

**Ministry of Long-Term Care**

Assistant Deputy Minister  
Long-Term Care Operations Division

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**June 7, 2021**

**MEMORANDUM TO:** Long-Term Care Home Stakeholders

**FROM:** Sheila Bristo  
Assistant Deputy Minister, Long-Term Care Operations Division  
Ministry of Long-Term Care

**SUBJECT:** Legal Advice for Victims of Sexual Assault Program

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I am writing to provide you with an update on recent changes to the Independent Legal Advice for Sexual Assault Survivors Program. As part of its ongoing commitment to strengthen Ontarians' access to responsive and resilient victim services, the Attorney General recently announced that effective May 1, 2021, the Independent Legal Advice for Sexual Assault Survivors Program has been expanded province wide.

The program that was initially piloted in Toronto, Ottawa and Thunder Bay, now provides up to four hours of free legal advice to victims of sexual assault across Ontario. This confidential service is available any time after a sexual assault in Ontario has occurred. More online information can be accessed by visiting the Ministry of Attorney General's information page: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/independent-legal-advice-sexual-assault-victims>.

I am including a Fact Sheet and social media graphics for distribution among your relevant teams, partners and stakeholders.

Thank you for your continued support as we work together to ensure the safety and well-being of residents and staff.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sheila Bristo".

Sheila Bristo  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Ministry of Long-Term Care

c: Richard Steele, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Long-Term Care  
Donna Duncan, Chief Executive Officer, Ontario Long Term Care Association  
Samantha Peck, Executive Director, Family Councils Ontario  
Monika Turner, Director of Policy, Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
Michael Jacek, Senior Advisor, Association of Municipalities of Ontario

Attachments: Fact Sheet  
ILA Flyers