



Deb Matthews MPP

London North Centre

Ontario Strengthening Access to End-of-Life Care in London and Region

Province Announces Funding Increase to Hospice Services as Part of \$75 Million Investment

NEWS

June 27, 2016

As part of the 2016 Budget, Ontario is investing an additional \$75 million over three years to provide patients with more options and access to community-based palliative and end-of-life care. As a first step, Ontario is increasing investments in hospice services across the province by \$13.9 million over three years, including St. Joseph's Hospice London in London.

As part of its commitment to strengthening access to palliative and end-of-life care, the \$13.9 million additional investment across the province will increase funding for existing hospice beds by \$15,000 per adult bed and \$22,400 per pediatric bed. St. Joseph's Hospice London in London will be receiving a funding increase of 150,000.00.

The increased funding for existing hospice beds will help ensure that the high-quality palliative and end-of-life care provided by hospices remains in the community for future generations. This investment will enhance compassionate end-of-life support that relieves suffering and improves the quality of living and dying.

Improving palliative care is part of the government's plan to build a better Ontario through its [Patients First: Action Plan for Health Care](#), which is providing patients with faster access to the right care, better home and community care, the information they need to stay healthy and a health care system that's sustainable for generations to come. It is also part of Ontario's [Patients First: Roadmap to Strengthen Home and Community Care](#), which is the government's plan to improve and expand home and community care over the next three years.

QUOTES

"Hospices provide Ontarians and their families with high quality and compassionate palliative and end-of-life-care. Supporting Ontario's hospices so they can continue to provide excellent care is an important part of our government's commitment to improve palliative and end-of-life care across the province."

— Dr. Eric Hoskins, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care

"Hospices are special places that provide compassionate care to patients and families at a challenging time in their lives. They are a critical part of Ontario's plan to ensure access to high quality palliative and end-of-life care."

— John Fraser, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care

"I'm proud our government is investing in Ontario's hospices. They play a crucial role for individuals and their families by providing excellent and compassionate end-of-life-care. This is another important step in our government's plan to put patients first."

- Deb Matthews, MPP, London North Centre

“Hospice Care in Ontario is a community driven initiative, supported by local donors and volunteers, as well as Government. Government support is crucial to help meet the need and demand for care. St. Joseph’s Hospice thanks the Government for their support through additional funding to support quality community hospice palliative care. We particularly want to thank MPP John Fraser who led the work over the last year.”

- Julie Johnston, Executive Director, St. Joseph’s Hospice London

QUICK FACTS

- As part of the 2016 Budget, Ontario announced an additional investment of \$75M in hospice and palliative care over the next three years. This additional spending will be on top of the \$80 million already invested in hospice and palliative care, bringing the total investment to \$155 million from April 2016 to April 2019.
- Ontario is providing funding increases for 39 facilities that provide hospice care across the province and is committed to supporting up to 20 additional hospices.
- Ontario recently released the [Palliative and End-of-Life Care Provincial Roundtable Report](#), which compiled feedback from province-wide consultations led by John Fraser, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care. The report will help Ontario develop a comprehensive strategy on palliative and end-of-life care, which will focus on supporting families and caregivers, and ensuring access to co-ordinated quality care where patients want it.
- Ontario recently launched the Ontario Palliative Care Network, a partnership among Cancer Care Ontario, Ontario’s Local Health Integration Networks, Health Quality Ontario and other partners, including members from diverse care settings and caregivers, clinical representatives and associations.

LEARN MORE

- [Palliative and End-of-Life Care Provincial Roundtable Report](#)
- [Patients First: Action Plan for Health Care](#)
- [Ontario’s Roadmap to Strengthen Home and Community Care](#)
- [Hospice Palliative Care Ontario](#)

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