and caregivers over the next three years.
- These long-term care home beds will continue through their respective capital and licensing reviews.
- The 5,000 new long-term care beds will include nearly 500 new beds for Indigenous communities and over 1,500 new beds for specific cultures, including francophone communities.
- Ontario's new investment in home care includes \$180 million in 2018-19 to fund an estimated 2.8 million more hours of personal support, including caregiver respite, as well as 284,000 more nursing visits and 58,000 more therapy visits. This is part of a \$650 million investment in home care over three years.
- Ontario is investing \$1 billion over three years to create the [Seniors' Healthy Home Program](#). This will provide up to \$750 per year for eligible households led by seniors 75 and over to help them offset the costs of living independently.
- The government is investing more than \$100 million over three years in [Ontario's Dementia Strategy](#), including \$37.5 million to expand community dementia programs and respite care services.
- As part of the 2018 Budget, Ontario announced an additional investment of \$10 million in 2018-19 to strengthen and expand palliative and end-of-life care, bringing new annual funding to \$40 million and a total three-year investment of \$165 million between April 2016 and March 2019. This includes support for up to 20 new hospices across Ontario.
- The 2018 Budget also includes an \$8 million equipment fund to prevent falls and injuries to keep residents and support workers safe.
- Ontario's proposed new [Drug and Dental Program](#) will allow individuals and families without extended health coverage to be reimbursed up to 80 per cent of eligible prescription drug and dental expenses. This represents an investment of more than \$800 million over the program's first two years.

LEARN MORE

[Aging with Confidence: Ontario's Action Plan for Seniors Budget 2018: A Plan for Care and Opportunity](#)

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