

Ontario Investing Additional \$38,378,797 to Build Long-Term Care in Scarborough

Modernized funding model will lead to construction of 352 spaces sooner

NEWS

November 12, 2020

Scarborough — The Ontario government is investing an additional \$761 million to build and renovate 74 long-term care homes across the province, including \$38,378,797 in Scarborough. The additional funding is part of the province's new funding model that helps break down historic barriers and accelerates the construction of urgently needed long-term care projects, providing seniors with the quality care they deserve.

The Honourable Raymond Cho, MPP for Scarborough North and Minister for Seniors and Accessibility, was at the Yee Hong Centre in Scarborough, which is receiving an additional investment of \$25,331,517, helping them build 224 new spaces. This new funding also includes \$13,047,280 for Hellenic Home for the Aged in Scarborough for 128 new beds.

"Our government has been taking historic steps to improve the quality of life for our loved ones by adding capacity and upgrading Ontario's long-term care homes," said Dr. Merrilee Fullerton, Minister of Long-Term Care. "We introduced the modernized funding model to build and renovate these homes faster, and we're already seeing results, with thousands of new, safe, and comfortable spaces in progress."

"The number of people in Scarborough who will need long-term care is expected to increase significantly over the next decade," said Minister Cho. "The work underway here will make sure that our loved ones will have a comfortable, modern place to live, near family and friends, with the support they need, when they need it."

The [modernized funding model](#) is helping the government deliver on its commitment to create 30,000 beds over 10 years. The new model moves away from a one-size-fits-all approach, and instead, provides tailored incentives to address the needs of developers in different markets: rural, mid-size, urban, and large urban. It also introduces an up-front development grant to address high cost barriers to construction.

"The change in the fundamental funding landscape will change how seniors are cared for and provides a vision of how we should be taking care of seniors," said Dr. Joseph Wong, Yee Hong Founder and Chair of Yee Hong Community Wellness Foundation. "This move will ensure seniors receive the proper care and culturally appropriate service that Yee Hong is known for."

"With this funding, we will be able to significantly shorten the lengthy wait lists for safe, high quality and innovative long-term services and supports for seniors from diverse culture and backgrounds. We appreciate our government's leadership and support in achieving our collective goal of improved quality of life for seniors and their caregivers," said Dr. San Ng, Board Chair of Yee Hong Centre for Geriatric Care.

Working together with long-term care partners, Ontario continues to use innovative ideas and modern solutions to help end hallway health care and increase long-term care capacity in communities across the province.

The government is also driving the development of new long-term care spaces by selling surplus lands with the requirement that long-term care homes be built on portions of the properties, and through the Accelerated Build pilot program, which is adding 1,280 spaces in a matter of months, not years.

MORE QUOTES:

“A redesigned funding model allows for investments to be made to upgrade and modernize our long-term care homes and provide quality care our seniors deserve and need. I look forward to modernizing our long-term care homes and reducing our waiting list to ensure our loved ones are comfortable.”

- Vijay Thanigasalam, MPP for Scarborough – Rouge Park

“This long awaited funding couldn’t have come at a better time. This funding model will allow construction to start sooner and get our seniors the care they deserve, in a timely manner. Yee Hong has an outstanding track record of delivering care to our seniors and they are worthy recipients.”

- Aris Babikian, MPP for Scarborough-Agincourt

QUICK FACTS

- The modernized funding model has already boosted support for 74 projects across the province, representing 10,753 long-term care spaces: 3,957 new beds, and 6,796 older beds being redeveloped to modern standards. Of the 74 projects, 49 involve the construction of a brand-new building.
- Under the previous funding model, these projects would have received \$8.1 billion, which includes one-time funding, 2019 construction funding subsidies over 25 years, and operational funding over 30 years. Thanks to the modernized funding model, the projects will now receive an increased amount of \$8.9 billion.
- As of June 2020, more than 38,500 people are on the waitlist to access a long-term care bed.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

[Ontario's Action Plan: Protect, Support, Recover](#)

Visit Ontario's [website](#) to learn more about how the province continues to protect Ontarians from COVID-19.

[Emergency information and orders](#)

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