



Michael Gravelle, M.P.P. / Bill Mauro, M.P.P.

Thunder Bay – Superior North / Thunder Bay - Atikokan

For Immediate Release

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INCREASING ACCESS TO MODERN LONG-TERM CARE HOMES

Mauro and Gravelle Announce Redevelopment of 109 Long-Term Care Home Beds

Residents in long-term care homes can look forward to more modern and comfortable living as the province redevelops more than 4,100 beds across Ontario.

Ontario is rebuilding 4,183 existing beds and updating facilities at 37 long-term care homes. This is part of the government's plan to redevelop 35,000 older beds over 10 years to help improve access to long-term care throughout the province.

The redeveloped homes will meet the most modern design standards and will feature greater wheelchair access for residents in private and public spaces. The redeveloped homes are expected to be completed as early as 2012.

This phase of the government's renewal strategy will help create or sustain approximately 4,000 jobs in Ontario.

QUOTES

"Today's announcement continues our government's multi-year commitment to improvements in the long-term care home sector. Rebuilding 109 beds to a modern standard will provide greater comfort and dignity for Thunder Bay seniors, and also creates a multi-million dollar construction project."

- Bill Mauro, MPP Thunder Bay-Atikokan

"I am delighted that seniors in Northwestern Ontario will benefit from today's announcement, and enjoy brand new facilities. Ensuring the very best, most modern long-term care is part of our government's ongoing commitment to our seniors in this province."

- Michael Gravelle, MPP Thunder Bay-Superior North

"Obtaining approval to rebuild the Bethammi Nursing Home beds is wonderful news for St. Joseph's Care Group. Our current residents of Bethammi Nursing Home will continue to receive the best possible care in a more modernized and home-like environment."

- Tracy Buckler, President and CEO, St. Joseph's Care Group, Thunder Bay



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"It's all about comfort and safety, and how important that is to residents and their families. I'm pleased we can redevelop our long-term care beds and give residents a higher quality of life in a more comfortable, home-like setting."

- Deb Matthews, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care

"We applaud government for beginning to ensure that all residents will have access to modern standards of physical comfort, privacy and dignity," said Christina Bisanz, CEO of the Ontario Long Term Care Association. "We have long supported the renewal of older homes as an investment in the quality of care and quality of life that residents need and deserve."

- Christina Bisanz, CEO, Ontario Long-Term Care Association

"This announcement marks the start of a long term commitment by the government to improve the quality of life of residents. Through this support, homes will be able to create modern and comfortable living environments that Ontarians can be proud of for many years to come."

- Donna Rubin, CEO, Ontario Association of Non-Profit Homes and Services for Seniors (OANHSS).

QUICK FACTS

- Since 2003, the government has redeveloped 8,032 new long-term care beds and will be opening an additional 1,942 more beds over the next few years.

LEARN MORE

[Find out more about long-term care homes in Ontario.](#)

[Find out more about modern design standards for long-term care homes](#)

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