

Ontario's Action Plan To Transform Health Care In Sudbury*McGuinty Government Working To Keep Ontario Healthy***NEWS**

February 24, 2012

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Ontario has launched an [Action Plan](#) to transform the health care system and deal with the challenges of an aging demographic as well as the province's deficit.

The Action Plan for Health Care in Ontario will ensure families get the best health care where and when they need it, while ensuring all Ontarians get better value for their tax dollars.

The Action Plan will focus on three priorities aimed at preventing illness, increasing access to family health care and supporting Ontario's growing population of seniors. In the Sudbury region, there are already three programs underway that meet each of these priorities:

1. Keeping Ontario Healthy

The [Diabetes Care Service](#) at Health Sciences North (HSN) provides diabetes education and management support to patients. Approximately 2,000 people with diabetes benefitted from this service in 2011. The newest component is the Centre for Complex Diabetes Care, which offers a single point of access to a health care team – made up of nurse practitioners, physicians, dietitians, mental health professionals and others – for diabetes patients with complex health requirements.

2. Faster Access to Stronger Family Health Care

The Capreol Nurse Practitioner-Led Clinic opened in October 2011 and has registered more than 850 patients. At capacity, it will provide access to primary health care services for up to 3,200 residents of Capreol and Wahnapiatae First Nation. Since opening, the clinic has focused on providing faster access to family health care by offering home visits and same day or next day appointments to their patients.

3. Access to the Right Care, at the Right Time, in the Right Place

[Finlandia Village](#) offers an assisted living program for seniors who require some help to live independently, ranging from house cleaning to personal support and care coordination. Finlandia Village offers a mix of housing options for 285 seniors, such as apartments, townhouses, congregate living where seniors live together and share some activities, as well as assisted living and long-term care. It is currently building a new 82-unit residence that will open this fall.

The Action Plan for Health Care in Ontario builds upon the significant progress that has been made in improving Ontario's health care system since 2003 and is the next step in the McGuinty government's plan to protect health care for our children and grandchildren.

QUOTES

"Families in Sudbury deserve fast, easy access to the health care services they need, when and where they need them. This Action Plan will bring about the change needed to accommodate our aging population and to create a sustainable and reliable patient-centred health care system for future generations."

— Rick Bartolucci, MPP for Sudbury

“We can’t keep spending our health dollars the way we used to. If we don’t change, we simply won’t be able to guarantee sustainable universal public health care for ourselves, our children and our grandchildren. That’s why our Action Plan will get better value for our health dollars and put patients first.”

— Deb Matthews, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care

QUICK FACTS

- Between 2005 and December 2011, Health Sciences North has achieved a wait times reduction in knee replacement of 750 days (or 76 per cent).
- The North East LHIN has made targeted investments totalling \$80 million over the past five years to increase both hospital and community capacity to care for Sudbury’s seniors.
- Statistics show that North Eastern Ontario is aging faster than the rest of the province. In Sudbury 15 per cent of the population is older than 65 (about 23,000 people), which is higher than the provincial average of 13 per cent.
- The number of seniors in Ontario will increase by 43 per cent over the next decade.
- At current spending levels, the senior population is projected to cost Ontario \$24 billion more annually by 2030 — 50 per cent more than today.
- In 2010/11, over 271,000 emergency room visits were made to Ontario hospitals that could have been treated in alternative primary care settings.

LEARN MORE

Read the full [Action Plan](#).

For public inquiries call ServiceOntario, INFOline at 1-866-532-3161 (Toll-free in Ontario only)

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Assisted Living Services in Sudbury

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Assisted Living — General Overview

Assisted living services assist frail or cognitively impaired seniors, and people with physical disabilities, HIV/AIDS or acquired brain injuries, who choose to continue living in their own home and require services on a continual basis. Services are provided at a greater frequency and intensity than home care.

Funded by [Local Health Integration Networks](#), assisted living programs offer daily visits, on a scheduled and unscheduled basis, to help with personal care, essential homemaking, on-call response, care coordination and safety checks. The services are offered 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Clients generally live in specially designed buildings, or in a cluster of adapted apartments within an ordinary apartment building. Clients may also live in a variety of other settings such as single family homes, townhouses, condominiums, housing co-operatives or traditional affordable housing apartment buildings.

The goals of assisted living services are to:

- Create safe, cost-effective and accessible community alternatives to institutional care
- Reduce unnecessary and/or avoidable visits to the hospital
- Decrease wait times for long-term care homes
- Achieve a more functional continuum of care for frail seniors.

Finlandia Village (also known at the Finnish Rest Home Society)

Finlandia Village offers seniors a mix of housing options that include apartments, townhouses, congregate living where seniors live together and share some activities, as well as assisted living and long-term care. The village is comprised of 90 one- and two-bedroom seniors apartments; 46 one-bedroom supportive housing units; 31 two- and three-bedroom townhouses; 110 long-term care beds; and 8 shared seniors supportive housing units.

Assisted living residences at Finlandia are equipped with safety devices, such as automatic door openers, bathroom grab bars and therapy bathing tubs. A number of social, recreational and wellness programs are offered to residents, including exercise classes, sing-alongs, a sewing club, and aquatics and swimming classes.

Finlandia Village is currently building an 82-unit residence that will include assisted living units. The new residence, expected to open this fall, will host a multi-use room that will serve as a meeting space for residents in addition being available to other groups throughout the city.

In February 2012, Finlandia Village was awarded a Health Care Community Builders Award that recognized its innovative continuum of care.

