

The two Local Health Integration Networks serving Peel (Central West and Mississauga Halton) currently receive per patient funding for home and community care services that is well below the provincial average. Using the funding allocations for *Community Home Care* and *Community Support Services*¹ along with the projected 2019 populations², per capita funding was calculated to be **\$160** and **\$197** for Central West and Mississauga Halton LHINs, respectively. By contrast, the per capita funding for the same services was **\$243** for Ontarians. **Equitable and consistent funding will allow municipalities like Peel to implement sustainable solutions to support seniors in the community both throughout the pandemic and in the longer term.** Funding and supports for these services, in addition to emergency funding to address COVID-19 pressures in long term care and hospital settings can help to address surge capacity and prevent more acute care settings from getting overwhelmed by COVID-19 response efforts.

Recommendation:

- To alleviate pressures on long term care and delay the need for long term care placement, the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Long-Term Care should address historical inequities in funding for home and community care services using a provincial resource allocation strategy that recognizes the needs of high-growth communities, increased capacity needs of the home and community sector, and supports caregivers.

Investment in the redevelopment of Long Term Care homes

Challenges associated with older A-rated homes like Peel Manor have been exacerbated by the pandemic and made surge capacity a significant challenge (i.e. supporting isolation and containment in current design). While long term care home redevelopment is an opportunity to meet the changing needs of people living in long term care homes, many older buildings have remained ineligible for funding. Recent announcements from the provincial government have indicated a newly redesigned funding model that is expected to support the building of additional, modern long term care homes providing seniors with quality care. However, Peel Manor has yet to qualify for any financial assistance from the Province despite its age and deteriorating condition. **Funding to support the redevelopment of Peel Manor and the Region's long term care homes is essential to ensure that the existing infrastructure can be enhanced to support necessary infection prevention measures, improve accessibility, and support the expansion of necessary health and social services for seniors and their caregivers.** Adequate and accessible funding will also allow long term care homes to build smaller living environments, which will support IPAC measures, while also creating a more home like environment that enables emotional care.

¹ Ontario Treasury Board Secretariat. (2020). *Public Accounts of Ontario: Ministry Statements and Schedules 2019-2020*. Government of Ontario. <https://files.ontario.ca/tbs-public-accounts-2019-20-ministry-statements-schedules-en-2020-09-23.pdf>

² LHIN Population Projections 2019, Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, IntelliHEALTH Ontario, Date Extracted: November 23, 2020

