

October 9, 2020

Re: Infection and Prevention Control – Minor Capital Funding

Dear Long-Term Care Home Licensees:

This letter is further to the recent letter from the Honourable Dr. Merrilee Fullerton, Minister of Long-Term Care, informing you of new \$61.4 million funding in 2020-21 to support long-term care homes in completing urgent minor capital upgrades and improvements directly linked to improved infection prevention and control (IPAC) practices for the safety of their residents, staff and families. Eligible measures will include (but are not limited to) minor renovations to support physical distancing, plumbing or water supply cleaning and repair, HVAC systems upgrades or repairs and/or replacement of furniture and equipment that cannot be fully cleaned.

Funding Approach

To provide additional support for long-term care homes in making improvements that support IPAC efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic, funding will be effective from April 1, 2020 and received as one payment. All homes will receive a base allocation of \$50,000 as well as a per-bed allotment. The per-bed allotment will provide older homes with a higher amount of support to address the minor capital of older facilities. As such, older homes (with bed classifications of B, C or D upgraded) will receive \$600 per bed, and newer homes (with bed classifications of New or A) will receive \$254 per bed.

The following examples demonstrate how the IPAC-minor capital funding allocations are calculated:

Home A: 50 beds with B, C or D-upgraded bed classifications:

- \$50,000 base + \$30,000 (50 beds x \$600/bed) = **\$80,000**

Home B: 50 beds with New or A bed classifications:

- \$50,000 base + \$12,700 (50 beds x \$254/bed) = **\$62,700**

Expenditure Eligibility Criteria

Homes will have the flexibility to choose how they use their allocation to address a number of eligible IPAC-minor capital expenditures. Homes that also receive funding through the Long-Term Care Minor Capital Program are able to use that allocation towards the IPAC-Minor Capital expenses listed below, offering increased flexibility for those homes to address their IPAC needs.

Eligible IPAC-minor capital expenditures are outlined in the following list:

1. Minor Adjustments to Support Distancing:

- Renovations to support improved distancing of residents (e.g., partitions, doors, etc.).
- **Ventilation/AC Systems:**

- Assessments, repairs, upgrades and filters for HVAC systems to improve air quality, remove/prevent the development of mold, and enhance infection control.
- 2. Furnishings/Small Equipment:**
 - Repairs to and/or replacement of damaged furniture and equipment, which can be difficult to adequately clean/sanitize.
- 3. Water systems/Plumbing:**
 - Repairs to plumbing to ensure hot water and cleaning chemical supply for improved sanitation.
- 4. Building envelope, concrete repairs:**
 - Room modifications to rooms to enhance physical distancing and increase resident safety.
- 5. Cleaning/Sanitation supplies:**
 - Replacing steam cleaners, floor machines, carpet cleaners and other cleaning equipment in poor state of repair.
- 6. Other expenditures:**
 - Expenditures designed to help equip homes to prevent the spread of infection may be considered at the ministry's discretion through requests submitted to ltc.info@ontario.ca.

Eligibility, Reporting and Accountability

Eligible long-term care homes are those homes whose licensee is party to a Letter of Agreement for Ministry Direct Funding to Long-Term Care Homes (DFA) with the Ministry of Long-Term Care. This letter, together with the enclosed guideline, sets out the applicable ministry policy for this new temporary transfer payment funding program under Schedule A of the DFA.

Long-Term Care Licensees must report expenditures pertaining to their IPAC-Minor Capital expenses on a separate line in Section I of the licensee's audited Long-Term Care Home Annual Report for a defined 12-month period, in accordance with the form and manner set out in the "*Long-Term Care Home Annual Report Technical Instructions and Guidelines*".

As a reminder, it is the responsibility of each operator to meet the requirements found in O. Reg 79/10 and, in particular, section 305 and the corresponding "Operator Guidelines" that informs requirements for self-funded work along with any applicable Design Manual and any other relevant legislation.

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact the ministry by e-mail at LTC.Info@ontario.ca.

Thank you for your continued service and dedication in support of the Government of Ontario's commitment to transforming long-term care across the province, particularly during this unprecedented time as we work together to implement enhanced measures to stop the spread of COVID-19 in long-term care homes.

Sincerely,



For Sheila Bristo
Assistant Deputy Minister
Long-Term Care Operations Division
Ministry of Long-Term Care

c:

Richard Steele, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Long-Term Care
Helen Angus, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Health
Donna Duncan, Chief Executive Officer, Ontario Long-Term Care Home Association
Lisa Levin, Chief Executive Officer, Advantage Ontario
Scott McLeod, CEO, Central Region, Local Health Integration Network
Renato Discenza, CEO, East Region, Local Health Integration Network
Dr. Rhonda Crocker Ellacott, CEO, North Region, Local Health Integration Network
Tess Romain, CEO, Toronto Region, Local Health Integration Network
Bruce Lauckner, CEO, West Region, Local Health Integration Network
Brian Pollard, Assistant Deputy Minister, Long-Term Care Capital Development Division
Janet Hope, Director, Long-Term Care Policy Division
Jim Yuill, Director, Financial Management Branch
Abby Dwosh, Director, Funding and Programs Branch
Jeffrey Graham, A/Director, Fiscal Oversight & Performance Branch