

Ministry of  
Long-Term Care

Office of the Minister

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DEC 03 2019

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His Worship Fred Eisenberger  
Mayor, City of Hamilton  
71 Main Street West, 2nd Floor  
Hamilton ON L8P 4Y5

Dear Mayor Eisenberger:

Thank you for your letter regarding the High Wage Transition Fund (HWTF) and the Structural Compliance Premium (SCP). As the Minister of Long-Term Care, I welcome the opportunity to respond.

As you are aware, after extensive consultations with stakeholders our government extended the HWTF until December 31, 2020, and the SCP until March 31, 2020, while we work on developing programs to improve how long-term care is delivered in Ontario.

These streams were introduced more than 20 years ago and were never intended to be permanent. The extension of these funding streams will ensure that gaps in long-term care staffing and funding can be addressed, while the highest quality of care for long-term care residents remains uninterrupted.

Over the summer we worked diligently with the sector to identify the gaps within the system. This is the first step in our plan to create a 21st century long-term care system that meets the needs of Ontario's most vulnerable people. We have a clear view of where things need to improve, and we are acting swiftly to address those gaps.

Thank you again for writing me on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Dr. Merrilee Fullerton  
Minister of Long-Term Care