



Hamilton

CITIZEN COMMITTEE REPORT

To:	Emergency and Community Services Committee
From:	Seniors Advisory Committee <hr style="width: 20%; margin-left: auto; margin-right: 0;"/> (Penelope Petrie, Chair)
Date:	April 19, 2021
Re:	Proposed Statement regarding Long-Term Care Homes

Recommendation:

- (a) Seniors Advisory Committee (SAC) requests that the City of Hamilton approve the attached letter conveying SAC's great appreciation to all the personnel working at Macassa and Wentworth Lodges for working so hard to contain the spread of COVID-19 in these facilities;
- (b) That the City of Hamilton send correspondence to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, compelling the Government of Ontario to undertake comprehensive inspections of all long-term care homes in the City of Hamilton immediately and ensure recommendations for changes are implemented; and
- (c) That the City of Hamilton ensures that all retirement homes in Hamilton comply with all municipal and provincial standards.

Background:

At the March 5, 2021 meeting of the Seniors Advisory Committee, the following motion was approved.

Following the recent articles printed in the Hamilton Spectator concerning the state of COVID-19 outbreaks in long-term care and retirement homes in the City of Hamilton, the Seniors Advisory Committee states the following:

WHEREAS, the Seniors Advisory Committee deplores the deaths related to COVID-19 in residential and long-term care homes in Hamilton;

WHEREAS, the Seniors Advisory Committee deplors the fact that the Government of Ontario has not carried out full comprehensive inspections of long-term care homes in Hamilton since 2018;

WHEREAS, the Seniors Advisory Committee recognizes the great efforts deployed by all concerned which have resulted in Hamilton's COVID-19 death rate as being almost 10% less than the provincial average; and

WHEREAS, the Seniors Advisory Committee conveys its great appreciation to all the personnel working at Macassa and Wentworth Lodges for working so hard to contain the spread of COVID-19 in these facilities;

The COVID-19 pandemic has disproportionately affected the senior population, especially those in long-term care and residential homes. The Seniors Advisory committee created a statement for resolution with recommendations for Council to improve their involvement.

At the March 5, 2021 Seniors Advisory Committee meeting, Motion 10.3, which refers to the resolution concerning Retirement and Long-Term Care Homes, was carried unanimously. The Committee is submitting this Citizen Committee Report for consideration to Council.

Analysis/Rationale:

The Seniors Advisory Committee does not believe that enough action has been taken in response to the COVID-19 outbreaks in long-term care and residential care homes. Therefore, the Senior Advisory Committee implores the City of Hamilton to intervene by enforcing the recommendations listed above.