

Ministry of Health

Mental Health and Addictions
Division

Mental Health and Addiction
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MAR 02 2020

MEMORANDUM TO: Homes for Special Care Operators
CAMH catchment area – Peel and Halton Regions

FROM: Ragaven Sabaratnam
Director
Mental Health and Addiction Program Branch

SUBJECT: Homes for Special Care (HSC) Modernization – Phase 2

As you are aware, the Ministry of Health is in the process of modernizing the HSC program. Phase 1 modernization, and transition to the Community Homes for Opportunity program, took place in south-west Ontario in July 2018. I am pleased to let you know that Phase 2 of HSC modernization will take place in the CAMH catchment area.

Later today or tomorrow you will be receiving another memo that will be going out to all HSC stakeholders and partners letting people know that Phase 2 HSC modernization is moving forward. As your home will be part of Phase 2, we wanted to let you know in advance.

Ministry staff will be working with you and the other homeowners in your area, CAMH, OHSNA, and Services and Housing in the Province (SHIP), to plan for the implementation of the Community Homes for Opportunity program in your homes over the coming months. SHIP is the community mental health agency that will be responsible to the ministry for managing the Community Homes for Opportunity program in Peel and Halton. We are excited about this and hope that you are too. We know that change can be stressful but please know that we are committed to working with you as partners to modernize this 56-year old program so that we can better meet the needs of the tenants and focus the program more on recovery and greater independence for tenants where possible.

Over the past several months, the ministry has been working with our Phase 1 Community Homes for Opportunity partners to identify lessons learned from Phase 1 implementation to improve the program and to help with a smooth transition from HSC to the Community Homes for Opportunity program in Phase 2. In addition, the ministry has been reviewing the recent Lawson Research Institute Community Homes for Opportunity Evaluation Report findings and its recommendations that will assist us in implementing Phase 2 HSC modernization.

I want to thank you for all the work that you are doing now to provide a home and supports for the HSC tenants. I also want to thank you in advance for the work that you will be taking on with the ministry and other partners to modernize the HSC program.

The ministry is in the process of setting up planning meetings and you can expect further communications from the ministry on this shortly. If you have questions or concerns please feel free to contact Glenna Smith, Senior Program Consultant, at 416-848-9163 or Paula Ruppert at 416-848-3143.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Ragaven Sabaratnam', written in a cursive style.

Ragaven Sabaratnam
Director

- c. Connie Evans, President, Ontario Homes for Special Needs Association
Laurie Ridler, CEO, Services and Housing in the Province
Bridget Akioyamen, Manager, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health